

□ Very Short Answer Type (1 mark)

1. Who was the first Prime Minister of independent India?

□ Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

2. When was the first general election held in India?

□ 1951-52

3. Name the party that dominated Indian politics after independence.

□ Indian National Congress

4. What was the main objective of the integration of princely states?

□ To achieve the political unification of India

5. Name the princely state which declared independence and did not join India or Pakistan initially.

□ Hyderabad

□ Short Answer Type (2-3 marks)

1. What was the main challenge faced by India after independence?

□ The challenge of national integration and maintaining unity in diversity.

2. What was the instrument of accession?

□ A legal document that allowed princely states to join either India or Pakistan after partition.

3. Mention two methods used by Sardar Patel to integrate princely states.

□

Diplomacy and persuasion

Use of force when necessary (e.g., Hyderabad)

4. What was the reason behind the partition of India?

□ The demand for a separate Muslim state (Pakistan) by the Muslim League due to fears of Hindu domination in a united India.

5. What was the significance of the first general elections?

□

Established India as a democratic republic

Ensured participation of all adults, including marginalized groups

□ Long Answer Type (4–5 marks)

1. Explain any four challenges faced by independent India.

□

Nation-building: Unifying over 500 princely states

Democracy: Establishing democratic institutions

Development: Alleviating poverty and promoting industrialization

Partition trauma: Managing refugee crisis and communal tensions

2. Describe the role of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in the integration of princely states.

□

He was India's first Home Minister and led the integration process.

Used persuasion to convince most princely rulers to join India.

Took decisive action in case of resistance (e.g., Operation Polo in Hyderabad).

Ensured peaceful accession of majority of states.

3. Explain the consequences of partition.

□

Mass migrations and communal riots

Huge refugee crisis

Property disputes and trauma of displaced people

Administrative and security challenges for both India and Pakistan

4. What was the approach adopted by Indian leaders to deal with diversity?

□

Adoption of a secular, democratic constitution

Equal rights to all communities

Creation of linguistic states

Strong central government with provisions for decentralization

□ Very Long Answer Type (6 marks or more)

1. Explain the three major challenges India faced after independence.

□

a. Territorial integration – Uniting 562 princely states into one nation.

b. Nation building – Creating a sense of unity among diverse populations.

c. Establishing democracy – Setting up institutions, conducting free and fair elections.

d. Economic development – Lifting millions out of poverty through planning and self-reliance.

2. How was the problem of princely states resolved after independence?

□

Most princely states signed the Instrument of Accession.

Sardar Patel and V.P. Menon negotiated with rulers and offered them privileges.

States like Junagarh, Hyderabad, and Kashmir posed challenges:

Junagarh merged after public unrest and referendum

Hyderabad was integrated through military action (Operation Polo)

Kashmir acceded under special circumstances in 1947

3. What were the consequences of the partition of India? How did it impact Indian society and politics?

□

Displacement of ~10 million people

Communal riots and violence (over 1 million dead)

Refugee rehabilitation and resettlement problems

Legacy of hostility between India and Pakistan

Formation of minority issues and secularism debate in India