

# SMARTWIZ

## GRADE 8 SOCIAL SCIENCE EXAM

**MARKS: 50**

MARKS	

**TIME: 2 hours**

**SCHOOL** \_\_\_\_\_

**CLASS (e.g. 4A)** \_\_\_\_\_

**SURNAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

MYST PATHWORKS

### Instructions for Students:

- > Read all instructions carefully before beginning the exam.
- > Write your name and student ID clearly on the answer sheet/booklet.
- > Answer all questions unless otherwise stated.
- > Show all your work/calculations where applicable.
- > Write clearly and legibly.
- > Use blue or black ink only. \* Do not use correction fluid/tape.
- > No electronic devices (calculators, phones, etc.) are allowed unless explicitly permitted.
- > Raise your hand if you have any questions.
- > Do not talk to other students during the exam.
- > Any form of cheating will result in disqualification.

**This test consists of 5 pages, excluding the cover page.**

## SECTION A: HISTORY

### Topic: The Industrial Revolution in Britain (20 Marks)

#### QUESTION 1

1.1 What is meant by the term “Industrial Revolution”?

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

1.2 In which country did the Industrial Revolution begin?

\_\_\_\_\_ (1)

1.3 Name two major inventions of the Industrial Revolution.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

1.4 Give one reason why factories replaced small home-based workshops.

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

1.5 Explain one way the Industrial Revolution changed transport.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

1.6 Study the picture below and answer the questions:



1.6.1 What does the image show about working conditions?

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

1.6.2 Why do you think workers, especially children, worked long hours?

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

1.6.3 Do you think the Industrial Revolution had more positive or negative effects? Give a reason.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

## SECTION B: GEOGRAPHY

### Topic: Natural Disasters (20 Marks)

#### QUESTION 2

2.1 What is a natural disaster?

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

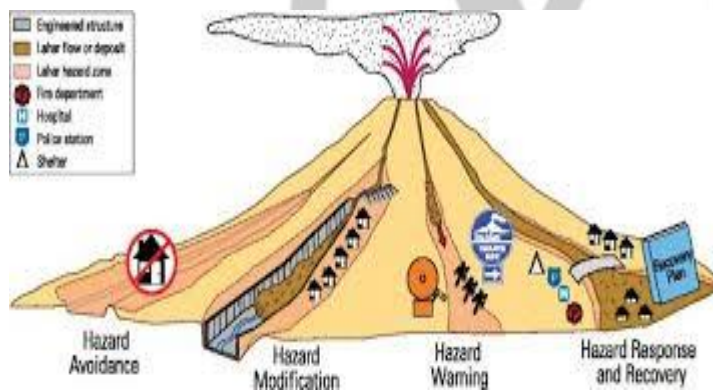
2.2 Give two examples of natural disasters.

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

2.3 Name one disaster that has recently occurred in Africa or worldwide.

\_\_\_\_\_ (1)

2.4 Study the diagram below and answer the questions:



2.4.1 Identify the disaster shown.

\_\_\_\_\_ (1)

2.4.2 Name one safety measure people should take if this disaster happens.

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

2.4.3 Why do natural disasters often cause large-scale damage in poor communities?

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

2.5 Suggest two ways governments can prepare for natural disasters.

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(3)

2.6 Explain how climate change may be increasing the number of natural disasters.

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(3)

## SECTION C: CIVICS

**Topic: Human Rights and the Constitution**  
**(10 Marks)**

### QUESTION 3

3.1 What is a constitution?

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(2)

3.2 Why is the South African Constitution important for protecting human rights?

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(2)

3.3 List two basic human rights found in the Bill of Rights.

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(2)

3.4 What should you do if your rights are being violated?

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(2)

3.5 Why is it important to respect the rights of others?

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(2)

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**TOTAL: 50 MARKS**



## **MEMO**

### **SECTION A: HISTORY – THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION**

**(20 Marks)**

1.1 The Industrial Revolution was a period of major industrial and technological changes where machines replaced hand production. (2)

1.2 Britain (1)

1.3 Any two of the following:

- Spinning Jenny
  - Steam engine
  - Power loom
  - Telegraph
- (2 marks)

1.4 Factories were faster, more efficient, and allowed mass production using machines. (2)

1.5 It improved transport through inventions like the steam locomotive and railway lines, which moved goods and people more efficiently. (3)

1.6.1 The image shows poor working conditions – overcrowded, noisy, unsafe, and tiring. (2)

1.6.2 Children were cheap labour and families needed money; there were few laws to protect them. (3)

1.6.3 Accept reasoned opinion.

Examples:

- Positive: Created jobs and new technology.
  - Negative: Pollution, child labour, poor living conditions.
- (3)

### **SECTION B: GEOGRAPHY – NATURAL DISASTERS**

**(20 Marks)**

2.1 A natural disaster is a sudden natural event that causes serious damage or loss of life. (2)

2.2 Any two:

- Flood
- Earthquake

- Volcano
  - Tsunami
  - Drought
- (2 marks)

2.3 Example: Cyclone Freddy in 2023 / Floods in KwaZulu-Natal / Turkey-Syria Earthquake 2023 (1)

2.4.1 (Based on diagram provided – e.g., Volcano) (1)

2.4.2 Example: Evacuate the area, stay indoors, have emergency kits ready. (2)

2.4.3 Poor communities may lack strong housing, emergency services, or resources to recover. (3)

2.5 Governments can:

- Create early warning systems
  - Provide education and drills
  - Build stronger infrastructure
- (Any two, 3 marks)

2.6 Climate change increases heat, sea levels, and extreme weather, leading to more droughts, floods, and storms. (3)

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## **SECTION C: CIVICS – HUMAN RIGHTS**

**(10 Marks)**

3.1 A constitution is a set of rules and laws that outlines how a country is governed and the rights of its people. (2)

3.2 It protects citizens from unfair treatment, ensures equality, and outlines responsibilities. (2)

3.3 Any two:

- Right to education
  - Right to life
  - Freedom of speech
  - Right to healthcare
- (2 marks)

3.4 Report to a teacher, parent, legal advisor, or the Human Rights Commission. (2)

3.5 Respect allows for peaceful communities and ensures everyone enjoys their rights. (2)

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**TOTAL: 50 MARKS**

