CBSE NCERT · Class 12 · Political Science

Political Science

ORIGINAL STUDY COMPANION
PADIKAM
CLASS 12 | HUMANITIES
Political Science
CBSE / NCERT core lessons | Academic year 2026-27
15 chapter lessons
Quick explanations, core points, exam practice and chapter-specific notation in one consistent format.
Padikam explanations are independently written. Official textbooks are used as the coverage map, chapter sequence and terminology reference.

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Study rhythm
Read the quick explanation, recall the core points aloud, then answer the prompts without looking back. Use the official textbook links for full prescribed readings, activities and diagrams.
Textbook and verification links
1. https://cbseacademic.nic.in/web_material/CurriculumMain27/SecPart2/PoliticalScience_SecP2_2026-27.pdf
2. https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php
3. https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?leps1=0-7
4. https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?leps2=0-8
5. https://cbseacademic.nic.in/curriculum_2027.html

CHAPTER 01
The End of Bipolarity
Quick understanding
The Soviet collapse ended Cold War bipolarity and produced new states, economic transitions and altered partnerships.
Core points Check your learning
Institutional and economic weaknesses combined with political reform. Explain the central idea of The End of Bipolarity in your own words.
Shock therapy produced uneven costs and gains. Apply one idea from The End of Bipolarity to a textbook-style example or
Post-Soviet relations cannot be reduced to one

source.
unchanging pattern.
One-line recall Institutional and economic weaknesses combined with political reform.
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CHAPTER 02
Contemporary Centres of Power
Quick understanding
World politics contains several centres of economic and political influence rather than a single uniform hierarchy.
Core points Check your learning
The European Union combines integration with Explain the central idea of Contemporary
national sovereignty. Centres of Power in your own words.
ASEAN emphasises regional cooperation and Apply one idea from Contemporary
dialogue. Centres of Power to a textbook-style
example or source.
China rose through reform, trade and state-led
transformation.
One-line recall The European Union combines integration with national sovereignty.
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CHAPTER 03
Contemporary South Asia
Quick understanding
South Asian politics reflects democratic experiments, conflict, ethnic diversity and regional interdependence.
Core points Check your learning
Political trajectories differ across neighbouring Explain the central idea of Contemporary
states. South Asia in your own words.
Borders do not prevent shared economic and Apply one idea from Contemporary
environmental problems. South Asia to a textbook-style example
or source.
SAARC expresses cooperation but bilateral tensions
constrain it.
One-line recall Political trajectories differ across neighbouring states.
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CHAPTER 04
International Organizations
Quick understanding
International organisations create rules and forums for cooperation but remain shaped by power and representation.
Core points Check your learning
The United Nations joins security, development and Explain the central idea of International
rights roles. Organizations in your own words.
Security Council reform debates concern legitimacy Apply one idea from International
and effectiveness. Organizations to a textbook-style
example or source.
Global institutions cannot replace states but
influence choices.
One-line recall The United Nations joins security, development and rights roles.
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CHAPTER 05
Security in the Contemporary World

Quick understanding
Security includes military protection and non-traditional threats to people, societies and ecosystems.
Core points Check your learning
Traditional security focuses on sovereignty and Explain the central idea of Security in the
armed threats. Contemporary World in your own words.
Cooperative security addresses shared risks. Apply one idea from Security in the
Contemporary World to a textbook-style
Human security includes hunger, disease,
example or source.
displacement and environmental harm.
One-line recall Traditional security focuses on sovereignty and armed threats.
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CHAPTER 06
Environment and Natural Resources
Quick understanding
Environmental politics asks how shared resources, unequal responsibility and development needs can be governed fairly.
Core points Check your learning
Global commons require cooperation. Explain the central idea of Environment
and Natural Resources in your own
Indigenous communities often hold distinct resource
words.
knowledge and rights.
Apply one idea from Environment and
Climate negotiations turn on equity, capacity and
Natural Resources to a textbook-style
historical contribution.
example or source.
One-line recall Global commons require cooperation.
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CHAPTER 07
Globalisation
Quick understanding
Globalisation intensifies cross-border flows of goods, capital, ideas, people and culture with unequal effects.
Core points Check your learning
Economic, political and cultural dimensions interact. Explain the central idea of Globalisation
in your own words.
States change roles but do not disappear.
Apply one idea from Globalisation to a
Resistance may seek fairer globalisation rather than
textbook-style example or source.
total isolation.
One-line recall Economic, political and cultural dimensions interact.
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CHAPTER 08
Challenges of Nation-Building
Quick understanding
Independent India faced partition, integration of princely states and the design of a diverse democratic union.
Core points Check your learning
Partition produced mass violence and displacement. Explain the central idea of Challenges of

Nation-Building in your own words.
Integration required negotiation as well as firm
action. Apply one idea from Challenges of
Nation-Building to a textbook-style
Linguistic reorganisation eventually strengthened
example or source.
federal accommodation.
One-line recall Partition produced mass violence and displacement.
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CHAPTER 09
Era of One-Party Dominance
Quick understanding
Congress dominance arose within competitive elections and contained broad social and ideological coalitions.
Core points Check your learning
Dominance was not the same as a one-party Explain the central idea of Era of One-
dictatorship. Party Dominance in your own words.
Opposition parties influenced debate despite fewer Apply one idea from Era of One-Party
seats. Dominance to a textbook-style example
or source.
Factional competition often occurred within Congress
itself.
One-line recall Dominance was not the same as a one-party dictatorship.
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CHAPTER 10
Politics of Planned Development
Quick understanding
Development debates balanced growth, redistribution, state planning, private activity and competing rural interests.
Core points Check your learning
The mixed economy combined public and private Explain the central idea of Politics of
sectors. Planned Development in your own
words.
Five Year Plans prioritised selected investment
goals. Apply one idea from Politics of Planned
Development to a textbook-style example
Agricultural and industrial choices created both gains
or source.
and disputes.
One-line recall The mixed economy combined public and private sectors.
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CHAPTER 11
India’s External Relations
Quick understanding
Indian foreign policy sought strategic autonomy while responding to decolonisation, great-power rivalry and regional conflict.
Core points Check your learning
Non-alignment was an active policy, not passive Explain the central idea of India’s
neutrality. External Relations in your own words.
Relations with China and Pakistan included Apply one idea from India’s External
cooperation and conflict. Relations to a textbook-style example or
source.

Nuclear policy combined security concerns with
disarmament arguments.
One-line recall Non-alignment was an active policy, not passive neutrality.
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CHAPTER 12
Challenges to and Restoration of the Congress
System
Quick understanding
The late 1960s transformed party competition, leadership and the social basis of national politics.
Core points Check your learning
The 1967 election weakened Congress dominance. Explain the central idea of Challenges to
and Restoration of the Congress System
Party split and populist politics reshaped leadership.
in your own words.
The 1971 result restored power in a changed
Apply one idea from Challenges to and
system.
Restoration of the Congress System to a
textbook-style example or source.
One-line recall The 1967 election weakened Congress dominance.
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CHAPTER 13
The Crisis of Democratic Order
Quick understanding
The Emergency tested constitutional democracy through concentrated power, curtailed liberties and
public resistance.
Core points Check your learning
Economic and political unrest preceded the Explain the central idea of The Crisis of
proclamation. Democratic Order in your own words.
Civil liberties and institutional checks were restricted. Apply one idea from The Crisis of
Democratic Order to a textbook-style
The 1977 election demonstrated democratic
example or source.
correction through voters.
One-line recall Economic and political unrest preceded the proclamation.
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CHAPTER 14
Regional Aspirations
Quick understanding
Regional identity can produce demands for autonomy, statehood or secession, requiring democratic
negotiation and federal flexibility.
Core points Check your learning
Punjab, the Northeast and Kashmir have distinct Explain the central idea of Regional
histories. Aspirations in your own words.
Accommodation can include accords, elections and Apply one idea from Regional
power-sharing. Aspirations to a textbook-style example
or source.
Treating every regional demand as anti-national
hides legitimate grievances.
One-line recall Punjab, the Northeast and Kashmir have distinct histories.
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CHAPTER 15

Recent Developments in Indian Politics

Quick understanding

Since 1989, coalition politics, new social alliances, economic reform and changing party competition have reshaped India.

Core points Check your learning

Coalitions increased the role of regional parties. Explain the central idea of Recent Developments in Indian Politics in your

Mandal politics changed representation debates.

own words.

Ayodhya, reforms and the growth of the BJP altered

Apply one idea from Recent

national alignments.

Developments in Indian Politics to a

textbook-style example or source.

One-line recall Coalitions increased the role of regional parties.

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