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

GEOGRAPHY · CHAPTER 7

MODEL ANSWERS

Lifelines of National Economy

Board-Style Answer Booklet · Answers as CBSE expects them

CBSE marking-scheme pattern | Word count on every answer | 83 model answers | Most-probable 2027 answers marked

INSIDE THIS BOOKLET

M	**How CBSE Marks Geography** Section layout, the seven marking rules, answer frames	2
A	**Textbook Check – Answers** 22 model answers	3
B	**Objective – Answer Key** 20 answers, each with a reason	7
C	**Board Pattern – Answers** 10 model answers	8
D	**Case-Based – Answers** 5 cases, 15 answers	10
E	**Map Work – Key** 16 places located	11

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, Geography Ch 7

M

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

How CBSE Marks Geography

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 Geography section of the 2027 paper

Section B · 20 marks

Item	Type	Marks	Words	What earns the marks
Q10–Q15	MCQs: statements, matching, assertion–reason, identify from clues	1 each	–	Letter + answer
Q16	Very short answer	2	40	2 points × 1 mark
Q17	Long answer, (A) **or** (B)	5	120	5 points × 1 mark
Q18	Source / case-based: 18.1, 18.2, 18.3	1+1+2	100 in all	From the passage + chapter facts
Q19	Map: locate and label any three of four items	3	–	Right place + name written

In the papers we read, only this chapter's **map items** came in the board (Kandla port, Amritsar airport). Use the written answers for the school chapter test.

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

C5	Describe any five major sea ports of India.	[5]	C1	Explain five reasons for the growing importance of road …	[5]
C2	Describe the six classes of roads in India according to …	[5]	C3	"Railways are the principal mode of transport in India, yet …	[5]
C8	"Advancement of international trade is an index of a …	[3]	D1	Case: The New Port	[4]
D2	Case: A Road to Every Village	[4]			

ANSWERS · PART A

A Textbook Check – Answers

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

Transport and roads

A1. Why are transport, communication and trade called the lifelines of the economy? [3]

1. **Movement:** transport carries goods and people from supply to demand areas.
2. **Links:** communication spreads information and links people and markets.
3. **Growth:** trade raises income; together they speed up development.

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

A2. Why are roads more important than railways in India? Give three reasons. [3]

1. **Cost:** roads are cheaper to build than railway lines.
2. **Terrain:** they cross undulating land and climb steep slopes like the Himalayas.
3. **Service:** door-to-door service, economical for short distances, and a feeder to other modes.

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

A3. What is the Golden Quadrilateral? State its objective. [2]

1. **Meaning:** six-lane super highways linking Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai.
2. **Objective:** to cut time and distance between mega cities; built by NHAI.

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

A4. Name the North–South and East–West corridors. [2]

1. **North–South:** Srinagar (J&K) to Kanyakumari (Tamil Nadu).
2. **East–West:** Silchar (Assam) to Porbandar (Gujarat).

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

A5. Distinguish between National Highways and State Highways. [2]

1. **National Highways:** link extreme parts of India; built by the CPWD.
2. **State Highways:** link the state capital with district headquarters; built by the State PWD.

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

A6. What is the importance of rural roads and border roads? [3]

1. **Rural roads:** link villages to towns; PMGSY aims at an all-season road to every village.
2. **Border roads:** built by the Border Roads Organisation (1960) in strategic border areas.
3. **Effect:** better access and development in remote, difficult terrain.

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

A7. What is road density? State three problems of road transport in India. [3]

1. **Road density:** length of roads per 100 sq km of area.
2. **Inadequate:** the network is too small for the traffic; half the roads are unmetalled.
3. **Congestion:** crowded city roads; old, narrow bridges and culverts.

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

Railways and pipelines

A8. Explain the importance of railways in India. [3]

1. **Freight and passengers:** the main mode for long-distance goods and travel.
2. **Integration:** an integrating force for over 150 years.
3. **Economy:** speeds up the growth of industry and agriculture.

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

A9. How does relief affect the distribution of railways in India? [3]

1. **Plains:** level land and dense population favour railways, though rivers need bridges.
2. **Peninsula:** tracks pass through gaps, passes and tunnels.
3. **Himalayas and deserts:** high relief, sand and swamps make railways difficult.

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

A10. State three problems faced by the railways. [3]

1. **Ticketless travel:** many passengers travel without tickets.
2. **Damage:** theft and damage of railway property.
3. **Chain-pulling:** needless stopping of trains causes heavy loss.

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

A11. Give the merits of pipeline transport. [3]

1. **Running cost:** high initial cost but very low running cost.
2. **No loss:** no trans-shipment losses or delays.
3. **Inland plants:** made inland refineries like Barauni, Mathura and Panipat possible.

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

A12. Name the three important pipeline networks of India. [3]

1. **Network 1:** upper Assam to Kanpur via Guwahati, Barauni and Allahabad.
2. **Network 2:** Salaya (Gujarat) to Jalandhar (Punjab) via Mathura and Delhi.
3. **Network 3:** gas pipeline from Hazira to Jagdishpur via Vijaipur.

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

Waterways, ports and airways

A13. Why are waterways important? Name two National Waterways. [2]

1. **Merits:** cheapest, best for heavy and bulky goods, fuel-efficient and eco-friendly.
2. **Examples:** NW 1 – Ganga, Allahabad–Haldia; NW 2 – Brahmaputra, Sadiya–Dhubri.

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

A14. Why was Kandla port developed after Independence? [2]

1. **Karachi lost:** Karachi port went to Pakistan, putting pressure on Mumbai.
2. **Hinterland:** it serves the granary and industrial belt from J&K to Gujarat.

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

A15. Describe the features of any three ports on the east coast. [3]

1. **Chennai:** one of the oldest artificial ports, second to Mumbai in trade.
2. **Visakhapatnam:** deepest land-locked, well-protected port.
3. **Kolkata:** inland riverine tidal port needing constant dredging; Haldia relieves it.

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

A16. Which ports export iron ore? Give three. [3]

1. **Marmagao:** premier iron-ore export port of Goa.
2. **New Mangalore:** ore concentrate from Kudremukh.
3. **East coast:** Paradip and Visakhapatnam.

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

A17. Why is air travel preferred in the north-eastern states? [2]

1. **Terrain:** big rivers, dissected relief, dense forests and floods hinder surface transport.
2. **Provision:** special provisions extend air services to common people there.

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

Communication, trade and tourism

A18. Distinguish between first-class and second-class mail. [2]

1. **First-class:** cards and envelopes; airlifted.
2. **Second-class:** book packets, newspapers and periodicals; by surface.

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

A19. What is the role of mass communication? Give two examples. [2]

1. **Role:** it entertains and creates awareness of national programmes and policies.
2. **Examples:** All India Radio and Doordarshan.

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

A20. What is balance of trade? Distinguish between favourable and unfavourable balance. [3]

1. **Meaning:** the difference between a country's exports and imports.
2. **Favourable:** exports greater than imports.
3. **Unfavourable:** imports greater than exports.

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

A21. Why is international trade called the economic barometer of a country? [2]

1. **Prosperity:** its growth reflects a country's economic prosperity.
2. **Need:** resources are space-bound, so no country can survive without trade.

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

A22. How does tourism help India? [3]

1. **Integration:** promotes national integration.
2. **Livelihood:** supports local handicrafts and cultural pursuits; earns foreign exchange.
3. **Understanding:** builds international understanding of our culture and heritage.

23 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) a-iii, b-iv, c-ii, d-i**	West and east coast ports.
B2	**(b) Kandla**	Type of 2026 32/1/1 Q19 (map).
B3	**(c) Amritsar**	Raja Sansi. Type of 2025 32/1/1 Q37(b) (map).
B4	**(d) Silchar and Porbandar**	North–South: Srinagar–Kanyakumari.
B5	**(a) Zila Parishad**	NHAI – Golden Quadrilateral.
B6	**(b) Mumbai and Thane**	34 km.
B7	**(c) Brahmaputra**	Sadiya–Dhubri.
B8	**(d) Haldia**	Subsidiary port.
B9	**(c) Both I and II are correct**	Both true.
B10	**(b) unfavourable**	Exports – imports < 0.
B11	**(a) Rajiv Gandhi**	Hyderabad.
B12	**(c) Tuticorin**	Natural harbour, rich hinterland.
B13	**(d) Salaya–Viramgam–Mathura–Delhi**	Network 2.
B14	**(a) Waterways**	Best for bulky goods.
B15	**(b) 1960**	Strategic northern and north-eastern areas.
B16	**(d) Marmagao – Goa**	Paradip – Odisha; New Mangalore – Karnataka; Haldia – West Bengal.
B17	**(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.**	R explains A.
B18	**(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.**	R explains A.
B19	**(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.**	Both true; the reason is low running cost and no trans-shipment loss.
B20	**(d) A is false, but R is true.**	A false – they are difficult to build there; R true.

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.

Roads and railways

★★☆ NCERT exercises · school test 3–5 marks

C1. Explain five reasons for the growing importance of road transport over rail transport in India. [5]

1. **Cost:** roads are cheaper to build.
2. **Terrain:** they cross dissected land and climb steep slopes like the Himalayas.
3. **Short distance:** economical for few people and small loads.
4. **Door to door:** lower loading and unloading costs.
5. **Feeder:** they link railway stations, airports and sea ports.

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

C2. Describe the six classes of roads in India according to capacity. [5]

1. **Golden Quadrilateral:** six-lane highways linking four metros; NHAI.
2. **National Highways:** link extreme parts; CPWD; Sher Shah Suri Marg.
3. **State Highways:** state capital to districts; State PWD.
4. **District and other roads:** district roads by Zila Parishad; rural roads under PMGSY.
5. **Border Roads:** by the Border Roads Organisation in strategic areas.

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

C3. "Railways are the principal mode of transport in India, yet they face problems." Explain. [5]

1. **Main mode:** they carry most freight and passengers over long distances.
2. **Integration:** they bind the country and boost industry and agriculture.
3. **Relief:** rivers, mountains, deserts and swamps make laying lines hard.
4. **Konkan:** sinking track and landslides on the Konkan Railway.
5. **Misuse:** ticketless travel, theft, damage and chain-pulling.

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

Pipelines, waterways and ports

★★★ board map 2 of 3 papers · 3–5 marks

C4. Explain the advantages of pipelines and waterways as means of transport. [5]

1. **Pipelines – cost:** very low running cost after the initial cost.
2. **Pipelines – losses:** no trans-shipment loss or delay; solids can go as slurry.
3. **Pipelines – location:** allowed inland refineries and fertiliser plants.
4. **Waterways – cost:** cheapest; best for heavy and bulky goods.
5. **Waterways – environment:** fuel-efficient and eco-friendly; most foreign trade goes by sea.

50 words · limit 120 | Marking: 5 points × 1 = 5

C5. Describe any five major sea ports of India. [5]

1. **Kandla:** first port after Independence; tidal, Gujarat.
2. **Mumbai:** biggest port with a natural harbour.
3. **Marmagao:** premier iron-ore export port, Goa.
4. **Visakhapatnam:** deepest land-locked port.
5. **Kolkata:** inland riverine tidal port; Haldia relieves it.

32 words · limit 120 | Marking: 5 points × 1 = 5 | Map: Kandla, 2026 32/1/1 Q19. | MUST DO

Airways, communication and trade

★★☆ NCERT exercises · 3 marks

C6. State the merits and limits of air transport in India. [3]

1. **Fastest:** fastest, most comfortable and prestigious mode.
2. **Terrain:** crosses mountains, deserts and seas; vital for the north-east.
3. **Limit:** costly and beyond the reach of common people.

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

C7. How has communication helped India? Give three points. [3]

1. **Post:** the world's largest postal network with six quick-mail channels.
2. **Telecom:** STD at a uniform rate through space technology.
3. **Mass media:** radio, TV, newspapers and films create awareness.

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

C8. "Advancement of international trade is an index of a country's prosperity." Explain. [3]

1. **Barometer:** trade growth shows economic prosperity.
2. **Need:** resources are space-bound, so countries depend on trade.
3. **India:** exports of gems, engineering goods and software earn foreign exchange.

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

C9. Name the major items of India's exports and imports. [3]

1. **Exports:** farm products, ores, gems and jewellery, chemicals, engineering goods.
2. **Imports:** petroleum, precious stones, inorganic chemicals, coal, machinery.
3. **Change:** trade has shifted to information and knowledge – India is a software giant.

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

C10. "Tourism is a trade." Justify. [3]

1. **Income:** it earns foreign exchange and gives jobs.
2. **Handicrafts:** it supports local handicrafts and culture.
3. **Integration:** it promotes national integration and global understanding.

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

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 New Port (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) Name the port and its state. [1]

Kandla (Deendayal Port); Gujarat.

(ii) Which port was lost, and to which country? [1]

Karachi; Pakistan.

(iii) Give two features of this new port. [2]

(i) It is a tidal port.

(ii) It serves the granary and industrial belt from J&K to Gujarat.

24 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4 | Map link: sea port in Gujarat, 2026 32/1/1 Q19.

D2. Case-Based · A Road to Every Village (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) Name the scheme. [1]

Pradhan Mantri Grameen Sadak Yojana.

(ii) What kind of road did the village get? [1]

A metalled, all-weather road.

(iii) Give two benefits of such roads. [2]

(i) Farmers reach markets easily.

(ii) Better access to schools, hospitals and jobs.

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

D3. Case-Based · Oil Without Wheels (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) Name the mode of transport. [1]

Pipeline.

(ii) Name the refinery town on this network. [1]

Mathura.

(iii) Give two advantages of this mode. [2]

(i) Very low running cost.

(ii) No trans-shipment loss or delay.

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

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

(i) Name the city port and the river. [1]

Kolkata; Hugli.

(ii) Name the newer port downstream. [1]

Haldia.

(iii) Why does this port need dredging? Give two reasons. [2]

(i) It is a tidal, inland riverine port.

(ii) The river brings silt that fills the channel.

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

D5. Case-Based · Exports and Imports (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) What is the balance of trade? [1]

Exports − imports = ₹ 300 − 400 = −₹ 100 crore.

(ii) Is it favourable or unfavourable? [1]

Unfavourable, as imports exceed exports.

(iii) Give two ways to improve it. [2]

(i) Raise exports, e.g. software and engineering goods.
(ii) Reduce costly imports by producing more at home.

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

ANSWERS · PART E

E Map Work – Key

Where each map item lies, so you can check your own outline map.

Map answers are marked only if the place is shown at the right spot **and** its name is written. Use the school's printed outline map. This key tells you where each item lies.

Item	Where it is – check your map against this
Kandla – sea port	Gujarat (Gulf of Kachchh)
Mumbai – sea port	Maharashtra
Marmagao – sea port	Goa
New Mangalore – sea port	Karnataka
Kochi – sea port	Kerala
Tuticorin – sea port	Tamil Nadu
Chennai – sea port	Tamil Nadu
Visakhapatnam – sea port	Andhra Pradesh
Paradip – sea port	Odisha (Mahanadi delta)
Haldia – sea port	West Bengal
Amritsar – Raja Sansi (Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee)	Punjab
Delhi – Indira Gandhi International	Delhi
Mumbai – Chhatrapati Shivaji	Maharashtra
Chennai – Meenambakkam	Tamil Nadu
Kolkata – Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose	West Bengal
Hyderabad – Rajiv Gandhi International	Telangana