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

POLITICAL SCIENCE · CHAPTER 1

MODEL ANSWERS

# Power Sharing

Board-Style Answer Booklet · Answers as CBSE expects them

CBSE marking-scheme pattern | Word count on every answer | 62 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 1**

M

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 usually gives an **A–R MCQ** (Q20–23) and either a 2/3-mark 'why power sharing' answer or the **Q28 case** on forms of power sharing. Name the form and give an example in every point.

## 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 the prudential and moral reasons for power sharing. | [5] | C2 | Give three arguments against the claim that political power … | [3] |
| C5 | "Belgian leaders recognised regional differences and … | [5] | C8 | "Majoritarian measures increased the alienation of Sri … | [3] |
| C10 | Describe the different forms of power sharing in modern … | [5] | C12 | How do political parties, pressure groups and movements … | [2] |
| D1 | Case: One Country, Four Governments | [4] | D2 | Case: The Language Law | [4] |

A

ANSWERS · PART A

# Textbook Check – Answers

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

## Belgium and Sri Lanka

**A1.** Describe the ethnic composition of Belgium. Why was the tension sharpest in Brussels? [3]

1. **Regions:** 59% Dutch-speaking in Flanders, 40% French-speaking in Wallonia, 1% German.
2. **Brussels:** 80% French-speaking and 20% Dutch-speaking.
3. **Tension:** Dutch speakers were a majority in the country but a minority in the capital.

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

**A2.** Describe the ethnic and religious composition of Sri Lanka. [2]

1. **Language:** Sinhala 74%, Tamil 18% – Sri Lankan Tamils (13%) and Indian Tamils.
2. **Religion:** most Sinhalas are Buddhists; most Tamils Hindus or Muslims; about 7% Christians.

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

**A3.** What majoritarian measures did the Sri Lankan government adopt after 1948? [3]

1. **Language:** the 1956 Act made Sinhala the only official language.
2. **Preferences:** Sinhala applicants were favoured for university places and government jobs.
3. **Religion:** the constitution said the state shall protect and foster Buddhism.

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

**A4.** How did these measures affect the Sri Lankan Tamils? What did they demand? [3]

1. **Alienation:** they felt their language and culture were ignored and they lacked equal rights.
2. **Demands:** Tamil as official language, regional autonomy, equal chances in jobs and education.
3. **Conflict:** by the 1980s – Tamil Eelam and a civil war that ended in 2009.

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

**A5.** Explain the four main elements of the Belgian model of power sharing. [4]

1. **Equal ministers:** Dutch and French-speaking ministers are equal in the central government.
2. **States:** many central powers went to state governments, which are not subordinate.
3. **Brussels:** a separate government with equal representation of both communities.
4. **Community government:** elected by each language group; handles culture, education, language.

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

**A6.** What is majoritarianism? How did it lead to civil war in Sri Lanka? [3]

1. **Meaning:** the majority rules as it wishes, ignoring the minority.
2. **Distrust:** Sinhala-first policies alienated the Tamils and their demands were denied.
3. **War:** demand for Tamil Eelam turned into a civil war; thousands died.

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

**A7.** What lessons do the stories of Belgium and Sri Lanka teach us? [2]

1. **Belgium:** unity is kept by respecting the feelings and interests of all communities.
2. **Sri Lanka:** a majority forcing its dominance undermines the unity of the country.

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

**A8.** What is a community government? Why was it set up in Belgium? [2]

1. **Meaning:** elected by people of one language community wherever they live.
2. **Purpose:** to give each community control over its culture, education and language.

23 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2 | 2025 32/1/1 Q12 (MCQ). | MUST DO

## Why and how power is shared

**A9.** Give two prudential and two moral reasons for power sharing. [4]

1. **Prudential – conflict:** it reduces conflict between social groups.
2. **Prudential – stability:** it keeps the political order stable; majority tyranny ruins all.
3. **Moral – spirit:** it is the very spirit of democracy.
4. **Moral – consultation:** people have a right to be consulted; it gives them a stake.

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

**A10.** What was the older idea of 'undivided power'? How does democracy answer it? [2]

1. **Old idea:** all power with one person or group at one place, for quick decisions.
2. **Democracy:** power should be spread among as many citizens as possible.

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

**A11.** Describe the four forms of power sharing in modern democracies, with one example each. [5]

1. **Horizontal:** among legislature, executive and judiciary – checks and balances.
2. **Vertical:** among Union, state and local governments – panchayats.
3. **Social groups:** community government in Belgium; reserved constituencies in India.
4. **Parties:** competition and coalition governments share power.
5. **Pressure groups:** traders and farmers sit on committees and influence decisions.

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

**A12.** What is meant by checks and balances? How does it work in India? [3]

1. **Meaning:** each organ of government checks the others, so none has unlimited power.
2. **Executive:** ministers are answerable to Parliament or the Assemblies.
3. **Judiciary:** judges, appointed by the executive, can check it and strike down laws.

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

**A13.** Aman says power sharing is needed only where there are language or religious divisions. Do you agree? Give reasons. [3]

1. **Disagree:** every society, big or small, needs power sharing.
2. **Democracy:** people have a right to be consulted on how they are governed.
3. **Forms:** it also works among organs, levels of government and parties.

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

**A14.** Distinguish between horizontal and vertical division of power. [3]

1. **Horizontal:** among organs of government at the same level.
2. **Vertical:** among governments at different levels – Union, state, local.
3. **Purpose:** horizontal gives checks and balances; vertical gives a federal division.

29 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 | **(a) 59** | French 40%, German 1%. |
| B2 | **(d) French-speaking** | 80% of Brussels. |
| B3 | **(b) recognised Sinhala as the only official language** | Majoritarian measure. |
| B4 | **(d) I and II** | Christians are both Tamil and Sinhala. |
| B5 | **(c) four times** | Belgian model. |
| B6 | **(b) people of one language community, wherever they live** | Type of 2025 32/1/1 Q12. |
| B7 | **(a) Brussels** | Reward for Belgian accommodation. |
| B8 | **(c) horizontal division** | Same level. |
| B9 | **(c) social groups** | Weaker sections get a share. |
| B10 | **(d) People have a right to be consulted on how they are governed.** | The others are prudential. |
| B11 | **(b) State governments are subordinate to the central government.** | They are not subordinate. |
| B12 | **(a) power is shared so that no one holds unlimited power** | Horizontal and vertical sharing. |
| B13 | **(c) influencing decisions and sitting on government committees** | Type of 2026 32/1/1 Q28. |
| B14 | **(d) 2009** | Demand for Tamil Eelam began in the 1980s. |
| B15 | **(a) political parties** | Alliance of parties. |
| B16 | **(b) north and east** | 13% of the population. |
| 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 result, not the reason. |
| B19 | **(d) A is false, but R is true.** | A false; R true. Type of 2026 32/1/1 Q20. |
| 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.

## Why power sharing is desirable

★★★ 8 of 12 papers · 1–5 marks

**C1.** Explain the prudential and moral reasons for power sharing. [5]

1. **Less conflict:** it reduces conflict between social groups (prudential).
2. **Stability:** it keeps the political order stable (prudential).
3. **Unity:** majority tyranny ruins the majority too, as in Sri Lanka (prudential).
4. **Spirit:** it is the very spirit of democracy (moral).
5. **Stake:** people have a right to be consulted and a stake in a legitimate government (moral).

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

**C2.** Give three arguments against the claim that political power should not be divided. [3]

1. **Conflict:** sharing reduces conflict among groups and violence.
2. **Stability:** it gives a stable political order and national unity.
3. **Democracy:** people affected by power must share it; it is democracy's spirit.

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

**C3.** "Power sharing is the very spirit of democracy." Justify. [3]

1. **Rule by people:** democracy means power shared with those affected by it.
2. **Consultation:** citizens have a right to be consulted on how they are governed.
3. **Legitimacy:** participation gives people a stake, so the government is legitimate.

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

**C4.** "The tyranny of the majority often ruins the majority as well." Explain with the example of Sri Lanka. [3]

1. **Domination:** the Sinhala majority imposed its language, jobs policy and religion.
2. **Alienation:** Tamils felt shut out and demanded Tamil Eelam.
3. **Ruin:** the civil war set back the whole country, Sinhalas included.

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

## The Belgian model

★★★ 7 of 12 papers · 1–3 marks

**C5.** "Belgian leaders recognised regional differences and cultural diversities." Explain the steps they took. [5]

1. **Amendments:** the constitution was amended four times between 1970 and 1993.
2. **Equal ministers:** Dutch and French ministers are equal; some laws need each group's majority.
3. **States:** state governments got many powers and are not subordinate.
4. **Brussels:** a separate government with equal representation.
5. **Community government:** each language group controls culture, education and language.

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

**C6.** Why did the French-speaking people accept equal representation in Brussels? [2]

1. **Give and take:** the Dutch speakers accepted equal representation in the central government.
2. **Unity:** both sides compromised to keep the country together.

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

**C7.** "The Belgian arrangement is complicated, yet it has worked." Comment. [3]

1. **Complicated:** three tiers – central, state and community – plus a Brussels government.
2. **Worked:** it avoided civic strife and a split on linguistic lines.
3. **Recognition:** Brussels became the headquarters of the European Union.

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

## Sri Lanka

★★☆ 4 of 12 papers · mostly assertion–reason

**C8.** "Majoritarian measures increased the alienation of Sri Lankan Tamils." Examine. [3]

1. **Language:** Sinhala as the only official language ignored Tamil.
2. **Jobs:** preferences for Sinhalas in universities and jobs.
3. **Result:** Tamils felt denied equal rights; demands for autonomy were refused.

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

**C9.** Compare the ways Belgium and Sri Lanka dealt with their diversity, on three points. [3]

1. **Approach:** Belgium – accommodation; Sri Lanka – majoritarianism.
2. **Steps:** Belgium shared power at all levels; Sri Lanka imposed Sinhala and Buddhism.
3. **Result:** Belgium stayed united; Sri Lanka faced civil war.

28 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | A–R on both: 2026 32/1/1 Q20.

## Forms of power sharing

★★☆ 3 of 12 papers · 3–4 marks

**C10.** Describe the different forms of power sharing in modern democracies, with examples. [5]

1. **Horizontal:** legislature, executive, judiciary check each other.
2. **Vertical:** Union, state and local governments – federal division.
3. **Social groups:** community government; reserved constituencies.
4. **Parties:** coalition governments and competition among parties.
5. **Pressure groups:** farmers, traders and workers influence decisions.

36 words · limit 120 | Marking: 5 points × 1 = 5 | Case on this: 2026 32/1/1 Q28. | MUST DO

**C11.** How does horizontal sharing create checks and balances? Why is the judiciary kept independent? [3]

1. **Same level:** each organ uses different powers, so none is unlimited.
2. **Checks:** ministers answer to the legislature; courts can strike down laws.
3. **Independence:** so that it can check the other organs without fear.

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

**C12.** How do political parties, pressure groups and movements share power? [2]

1. **Parties:** competition and coalitions keep power from staying in one hand.
2. **Groups:** interest groups sit on committees and influence decisions.

20 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2 | 2026 32/1/1 Q28. | MUST DO

**C13.** How does power sharing keep a democracy stable? Give two points. [2]

1. **Less conflict:** groups get a share, so violence and instability fall.
2. **Unity:** all communities feel part of the nation.

19 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 · One Country, Four Governments (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) Which government looks after her French-language schooling? [1]

The French community government.

(ii) What is special about the government of Brussels? [1]

It has equal representation of both language communities.

(iii) How do these arrangements stop one community dominating the other? Two ways. [2]

(i) Equal ministers, and some laws need a majority of each group.
(ii) State and community governments share power with the centre.

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

## D2. Case-Based · The Language Law (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) **Name the country and the year of the law.** [1]
Sri Lanka; 1956.

(ii) **Give two demands of the minority community.** [1]
Tamil as an official language and regional autonomy (also equal opportunity).

(iii) **Explain how majoritarianism weakened the unity of the country.** [2]
(i) It alienated the Tamils and created distrust.
(ii) This led to the demand for Tamil Eelam and civil war.

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

## D3. Case-Based · Who Holds the Power in Nandpur? (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) **Which example shows horizontal sharing of power?** [1]
The High Court striking down a clause of the assembly's law.

(ii) **Which example shows vertical sharing of power?** [1]
The state government sharing work with panchayats.

(iii) **Identify two more forms of power sharing in the passage.** [2]
(i) Among parties – a three-party coalition.
(ii) Pressure groups – the farmers' union on the committee.

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

## D4. Case-Based · Many Voices (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) **What kind of government is described?** [1]
A coalition government.

(ii) **Which form of power sharing does the traders' association show?** [1]
Sharing among interest or pressure groups.

(iii) **How does competition among parties help share power? Two points.** [2]
(i) Power does not remain in one hand.
(ii) Over time, parties of different ideas and groups get a share.

29 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4 | Same theme as 2026 32/1/1 Q28.

## D5. Case-Based · The See-Saw (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) **Which idea does the cartoon criticise?** [1]
Majoritarianism.

(ii) **Which country in the chapter followed this idea?** [1]
Sri Lanka.

(iii) **Suggest two ways to balance the see-saw in a democracy.** [2]
(i) Share power with minorities, e.g. community government.
(ii) Reserved seats and equal rights for all groups.

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