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CLASS X · SOCIAL SCIENCE (087) · POLITICAL SCIENCE · CBSE BOARD EXAMINATION 2027

POLITICAL SCIENCE · CHAPTER 4

MODEL ANSWERS

Political Parties

Board-Style Answer Booklet · Answers as CBSE expects them

CBSE marking-scheme pattern | Word count on every answer | 60 model answers | Most-probable 2027 answers marked

INSIDE THIS BOOKLET

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HOW TO USE IT

1. Write your own answer first, in the practice notebook.
2. Then open this booklet. Tick each numbered point you also wrote.
3. Give yourself 1 mark per matching point – that is how the examiner marks.
4. Copy any point you missed into My Mistakes (last page of the Chapter Booklet).
5. Rewrite the answer after 3 days, from memory.

USE WITH **Chapter Booklet, Political Science Ch 4**

READ THIS FIRST · BASED ON THE CBSE SAMPLE PAPER AND MARKING SCHEME 2026–27

How CBSE Marks Political Science

Every answer in this booklet follows the official marking-scheme pattern: numbered value points, keyword first, inside the word limit. Under each answer you will see its word count and how the marks are split.

The Political Science section of the 2027 paper

Section C · 20 marks

Item	Type	Marks	Words	What earns the marks
Q20–Q23	MCQs: statements, picture / cartoon, odd one out, assertion–reason	1 each	–	Letter + answer
Q24–Q25	Very short answers	2 each	40	2 points × 1 mark
Q26	Short answer	3	60	3 points × 1 mark
Q27	Long answer, (A) **or** (B)	5	120	5 points × 1 mark
Q28	Source / case-based: 28.1, 28.2, 28.3	1+1+2	100 in all	From the passage + chapter facts

This chapter gave **4 marks** in both papers we read: an MCQ and a **3-mark** question on functions, importance or the multiparty system. Write three named points.

How the marking scheme gives marks

SEVEN RULES

- **Marks come from value points.** Each correct, relevant point earns 1 mark: 2 marks = 2 points, 3 marks = 3 points, 5 marks = 5 points. The scheme accepts “any other relevant point”, so a correct NCERT point that is not in our answer also scores.
- **Points are numbered and short.** Official answers have no introduction or conclusion. Our 5-mark answers sometimes add one opening and one closing line only so the answer reads well – skip them when short of time.
- **Keyword first.** Start each point with the key word and underline it – the examiner scans for it. Then give one fact: a name, a date, a number or an example.
- **MCQs:** write the letter and the answer text. Combination questions are answered like “(b) Only a, b and d”.
- **Case / source-based:** (i) and (ii) need one clear line each; the 2-mark part needs two separate points. Use the passage’s own clues, then add chapter facts.
- **Internal choice:** write “(A)” or “(B)” in the margin and attempt only one.
- **Do not repeat** one idea in two points – it earns one mark only.

Answer frames – copy this shape

2-mark answer ≤ 40 words

1. Keyword: one reason or fact.
2. Keyword: a second, different reason or fact.

Two lines, no introduction.

3-mark answer ≤ 60 words

1. Keyword: point + name / date / number.
2. Keyword: point + example.
3. Keyword: point + result.

One sentence per point.

5-mark answer ≤ 120 words

→ Optional opening line that answers the question in short.

1–5 Five numbered points, keyword first, a fact in each.

→ Optional closing line: "So / Hence …".

Order the points in time, or from cause to result.

Case-based 1 + 1 + 2 · ≤ 100 words

(i) One line, from the passage.

(ii) One line: passage clue + chapter fact.

(iii) Two separate points, one line each.

Never copy the whole passage.

Short of time? Learn these ten first

Most probable for 2027

C1	Explain any five functions of political parties in a …	[5]	C2	"Political parties are necessary for democracy." Justify.	[3]
C3	Why does India have a multiparty system?	[3]	C6	"Political parties face many challenges." Explain with …	[5]
C7	Describe the steps taken and suggested to reform political …	[5]	D1	Case: The Party Office	[4]
D2	Case: Many Parties, One Government	[4]			

ANSWERS · PART A

A Textbook Check – Answers

Model answers to every Textbook Check question. Underlined words are the keywords the examiner looks for.

Meaning, functions and need

A1. What is a political party? Name its three components. [2]

1. **Meaning:** a group that contests elections and seeks power to carry out agreed policies for the collective good.
2. **Components:** leaders, active members and followers.

24 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2 | Components: 2025 32/1/1 Q14. | MUST DO

A2. Why does a political party involve partisanship? [2]

1. **Part of society:** a party stands for one section, its policies and interests.
2. **Side:** so it takes sides and is known by whose interests it upholds.

26 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

A3. Describe any three functions of political parties. [3]

1. **Elections:** parties choose and put up candidates.
2. **Policies:** they offer programmes and reduce many opinions to a few positions.
3. **Government:** they form and run governments; losers act as opposition.

29 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | 2026 32/1/1 Q26. | MUST DO

A4. How do parties shape public opinion and give access to government? [2]

1. **Opinion:** they raise issues, run movements and work through members and pressure groups.
2. **Access:** people reach welfare schemes through local party leaders.

22 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

A5. What would happen if there were no political parties? [3]

1. **Independents:** every candidate would be independent with no national promises.
2. **Uncertain government:** its utility would be unclear.
3. **No responsibility:** no one would be responsible for running the country.

28 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

A6. Why are political parties called a necessary condition for democracy? [3]

1. **Large societies:** need representative democracy and an agency to gather views.
2. **Responsible government:** parties bring representatives together to form it.
3. **Check:** they support or restrain the government and shape policies.

30 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | 2025 32/1/1 Q28(A). | MUST DO

Party systems

A7. Why is a one-party system not a democratic option? [2]

1. **No competition:** only one party is allowed to run the government.
2. **Democracy:** democracy needs at least two parties with a fair chance of power.

24 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

A8. Distinguish between two-party and multiparty systems. [3]

1. **Two-party:** power alternates between two main parties – USA, UK.
2. **Multiparty:** more than two have a fair chance alone or in alliance – India.
3. **Effect:** multiparty is messier but represents more interests.

30 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

A9. Why has India adopted a multiparty system? [3]

1. **Evolution:** party systems evolve from society, history and elections.
2. **Diversity:** India's social and regional diversity is too large for two parties.
3. **Representation:** many groups and regions get a voice.

29 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | 2025 32/1/1 Q28(B). | MUST DO

A10. What is an alliance or front? Give examples. [2]

1. **Meaning:** parties join hands to contest elections and win power.
2. **Examples:** NDA, UPA and the Left Front in 2004.

19 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

National and state parties

A11. State the conditions for recognition as a State party and a national party. [2]

1. **State party:** 6% votes in an Assembly election and at least two seats.
2. **National party:** 6% votes in Lok Sabha or four states' Assembly polls and four Lok Sabha seats.

30 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2 | MUST DO

A12. Give two features each of the BSP and the CPI(M). [2]

1. **BSP:** formed 1984 by Kanshi Ram; for the bahujan samaj; strong in UP.
2. **CPI(M):** formed 1964; Marxism–Leninism; strong in West Bengal, Kerala, Tripura.

24 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

A13. How have State parties strengthened federalism and democracy? [3]

1. **Diversity:** they made Parliament politically more diverse.
2. **Coalitions:** national parties had to ally with them.
3. **Share:** since 1996 almost every State party has shared power at the Centre.

28 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

Challenges and reforms

A14. Describe the four challenges faced by political parties. [4]

1. **Internal democracy:** power concentrated in a few leaders.
2. **Dynastic succession:** top posts go to one family.
3. **Money and muscle:** rich donors and criminals gain influence.
4. **Meaningful choice:** parties differ little; leaders keep switching.

33 words · limit 100 | Marking: 4 points × 1 = 4 | MUST DO

A15. What is defection? How has the anti-defection law affected it? [3]

1. **Meaning:** leaving the party on whose ticket one was elected.
2. **Law:** an MP or MLA who changes party loses the seat; defection fell.
3. **Drawback:** dissent has become difficult.

28 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

A16. Explain two steps taken by the Supreme Court and the Election Commission to reform parties. [2]

1. **Affidavit:** candidates must declare property and criminal cases.
2. **EC order:** parties must hold organisational elections and file tax returns.

19 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

A17. Suggest three reforms to strengthen political parties. [3]

1. **Internal law:** a law for membership registers and open internal elections.
2. **Women:** about one-third tickets to women.
3. **State funding:** government to pay election expenses in kind or cash.

28 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

B

ANSWER KEY · PART B

Objective – Answer Key

All 20 MCQ and assertion–reason answers, each with a one-line reason so you learn the fact, not only the letter.

Write the option letter **and** the answer, as the marking scheme does – e.g. "(b) ..." followed by the answer text.

Q	Answer	Why (one line)
B1	**(d) Election Commission**	Type of 2025 32/1/1 Q14.
B2	**(c) CPI(M) – founded 1885**	INC – 1885; CPI(M) – 1964. Type of 2026 32/1/1 Q22.
B3	**(a) China**	Communist Party.
B4	**(b) Two**	National: four Lok Sabha seats.
B5	**(c) Both I and II are correct**	Different methods.
B6	**(b) Playing the opposition**	Criticise and check.
B7	**(d) National People's Party**	2019.
B8	**(a) Anti-defection law**	Constitutional amendment.
B9	**(c) BSP**	Bahujan samaj.
B10	**(b) Supreme Court**	EC ordered internal elections and tax returns.
B11	**(a) social and geographical diversity**	Evolved over time.
B12	**(d) dynastic succession**	One family controls top posts.
B13	**(a) State funding of elections**	Also internal-affairs law, tickets for women.
B14	**(b) CPI(M)**	Left Front.
B15	**(c) United Kingdom**	Also USA.
B16	**(d) a unique election symbol**	Used only by its official candidates.
B17	**(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.**	R explains A.
B18	**(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.**	Both true; R is a side effect, not the reason.
B19	**(d) A is false, but R is true.**	A false; R true.
B20	**(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.**	R explains A.

C

ANSWERS · PART C

Board Pattern – Answers

Model answers in the marking-scheme pattern. Orange tags show where a similar question came in a board or sample paper.

Functions and need of parties

★★★ both papers · 3 marks

C1. Explain any five functions of political parties in a democracy. [5]

1. **Elections:** contest elections by putting up candidates.
2. **Policies:** offer policies and programmes for voters to choose.
3. **Laws:** make laws; members follow party direction.
4. **Government and opposition:** form governments; losers act as opposition.
5. **Opinion and access:** shape public opinion and give access to welfare schemes.

44 words · limit 120 | Marking: 5 points × 1 = 5 | 2026 32/1/1 Q26 (3 marks). | MUST DO

C2. "Political parties are necessary for democracy." Justify. [3]

1. **Representation:** they gather and present different views to government.
2. **Government:** they bring representatives together to form a responsible government.
3. **Accountability:** they support or restrain the government and offer choices.

29 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | 2025 32/1/1 Q28(A). | MUST DO

Party systems

★★☆ 2025 32/1/1 · 3 marks

C3. Why does India have a multiparty system? Is it good or bad? [3]

1. **Diversity:** social and regional diversity cannot fit into two parties.
2. **Evolution:** it grew from India's society, history and elections.
3. **Merit and demerit:** messy and sometimes unstable, but represents many interests.

30 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | 2025 32/1/1 Q28(B). | MUST DO

C4. Compare one-party, two-party and multiparty systems with examples. [3]

1. **One-party:** only one party rules – China; not democratic.
2. **Two-party:** two main parties alternate – USA, UK.
3. **Multiparty:** several can come to power, often in alliances – India.

25 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

National and state parties

★★☆ both papers · 1 mark (MCQ)

C5. Describe any three national parties of India. [3]

1. **INC:** 1885; centrist; secularism and welfare of weaker sections.
2. **BJP:** 1980; cultural nationalism; leads the NDA.
3. **BSP:** 1984; Kanshi Ram; bahujan samaj; strong in UP.

25 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | Odd one out: 2026 32/1/1 Q22.

Challenges and reforms

★★☆ NCERT core · 3–5 marks

C6. "Political parties face many challenges." Explain with examples. [5]

1. **Internal democracy:** few leaders hold power; no regular internal elections.
2. **Dynasty:** top posts go to family members.
3. **Money:** candidates chosen for money; rich donors influence policy.
4. **Muscle:** some parties back criminals who can win.
5. **Choice:** little ideological difference; leaders switch parties.

41 words · limit 120 | Marking: 5 points × 1 = 5 | MUST DO

C7. Describe the steps taken and suggested to reform political parties. [5]

1. **Anti-defection:** members who change party lose their seat.
2. **Affidavit:** candidates declare property and criminal cases.
3. **EC order:** organisational elections and tax returns.
4. **Suggested:** law on internal affairs; one-third tickets for women.
5. **Funding:** state funding of elections; citizen pressure and participation.

40 words · limit 120 | Marking: 5 points × 1 = 5 | MUST DO

C8. How can ordinary citizens help reform political parties? [2]

1. **Pressure:** petitions, publicity and agitations through groups and media.
2. **Participation:** join parties instead of only criticising from outside.

18 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

D

ANSWERS · PART D

Case-Based – Answers

One line each for the 1-mark parts; separate points for the 2-mark parts. The whole answer stays within the word limit.

D1. Case-Based · The Party Office (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) Which function of parties is seen first? [1]

Giving people access to government machinery and welfare schemes.

(ii) Which function is seen in the election promise? [1]

Putting forward policies and programmes.

(iii) Why must parties respond to such needs? Two reasons. [2]

(i) People can reject unresponsive parties in the next election.

(ii) Parties need public support to win and rule.

33 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4 | Same theme as 2026 32/1/1 Q26.

D2. Case-Based · Many Parties, One Government (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) What type of party system does this show? [1]

Multiparty system.

(ii) What is such a group of parties called? [1]

An alliance or front (coalition).

(iii) Give one merit and one demerit of this system. [2]

(i) Merit – many interests and regions get representation.
(ii) Demerit – it can be messy and unstable.

23 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4 | Same topic as 2025 32/1/1 Q28(B).

D3. Case-Based · The Sworn Statement (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) What is this document called? [1]

An affidavit.

(ii) Who ordered that it be filed? [1]

The Supreme Court.

(iii) Give one benefit and one limitation of this step. [2]

(i) Benefit – voters get information about candidates.
(ii) Limitation – there is no check that the information is true.

23 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4

D4. Case-Based · The Switch (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) What is this act of switching called? [1]

Defection.

(ii) Under which law was he disqualified? [1]

The anti-defection law.

(iii) What is one good and one bad effect of this law? [2]

(i) Good – defection has come down.
(ii) Bad – dissent within parties has become difficult.

18 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4

D5. Case-Based · Who Runs the Party? (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) Which two challenges are shown? [1]

Lack of internal democracy and dynastic succession.

(ii) Why is this bad for democracy? [1]

People without experience or support get power; members have no voice.

(iii) Suggest two reforms to correct this. [2]

(i) A law requiring membership registers and open internal elections.
(ii) An independent authority to settle party disputes.

36 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4