

Sample Question Paper I

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Ph.D. Entrance Examination

Time: One Hour

Full Marks: 20

All applicants must answer BOTH questions. Each question carries equal marks.

For Applicants in Economics:

1. Research Methodology: (10 marks)

Consider the following utility function: $U=x+2\sqrt{y}$ with a budget constraint: $x+y=2$. What happens to consumption levels if the price of x , (P_x) is doubled?

2. Discipline Specific: (10 marks)

Briefly discuss three salient points linking the recent global financial crisis and the performance of the Indian economy.

For Applicants in Disciplines other than Economics:

3. Research Methodology: (10 marks)

Explain and justify the particular research methodology you have chosen for your proposed research project.

4. Discipline Specific: (10 marks)

“Speaking in the most general terms, social science...oscillates between two seemingly incompatible points of view: objectivism and subjectivism, or, if you prefer, between physicalism and psychologism” (Pierre Bourdieu). Drawing on debates in your discipline, discuss this statement in the context of your own proposed research project.