UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

SYLLABI

FOR

THREE-YEAR B.A HONOURS & GENERAL COURSES OF STUDIES

SOCIOLOGY

2010
Sociology
Honours Course

Total Marks: 800

Part-I
(Total Marks – 200)

Paper I : Introductory Sociology 100 Marks
Paper II : Western Sociological Thought 100 Marks

Part-II
(Total Marks—200)

Paper III : Sociological Theory 100 Marks
Paper IV : Research Methods and Social Statistics 100 Marks

Part-III
(Total Marks—400)

Paper V : Social & Sociological Thought in India 100 Marks
Paper VI : Social Institutions 100 Marks
Paper VII : Indian Social Structure and Process 100 Marks
Paper VIII : Contemporary Indian Social Problems and (50 + 50)=
Field Work- based Dissertation 100 Marks
Part-I

Paper I : Introductory Sociology 100 Marks

Group—A :

Module I :
(a) Sociological perspective; Sociology as a science; Sociology and Common Sense; Sociology and other social sciences (only to understand Sociology’s distinctiveness); Practical significance of Sociology : Sociology and Social Work.

(b) Social interaction; Communication—verbal non-verbal; Interpretation and action; Understanding others: attributing meaning and interpretation; Social relationship: Primary and Secondary.

Module II :
(a) Culture –meaning and characteristics; Types of culture – popular, elitist, folk, and consumer cultures; Pluralism and Multiculturalism.

(b) Types of society; Pre-modern societies: hunters and gatherers, pastoral and agrarian, non-industrial and traditional; Modern societies : Industrial, Advanced/Post industrial, Postmodern and Developing societies.

Group – B :

Module I :
(a) Socialization : meaning and agencies; Theories of child development; Resocialization.

(b) Social control: meaning, agencies and mechanisms; Conformity and Deviance.

Module II :
(a) Social stratification : meaning and forms – Caste, Class, Status, Power, Gender and Ethnicity; Social Mobility, Social Closure and Social Exclusion.

(b) Social Change : definition, factors and theories of social change.

Paper II : Western Sociological Thought 100 Marks

Group – A :

Module I :
(a) Origin and development of Sociology as a distinct discipline; Role of European Enlightenment; Contributions of Montesquieu and St. Simon.
(b) Auguste Comte: Positivism; Law of Three Stages; Social Statics and Social Dynamics.

Module II:
(a) Herbert Spencer: Organicism; Theory of Evolution.
(b) Emile Durkheim: Rules of Sociological Method; Division of Labour; Suicide.

Group – B:

Module III:
(a) Karl Marx: Dialectics; Materialist interpretation of history; Capitalism: origin and dynamics; Alienation; Class, Class Struggle and Revolution.
(b) Max Weber: Concept of social action; Methodology; Protestant Ethic and Capitalism; Types of authority.

Module IV:
(a) George Simmel: Formal Sociology; Concepts of Sociation and Group Formation; Objective Culture; Place of Money.
(b) Víctor Patrón Pareto: Logical and Non-logical actions; Residues and Derivations; Circulation of Elites.

Part II

Paper III: Sociological Theory 100 Marks

Group A:

Module I:
(a) Nature and task of sociological theory.
(b) Functional theory: General arguments; Contributions of Parsons and Merton; Critical overview.

Module II:
(a) Conflict theory: General arguments; Contributions of Dahrendorf and Coser; Critical overview.
(b) Exchange theory: General arguments; Contributions of Homans and Blau; Critical overview.

Group B:

Module III:
(a) Symbolic Interactionism: General arguments; Contributions of Mead and Blumer.
(b) Critical Sociology: General arguments; Frankfurt School: Contributions of Adorno and Marcuse.
Module IV:
(a) Feminist Sociology: General arguments; Stages of development of feminism; Varieties of feminist sociology.
(b) Post-modern sociology: General arguments; Basic features

Paper IV: Research Methods and Social Statistics 100 Marks

Group A:

Module I:
(a) Theory and Research: Concepts; Variables; Propositions and Hypotheses: formulation and verification; Links between theory and research; Conceptualization and Operationalization; Qualitative and Quantitative research.
(b) Research Design: Stages of research; Types, uses and abuses of social research; Major steps of research design; Methodology versus Method; Unit of analysis.

Module II:
(a) Research method:
   (1) Survey research: General components; Types, Tools and Techniques (Questionnaire and Interview)
   (2) Field research: General components; Observation; Design; Strategies; Secondary analysis; Participatory rural-urban appraisal.
(b) Sampling: Types of sampling; Probability and Non-probability sampling—uses and types.

Group B:

Module III:
(a) Statistics: Definition, Terminology and Typology; Place of statistics in social research.
(b) Levels of measurement; Nominal, Ordinal, Interval and Ratio; Continuous and Discrete variables; Ratio, Proportion and Percentages.

Module IV
(a) Frequency distribution; Grouping of data; Cumulative frequency and percentage distribution.
(b) Graphic techniques: Bar diagram; Pie chart, Frequency polygon; Histogram; Ogive; Levels of measurement and graphic presentations.
(c) Measures Central Tendency: Arithmetic Mean, Median and Mode—their comparison and skewness.
(d) Measures of Dispersion: Range; Interquartile Range; Mean Deviation; Variance and Standard Deviation.

Part III

Paper V: Social & Sociological Thought in India 100 Marks
Group A:

Module I:
(a) Development of Sociology in India—an overview.
(b) Contribution of Benoy Kumar Sarkar: Positivism; Personality; Progress; Interpretation of Indian tradition.
(c) Contribution of G.S.Ghurye: Approach to Sociology; Caste and Tribe; Dynamics of culture and society; Religion.

Module II:
(a) Contribution of D.P. Mukerji: Personality; Methodology; Interpretation of tradition and social change in India; Middle class in India.
(b) Contribution of N.K. Bose: Approach to the study of society; Structure of Hindu society; Concept of tribal absorption; Study on Calcutta.

Group B:

Module III:
(a) Rabindranath Tagore: Man, Society and Personality; Nationalism—West and India; Education; Village community, Cooperative and Rural Development.
(b) M. K. Gandhi: Critique of Western industrialism; Alternative model of development: village reconstruction; Hind Swaraj and village republic; Concept of education (Nai Talim).

Module IV:
(a) B. R. Ambedkar: Hinduism and Buddhism; Critique of the Varna/caste-based society of India; Dalits and anti-untouchability agenda; Caste, class and democracy.
(b) (c) Swami Vivekananda: Society and progress; State and class rule; Exploitation and Equality; Democracy, Socialism and Revolution.

Paper VI: Social Institutions 100 Marks
Group A:

Module I:
(a) Social aggregates: Community, Groups, Institutions and Organizations.
(b) Family, Marriage and Kinship: Key concepts; Different forms of family and marriage; Changes in family pattern worldwide; Alternatives to family; Divorce and Separation; Importance of Kinship.

Module II:
(a) Religion: Defining religion; Varieties of religion; Theories of religion.
(b) Education: The development of literacy and schooling; Gender and the education system; Education and ethnicity; Theories of schooling; Education and cultural reproduction; Education and inequality

Group B:

Module III:
(a) Economy: Importance of work; Organisation of work; Fordism and Post-Fordism; Work and technology; Future of work; Market and society.
(b) Polity: Modern State; Concepts of Power and Authority; Forms of social distribution of power: Marxist, Elitist, Pluralist and Neo-Pluralist.

Module IV:
(a) Mass media: Types of media; Power of the media; Role of media in modern society; Media and popular culture.
(b) Health and Medicine: What is meant by health, illness and disease? The social basis of health, illness and medicine; Globalisation of health, illness and medicine.

Paper VII: Indian Social Structure and Process 100 Marks
Group A:

Module I:
(a) Nature of Indian society: Diversity and Unity: sources and bases; Village society: continuity and change>
(b) Family: continuity and change; Forms and functions of family; Emergent forms of family; Kinship patterns in India and its importance

Module II:
(a) Caste: Persistence and change; Varna and Jati; Jajmani system; Pollution and Purity; Dominant Caste; Sanskritization.
(b) Class: Importance of class as a dimension of stratification in India; Class structure in India: capitalist class, working class, middle class and peasantry.
(c) Tribes in transition; Problems of tribal development.

Group B:
Module III:
(a) Nature of the Indian State: Liberal view and Marxist view.
(b) Gender inequality in India: caste, class, and gender.

**Module IV:**
(a) Social change in India: Westernization, Modernization, and Globalization.
(b) Social movements in India: Post-independence Peasant, Working Class, Dalit, Women's, and Environment movements.

**Paper VIII: Contemporary Indian Social Problems and Dissertation 100 Marks**

**Group A: Contemporary Indian Social Problems (Full Marks: 50)**

**Module I:**
(a) Conceptualising social problem: Approaches to the study of social problem.
(b) Population: Trends and Policies in India; Migration: causes and consequences.
(c) Poverty: conceptualizing poverty; Poverty in India: nature and extent; Poverty amelioration programmes
(d)

**Module II:**
(a) Problems of mass illiteracy and school drop-out; Mass literacy programme in India.
(b) Problems of youth: addiction, alienation, and identity crisis; Abuses against children, women, and elderly.
(c) Communalism; Secularism; Terrorism; Ethnic problems.

**Group B: Practical: Field Work and Dissertation (Full Marks: 50)**
(Dissertation: 40 marks and Viva-voce: 10 marks)

Dissertation may be written by using any method as prescribed in the syllabus. Size of the dissertation should be around 5000 words. Dissertation paper will be examined jointly by one Internal and one External Examiner to be appointed by the University. Marks will be awarded jointly by the Internal and External Examiners on the basis of the written Dissertation and Viva-voce.
Sociology General
Total Marks : 400

Part I (Total Marks—100)

Paper I: Introductory Sociology .100- Marks

Part II (Total Marks—200)

Paper II: Sociological Thought .100- Marks
Paper III: Society in India .100- Marks

Part III (Total Marks—100)

Paper IV: Social Problems in India .100- Marks

Part I

Paper I: Introductory Sociology 100 Marks
Group A:

Module I:
(a) Nature and scope of Sociology; Sociology as a science; Place of Sociology among other social sciences.
(b) Some basic concepts: society, community, association, institution, organization, culture and civilization, folkways and mores, custom, norm and value, conformity and deviance, role and status.

Module II:
(a) Culture and Personality; Socialization: meaning, agencies and importance in society.
(b) Social interaction: cooperation, competition, conflict, accommodation and assimilation.
Group B:

Module III:
(a) Social groups: Definition; Types: Primary and Secondary, Formal and Informal, In-group and Out-group, Reference group.
(b) Social stratification: meaning and characteristics; Forms: Estate, Class, Status, Power, Caste; Social Mobility: horizontal and vertical.
(c) Institution: Definition and interrelationship among institutions.

Module IV:
(a) Family: structure and functions; Nuclear and Joint/Extended family; The modern family in India; Marriage and Kinship in India.
(b) Social control: meaning and significance; Agencies: Religion, Education, Law and Mass Media.
(c) Social change, Social evolution and Social progress: meaning and nature; Factors of social change: demographic, technological and cultural; Concept of Cultural Lag; Theories of social change: Marxist and Weberian.

Part-II

Paper II: Sociological Thought

Group A:

Module I:
(a) Transition from social-philosophical thought to sociological thought; Emergence of sociology as a new discipline.
(b) Auguste Comte: Positivism; Law of Three Stages.

Module II:
(a) Herbert Spencer: Organic analogy; Theory of social evolution.
(b) Emile Durkheim: Division of Labour; Suicide; Religion.

Group B:

Module III:
(a) Karl Marx: Dialectics; Historical Materialism; Class and Class Struggle.
(b) Max Weber: Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism; Typology of Authority with special reference to Bureaucracy.

Module IV:
(a) Development of sociological thought in India – A brief account.
(b) Approaches to the study of Indian society: Indological, Historical, and Dialectical.
Paper III : Society in India 

Group A :

Module I :
(a) Society in pre-British India : Landownership pattern; Self-sufficient village economy; and the Jajmani system.
(b) Impact of British rule on Indian society: commercialization of agriculture, growth of rural poverty and indebtedness, rise of new social classes.

Module II :
(a) Modern India : symbol of unity and diversity; Problems of national integration.
(b) Changing scenario of Marriage and Family : Impact of post-independence social legislations.
(c) Changing status of women.

Group B :

Module III: 
(a) Caste system; social mobility in the caste system : role of Sanskritization; Caste dynamics; caste and class.
(b) Critical assessment of land reforms in India with special reference to West Bengal.

Module IV :
(a) Rural development in India : Role of Panchayati Raj system with special reference to West Bengal.
(b) Pattern of urbanization in India : characteristic features and social effect.

Paper IV : Social Problems in India 

Group A :

Module I :
(a) Concepts of social disorganization and social problem.
(b) Population problem; Poverty in rural and urban areas

Module II :
(a) Child labour; Problems of the youth; Old age problem.
(b) Violence against women; Women and inequality in education and work place.
Group B:

Module III:
   (a) Mass illiteracy; Juvenile delinquency; Drug addiction.
   (b) Crime in men and women.

Module IV:
   (a) Communalism; Ethnicity; Problems of national integration.
   (b) Environmental problems; Terrorism; Problems of cyber crime.

REFERENCES
(Honours Course)

Paper I:

1. Ken Browne : An Introduction to Sociology (Polity 3rd ed.)
2. Bilton and others : Introductory Sociology (Macmillan)
3. Anthony Giddens : Sociology
4. Anthony Giddens : Sociology : A brief but critical introduction
5. Anthony Giddens : Human Societies
6. G. Rocher : A General Introduction to Sociology
7. P. Worsely : New Introducing Sociology
8. N.J. Smelser : Sociology
10. N. Jayram : Introductory Sociology (Macmillan)
11. Alex Inkeles : What Is Sociology?
12. Gordon Marshal : Dictionary of Sociology (OUP)
13. A. Beteille : Sociology—Essays on Approach and Method (OUP)
14. Dipankar Gupta : Social Stratification (OUP)
15. Gilles Ferreol & Jean-Pierre Noreck: An Introduction to Sociology (PHI Learning)

Paper II:

1. Lewis A. Coser : Masters of Sociological Thought
2. Alan Swingewood : A Short History of Sociological Thought
3. George Ritzer : Classical Sociological Theory
4. Raymond Aron : Main Currents in Sociological Thought (2 vols.)
5. Randall Collins : Three Sociological Traditions
7. Anthony Giddens : Capitalism and Modern Social Theory
8. David McLellan : Thought of Karl Marx  
9. Tom Bottomore : Dictionary of Marxist Thought  
10. Tom Bottomore (ed) : Karl Marx  
11. Slaughter : Marx and Marxism  
12. Tom Bottomore : Theories of Modern Capitalism  
13. Hobsbawm : Pre-capitalist Economic Formation  
14. Sobhanlal Datta Gupta : Marxiya Rashtrachinta (In Bengali)  
15. Andre Beteille : Marxism and Class Analysis  

**Paper III:**  
1. G. Ritzer : Sociological Theory  
2. Wallace and Wolf : Contemporary Sociological Theory  
3. Turner : The Structure of Sociological Theory  
4. Francis Abraham : Modern Sociological Theory  
5. Francis Abraham : Contemporary Sociology  
6. Coser : Masters of Sociological Thought  
8. Sobhanlal Datta Gupta : Marxism and Post-modernism  
10. Ramanuj Ganguly : Tatwa O Chintadarshie Samakalin Samajtatwa (In Bengali) (PHI)  

**Paper IV:**  
1. Baker : Doing Social Research  
2. Baily : Methods of Social Research (Chs. 1,3)  
3. Babbie : The Practice of Social Research (Ch.2)  
4. Somekh : Research Methods in the Social Sciences(Sage)  
5. Singh : Quantitative Social Research Methods (Sage)  
6. N. Jayram : Sociology : Methods and Theory (Macmillan)  
7. Plummer : Documents of Life (Chs. 1,4)  
8. Elifson and others : Fundamentals of Social Statistics (Chs. 1-8)  
10. Goon and Aich : Statistics for the Social Science  

**Paper V:**  
2. Mohini Malik (ed) : Sociological Inquiry (Article by Yogendra Singh)  
3. D. N. Dhanagare : Themes and Perspectives in Indian Sociology  
4. Ramkrishna Mukherjee : Sociology of Indian Sociology
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<td>In Socialist Perspective, Vol.6, No.4</td>
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<td>Amal K. Mukhopadhyay (ed)</td>
<td>The Bengali Intellectual Tradition</td>
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<td>Radharaman Chakrabarty</td>
<td>‘Tagore, Politics and Beyond’ in Pantham and Deutsch (eds) Political Thought in Modern India</td>
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<td>The Social Context of an Ideology: Ambedkar’s Political and Social Thought (Sage)</td>
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<td>Tapas Basu (ed)</td>
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(Pustak Bipani, 1993), Articles by Amalendu Dey, Buddhadeva Bhattacharyya and Gopal Halder

31. T. N. Madan
   : Pathways
32. Satyabrata Chakrabarty(ed)
   : Bharater Rashtrobhabna (In Bengali)
33. Subir Bhattacharya(ed)
   : Dhurjati Prasad Rachana Sangraha, vol.2 (articles
   By S.K.Bhattacharya, Gayatri Bhattacharya &
   Surendra Munshi)

**Paper VI :**

1. Ken Browne
   : An Introduction to Sociology (Polity, 3rd ed)
2. Anthony Giddens
   : Sociology (4th ed)
   : Human Societies
3. Bilton and others
   : Introductory Sociology (Macmillan)
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6. Smelser
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7. S.K.Pramanik & R.Ganguly(eds)
   : Globalization in India (PHI Learning)

**Paper VII :**

1. Veena Das
   : Handbook of Indian Sociology
   : Oxford Companion to Sociology and
   Anthropology
2. Mandelbaum
   : Society in India
3. Neera Chandhoke et.al,(eds)
   : Contemporary Society in India
4. Yogendra Singh
   : Modernization of Indian Tradition
5. Amartya Sen
   : Argumentative India (Chs. 10,11)
6. A. Beteille
   : Caste, Class and Power: Changing Patterns
7. Vandana Madan
   : The Village in India (OUP)
8. Patricia Uberoi
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9. Flavia Agnes
   : Law and Gender Inequality
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    : Human Rights, Gender and the Environment
11. Samir Dasgupta(ed)
    : Globalization (Sage)
    : Globalization and After (Sage)
    : The Indian Family in Transition (Sage)
12. M. N. Srinivas
    : Social Change in Modern India
    : Collected Essays (OUP)
13. Kuppuswamy
    : Social Change in India
14. K. L. Sharma
    : Social Stratification and Mobility
    (Chs. 3,4,6,11)
    : Social Inequality in India (Chs. 6-8)
15. Nadeem Hashain
    : Tribal India Today (Chs. 4-8)
16. Thaper
    : Tribe, Caste and Religion in India
    (Articles by Aran and Beteille)
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<td>A. R. Desai</td>
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<td>A. M. Shah</td>
<td>Social Movements in India (Chs.2,4,6,7,9)</td>
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<td>22.</td>
<td>Ramchandra Guha</td>
<td>Social Ecology (OUP)</td>
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<td>C. J. Fuller</td>
<td>Everyday State and Society of Contemporary India</td>
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<td>Understanding Indian Society</td>
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<td>Krishnadas Chattopadhyay and</td>
<td>Bharater Samajik Andolan (In Bengali)</td>
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<td>Aniruddha Chowdhury(ed)</td>
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<td>R. Ganguly &amp; S.A.H. Moinuddin</td>
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**Paper VIII:**

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<td>Demography and Population Problems</td>
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**Paper I:**

1. MacIver & Page                     : Society –An Introductory Analysis
2. Peter Worsely                      : Introducing Sociology
3. Haralambos and Heald              : Sociology—Themes and Perspectives
4. Patricia Uberoi                    : Family and Kinship in India
5. T. B. Bottomore                    : Sociology
7. Parimal Chandra Kar                : Sociology; Samajtatwa (In Bengali)

**Paper II:**

1. H.E. Barnes                        : Introduction to History of Sociology
2. Lewis A. Coser                     : Masters of Sociological Thought
3. Abraham and Morgan                 : Sociological Thought
4. A. Swingewood                     : A Short History of Sociological Thought
5. Igor Kon                          : A History of Classical Sociology
6. Bela Dutta Gupta                  : Sociology in India
7. Ramkrishna Mukherjee              : Sociology of Indian Sociology
8. D.N.Dhanagare                     : Themes and Perspectives in Indian Sociology
10. Mohini Malik (ed)                 : Sociological Inquiry (Article by Yogendra Singh)
11. Santanu Ghosh                    : Samajtatwik Chintadharah
12. Maurice Cornforth               : Dwandamulok Bastubad(tr. Into Bengali by Bholanath Bandyopadhyay)
Paper III :

1. A.R. Desai : Social Background of Indian Nationalism
   : Rural Sociology in India
2. Ram Ahuja : Indian Social System
   : Social Problem in India
3. K.M.Kapadia : Marriage and Family in India
4. Giriraj Gupta : Main Currents of Indian Sociology Series,
   Vol.6 on Urban India
5. B. Kuppuswami : Social Change in India
6. Prabhat Dutta and Swapan : Panchayat and People—the West Bengal
   Pramanick Experience
7. M.N. Srinivas : Social Change in Modern India
8. K.L. Sharma : Indian Society
9. P.C. Deb : Rural Sociology—An Introduction
10. S.C. Dube : Indian Society
11. Bholanath Bandyopadhyay : Swadhinata Sangramer Bhrantachetana- Jatpater
   Rajniti in Narahari Kabiraj (ed) : Asamapta Biplab
   Apurna Akankha (K.P.Bagchi)
12. Aniruddha Chowdhury : Bharater Samaj Prasange (In Bengali) (Chatterjee
   Publishers)

Paper IV :

1. Bela Dutta Gupta : Contemporary Social Problems in India
2. G.R. Madan : Indian Social Problems, 2 Volumes
3. Ram Ahuja : Social Problems in India
4. B. Kuppuswami : Social Change in India
5. Aniruddha Chowdhury, Krishnadas Chattopadhyay & Santanu Ghosh : Bharater Samajik Samasya (In Bengali)
   (Chatterjee Publishers)
SOCIOLOGY – HONOURS AND GENERAL

Scheme of Paper setting and Marks Distribution

Each paper will be divided into two Groups- Group A and Group B with 50 marks each.

In each Group, 4 broad questions will be set of 15 marks each, out of which 2 questions will be set from Module I or III as case may be and 2 questions from Module II or IV as the case may be. Students will have to answer 1 question from each Module of a Group, i.e. 2 questions of 15 marks from both Modules.

Question No. 5 in Group A and question No. 10 in Group B will have 4 short questions of 10 marks each out of which 2 questions will have to be answered. Those short questions will be set from both the modules and answers must be limited preferably within 300 words.

For General Courses, however, question No. 5 in Group A and Question No. 10 in Group B will have 15 short questions of 2 marks each out of which 10 questions will have to be answered. These short questions will be set from both the Modules.