

**Subjective Questions:**

**Q.1) Was the policy of appeasement responsible for causing the Second World War? Discuss.**

**Approach**

1. Explain what was the policy of appeasement
2. Explain how it led to the second world war
3. Analysis and conclusion

Appeasement was a policy undertaken by British and French Governments before the start of World War 2. Starting from 1933, Britain and France used the policy of appeasement to a number of countries, such as Japan, Italy and most importantly, Germany. The policy of appeasement was used by the two leaders of Britain and France to maintain world peace.

**Reasons:**

1. Hitler was unhappy with the treaty of Versailles and was beginning to violate its terms. The policy of appeasement consisted of giving him minor concessions in the hope that he would not do anything worse.
2. The policy was based on the idea that Germany had three key issues that needed to be resolved. The first was territorial grievances, the second was economic problems, and the final the absence of raw materials. It was believed that in addressing this, more moderate groups would take hold of Germany, and they would move away from their current right-wing stance.

**As a cause of the Second World War**

1. By August 1939 Hitler was convinced that the democratic nations would never put up any effective opposition to him.
2. Appeasement encouraged Hitler to be more aggressive, with each victory giving him confidence and power.
3. With more land, Germany became better defended, with more soldiers, workers, raw materials, weapons and industries.
4. Hitler's initial success made him very popular domestically and played an important part in his rise to power.
5. Appeasement led to the USSR agreeing on the Nazi-Soviet pact with Hitler's Germany, which meant Hitler did not have to fear a two-front war, encouraging even more so his expansionist attitude and risk taking.

However, it is also important to note that the policy of appeasement was not the sole cause of World War II. Other factors also played an important role like:

**The failure of the League of Nations**

The League of Nations was established after World War I to prevent future wars.

However, it was unable to prevent the aggressive actions of Germany, Italy, and Japan, which ultimately led to the outbreak of World War II.

**The impact of the Great Depression**

The Great Depression of the 1930s weakened the economies of many countries and contributed to political instability. This allowed extremist political movements, such as fascism and communism, to gain popularity and power in many countries.

### The rise of fascist and authoritarian regimes

In Italy, Mussolini established a fascist government in 1922. In Germany, Hitler came to power in 1933 and established a Nazi regime. These regimes were expansionist and aggressive, seeking to expand their territories and influence.

### The aggression of Japan

Japan had been expanding its territories in Asia since the 1930s. In 1937, Japan invaded China, which further destabilized the region and contributed to the outbreak of World War II.

### The failure of diplomacy

Diplomatic efforts to prevent the outbreak of war, such as the Munich Agreement, ultimately failed. This left military action as the only option for resolving conflicts between nations.

Overall, the factors contributing to the outbreak of World War II were complex and multifaceted. The failure of international institutions, the impact of economic depression, the rise of extremist regimes, the policy of appeasement, and the aggression of nations such as Germany and Japan all played a role in the lead up to the war.

### Objective Questions:

**Q.1)** Consider the following statements with reference to the reason for growth of militant nationalism during the first decade of the twentieth century:

1. There was an emergence of trained leadership
2. There occurred several international events which demolished the myth of European supremacy
3. Several unfavorable legislations were passed including Indian Universities Act of 1904.
4. There was an increase in the unemployment in the country.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

**Ans) d**

**Exp) Option d is the correct answer**

A radical trend of a militant nationalist approach to political activity in India started emerging in the 1890s, and it took a concrete shape by 1905.

**Statement 1 is correct:** By the dawn of the 20th century, a band of nationalist thinkers had emerged who advocated a more militant approach to political work. These included Raj Narain Bose, Ashwini Kumar Dutta, Aurobindo Ghosh, and Bipin Chandra Pal in Bengal; Vishnu Shastri Chiplunkar and Bal Gangadhar Tilak in Maharashtra; and Lala Lajpat Rai in Punjab. **The new leadership could provide a proper channelization of the immense potential for political struggle which the masses possessed and, as the militant nationalists thought.**

**Statement 2 is correct:** The **defeat of the Italian army by Ethiopians (1896), the Boer wars (1899– 1902) where the British faced reverses, and Japan's victory over Russia (1905) demolished myths of European invincibility.**

**Statement 3 and 4 are correct:** The **Indian Universities Act of 1904 ensured greater government control of British government over Indian universities**, which it described as factories producing political revolutionaries. While, on the one hand, the spread of education

led to an increased awareness among the masses, **on the other hand, the rise in unemployment and underemployment among the educated drew attention to poverty and the underdeveloped state of the country's economy under colonial rule. This added to the already simmering discontent among the more radical nationalists.**

**Q.2)** Consider the following statements about the Revolutionary activities during the first two decades of the 20th century:

1. The revolutionaries followed the methodology of Russian nihilist which involved individual heroic actions.
2. The "Zimmerman Plan" & the "Taxicab dacoities" are related with the Jugantar Party.
3. For promoting the revolutionary activities outside India, "India House" was established in London by Lala Har Dayal.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

**Statement 1 is correct.** The revolutionaries considered creating a violent mass revolution throughout the country but did not find it practical. Therefore, they **opted to follow the footsteps of Russian nihilists or the Irish Nationalists.** This methodology **involved individual heroic action**, such as organizing assassinations of unpopular officials and of traitors and informers among the revolutionaries themselves.

**Statement 2 is correct.** During the First World War, The **Jugantar Party** arranged to import German arms and ammunitions through sympathizers and revolutionaries abroad which is known as the **"German Plot or The Zimmerman Plan"**. The Jugantar party raised funds through a series of dacoities which came to be known as taxicab dacoities and boat dacoities, so as to work out the plan.

**Statement 3 is incorrect.** **Shyamji Krishnavarma** started in London in 1905 an Indian Home Rule society- "India House" as a center for Indian students, a scholarship scheme **to bring radical youth from India**, and a journal "The Indian Sociologist". Revolutionaries such as **Savarkar and Hardayal became the members of India House.**

**Q.3)** Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Gopal Ganesh Agarkar?

1. Due to his differences with Tilak, Agarkar resigned from the editorship of 'Kesari' and established a separate newspaper called 'Sudharak'.
2. Tilak believed in reformation of society by Indians themselves whereas Agarkar had no hesitation in taking help from the British.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Tilak and Agarkar decided to dedicate their lives to nation building. One way to do this was through education and raising public awareness through the press. **The Deccan Education Society in 1884 and Fergusson College in 1885** was established by these stalwarts of India's freedom struggle.

**Statement 1 is correct:** Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Gopal Ganesh Agarkar started **two newspapers Kesari in Marathi and Maratha in English in 1881. Agarkar became the editor of Kesari and Tilak that of Maratha.** Due to differences between Agarkar and Lokmanya Tilak, Agarkar resigned from the editorship of Kesari. Therefore, from then he started his own newspaper **Sudharak. Agarkar's Sudharak, like Tilak's Kesari, was available in Marathi**, a language understood by the masses.

**Statement 2 is correct:** Tilak believed that Indian **society can best be reformed by Indians themselves** and objected to any British interference in reforming Hindu society. **Agarkar was impressed by the democratic tradition of the West and had no hesitation in taking help from the British administration in introducing reforms in India.**

#### Important Tips

**Gopal Ganesh Agarkar was an ardent devotee of John Stuart Mill.** He was inspired from the **Age of Enlightenment in Europe** and the writings of Mill, Spencer, Voltaire and Rousseau which made him a proponent of scientific rationalism. His social reform agenda included women liberation, opposition to superstitious rituals, removal of caste discrimination, spread of scientific temperament and promotion of education for both men and women.

**Q.4)** Consider the following statements:

1. Sudesha Geetham was written by Subramania Bharati to arouse nationalism during Swadeshi Movement.
2. Jagdish Chandra Bose established the Bengal Chemical Swadeshi store in protest of the British as a part of the Swadeshi Movement.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans) a

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

**Statement 1 is correct:** **Subramania Bharati** was a poet, freedom fighter and social reformer from Tamil Nadu. His songs on nationalism and freedom of India helped to rally the masses to support the Indian Independence Movement in Tamil Nadu. He published the sensational "Sudesa Geethangal" in 1908 to arouse nationalism during Swadeshi phase.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** **Prafullachandra Roy** (not J C Bose) established Bengal Chemical Swadeshi store in protest of the British as a part of the Swadeshi Movement. He established

the first modern Indian research school in chemistry (post classical age) and is regarded as the father of chemical science in India.

**Q.5)** Consider the following statements:

1. According to Aurobindo, Swaraj meant some sort of self-government, while for Tilak Swaraj meant complete independence from foreign rule.
2. According to Tilak there could be no social reform, no industrial progress, no fulfillment of national life without Swaraj.
3. According to Aurobindo Ghosh final fulfillment of the Vedantic ideas in politics is the true Swaraj for India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

**Statement 1 is incorrect.** For **Tilak**, Swaraj meant some sort of **self – Government**, while for **Aurobindo** it meant **complete independence** from foreign rule.

**Statement 2 is correct.** According to Tilak Swaraj or selfgovernment is essential for exercise of swadharma. Without swaraj there could be no social reform, no industrial progress, no useful education, no fulfillment of national life.

**Statement 3 correct.** According to **Aurobindo Ghosh** Swaraj is the fulfillment of ancient life of India under modern conditions, the return of satyuga of National greatness, selfliberation of the people for final **fulfillment of vedantic ideas in politics**, that is the true Swaraj for India.

**Q.6)** Consider the following statements regarding the Ghadr Movement:

1. Ghadr revolutionaries were mainly peasants and ex-soldiers.
2. Ghadr party followed mainly the Sikh religious ideology in its strong sense.
3. It published a weekly paper, the Ghadr in English only.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

Ghadar Party was established by the Punjabi Sikhs of the United States and Canada in June 1913. The main aim of the party was to free India from the British Rule.

**Statement 1 is correct.** The Ghadr Party was a revolutionary group organized around a weekly newspaper 'The Ghadr' with its headquarters at San Francisco. These revolutionaries included mainly **ex-soldiers and peasants** who had **migrated from the Punjab to the USA and Canada** in search of better employment opportunities.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** Ghadar party's ideology was **secular in its strong sense**. According to Sohan Singh Bhakna, "We were not Sikhs or Punjabis. Our religion was patriotism"

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** Ghadr movement published a weekly paper, Ghadar, in Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi and in other languages of India.

**Q.7)** Which of the following statements is incorrect regarding the Berlin Committee for Indian Independence?

1. It was established in Germany before the World War I by Shyamji Krishna Varma.
2. It aimed to organised an armed invasion of British India.
3. It worked to organise a Provisional Government of India in Kabul.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer.**

During the First World War, Berlin became an organizational hub for Indian nationalist and revolutionary activities.

**Statement 1 is incorrect.** Berlin Committee for Indian Independence was established in 1915 by **Virendranath Chattopadhyay, Lala Hardayal and others under Zimmerman Plan**. This organisation was established with the aim to promote the cause of Indian Independence.

**Statement 2 is correct:** Revolutionaries aimed to mobilise the Indian settlers abroad to send volunteers and arms to India. It mainly aimed to **incite rebellion** among Indian troops there and to **organize an armed invasion of British India to liberate the country**.

**Statement 3 is correct:** The committee is also known to have spread missions to Istanbul, Persia, Baghdad, and Kabul to work among Indian troops and Indian prisoners of war and to incite rebellion among Indian troops there and to organize an armed invasion of British India to liberate the country. One mission under **Raja Mahendra Pratap singh**, Barkatullah and Obaidullah Sindhi went to Kabul to **organize a Provisional Government of India**.

**Q.8)** Consider the following statement with reference to the Partition of Bengal:

1. The British government's decision to partition Bengal was made public in 1903.
2. S N Banerjea and K.K. Mitra were among the moderate leaders of anti-partition movement.
3. By partitioning Bengal, the British wanted to promote Muslim communalists to counter the Congress and the national movement.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) c**

**Exp) Option c is the correct answer.**

The Partition of Bengal in 1905 was a significant event that spurred the nationalist movement in the country.

**Statement 1 is correct:** The **British government's decision to partition Bengal had been made public in December 1903**. The official reason given for the decision was that Bengal, with a population of 78 million (about a quarter of the population of British India), had become too big to be administered.



**Statement 2 is correct:** In the period 1903–05, the antipartition movement was led by men like Surendranath Banerjea, K.K. Mitra, and Prithwishchandra Ray.

**Statement 3 is correct:** Easter half of the partitioned Bengal was to be a Muslim majority province. Trying to woo the Muslims, Curzon, the viceroy at that time, argued that Dacca could become the capital of the new Muslim majority province, which would provide them with a unity not experienced by them since the days of old Muslim viceroys and kings. Thus, it was clear that the government was up to its old policy of **propping up Muslim communalists to counter the Congress and the national movement.**

**Q.9)** Consider the following statements:

1. The Anushilan Samiti was founded by Promotha Mitter.
2. Kal and Sandhya were the two secret societies working in Bengal during 1900s.
3. Barrah Dacoity was organised by Khudiram Bose in 1914.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

**Statement 1 is correct:** The Anushilan Samiti was one of the secret revolutionary organisations. The purpose of the Samiti was to propound revolutionary violence as a means to end British colonialism in India. It was established in the year **1902 by Promotha Mitter**. The Samiti had two prominent and somewhat independent arms in the East and West Bengal identified as the Dhaka Anushilan Samiti centred in modern day Bangladesh and the Jugantar group, situated in erstwhile Calcutta. The members of Anushilan Samiti were **primarily school and college students** who belonged to the Hindu Bhadrakalok or the upper-class Bengali households

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** Kal in Maharashtra and Sandhya in Bengal **were the newspapers advocated revolutionary terrorism after 1905.**

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** In 1908, Barrah dacoity was organised by **Dacca Anushilan under Pulin Das** to raise funds for revolutionary activities.

**Q.10)** Consider the following description:

“He set up Swadesh Bandhab Samiti to propagate the Swadeshi Movement and led the Muslim peasants of Barisal in their protests. The Partition of Bengal drew him to the Swadeshi movement. He attempted reconciliation between the groups of Moderates and Extremists.”

Which among the following leader of the freedom struggle is described above?

- a) Romesh Chandra Dutta
- b) Ashwini Kumar Dutta
- c) Praful Ray
- d) Aurobindo Ghosh

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is the correct answer**

**Ashwini Kumar Dutt was a schoolteacher who set up Swadesh Bandhab Samiti to propagate the Swadeshi Movement and led the Muslim peasants of Barisal** in their protests. Swadesh Bandhab Samiti of Ashwini Kumar Dutta emerged as a very popular and powerful means of mass mobilization. When the moderates and the extremists parted ways in the Surat session, he attempted a reconciliation between the two groups. In 1908, the government of the newly

formed Eastern Bengal and Assam banned the Swadesh Bandhab Samiti and deported him to the United Provinces where he was interred at the Lucknow jail. After his release in 1910, he concentrated on sustaining the Brojomohun School and Brojomohun College.