

ST. ANDREWS SCOTS SCHOOL

Adjacent Navniti Apartments,
I.P. Extension, Patparganj, Delhi-110092
Session: 2025-2026

CLASS: VIII

SUB: SOCIAL SCIENCE

TOPIC: History

CH-6

Education Under The British

A. Multiple Choice Type Questions

1. How was the beginning made in the field of education **through The Charter Act of 1813**.
2. The East India company appointed officials known as **government Pandits**.
3. Sir William Jones started a journal called **asiatic Researchers**.
4. Who introduced western learning in India so as to create a class of Indians who could serve the English taste, opinion and intellect of Lord **Thomas Macaulay**.
5. What was the English Education Act of 1835 **money would be spent on promoting western education**.

B. Fill in the blanks

1. The East India company allowed pathshalas **primary** education.
2. James Mill opposed the idea of **orientalists**.
3. **Mahatma Gandhi** prepared a scheme for education known as the wardha scheme of basic education.
4. Indians who got introduced to **western education** moved away from their culture and people.
5. Sir William Jones came to **Calcutta** in 1783.

C. Write “T” for true or “F” for false statements

1. In the early Indian education system, the educational institutions were set up with the support of teachers only . **F**
2. Each government Pandit was responsible for looking after 4 to 5 schools. **T**
3. Charles Wood was the president of the Board of Control of the East India Company. **T**
4. Mahatma Gandhi claimed that Indian education installed the feeling of inferiority in the minds of Indians. **F**
5. The western education was costly and only a few could afford it. this left the majority illiterate. **T**

D. Short Answer Questions

1. **Why did the British show trust in introducing English education in India ?**
The sole purpose of English education was to educate Indians to use them at lower cadre jobs to assist the government.

2. How did Gandhi and Tagore differ on the education policies?

Tagore, unlike Gandhi, wanted to combine the best of both western and Indian learning without any restrictions, while Mahatma Gandhi found the western education extremely harmful.

3. What was the positive side of western education?

Western education gave a scientific bent of mind to understand facts and disregard superstitions, thereby, helping us to lead a quality life.

4. Write in brief about the Indian education system.

Before the British arrived, education was flexible. Students studied in **Pathshalas** (Hindu) and **Madrasas** (Muslim).

- **No fixed rules:** There were no fixed fees, printed books, or separate classrooms.
- **Flexible timing:** Classes were often held under trees or in the teacher's home. Schools often closed during harvest season so children from farming families could help in the fields.
- **Oral teaching:** The Guru or Maulvi taught according to the needs of the students without a rigid syllabus.

New British rules changed the life of local pathshalas:

- **Regularity:** Schools were now required to have fixed fees, annual exams, and regular attendance.
- **The Struggle of the Poor:** Since schools no longer closed during harvest time, the children of poor peasants struggled to attend and were often marked as “indisciplined.”

E. Long Answer Questions.

1. What was the difference between orientalist and anglicists ?

FEATURES	ORIENTALIST	ANGLICISTS
Main idea	Respect for ancient Indian traditions and knowledge.	Promotion of modern Western knowledge & science
Medium of education	Sanskrit, Arabic & Persian.	English language.
View of Indian culture	Believed Indian civilization had a glorious past that should be preserved.	Viewed Indian culture as unscientific & full of error.
Key leaders	William Jones, Henry Thomas Colebrooke, and Nathaniel Halhed.	Thomas Babington Macaulay and James Mill.
Main Goal	To win the hearts of the “natives” by teaching what they already valued.	To create a class of “loyal” Indians who could assist in British administration.

2. Write a note on the wardha scheme of basic Education.

- Gandhiji prepared a scheme for education called the wardha **scheme of basic education, 1937**. It is also called **Nai -Taleem or basic education** according to the wardha scheme:

- Mother tongue should be the medium of instruction.
- Free and compulsory education should be given from 6 to 14 years.
- English textbooks should not be followed.
- Equal importance should be given to games, recreation and good health.
- Education should equip people in constructive fields, like poetry, weaving, spinning, etc.

3. What was the result of wood's despatch?

- Indians who got introduced to western education moved away from their culture and people.
- It created a gap between educated Indians who are educated in western learning and other Indians.
- The western education was costly and only few could afford it; this left the majority illiterate.
- Education was also beneficial as the Indian educated class came to know about the European concepts of democracy, liberty, equality and also about the American war of independence, the French Revolution that paved the way for the Indian National Movement.

4. Write a note on the elementary education for children before the British introduce reformed education.

Before the British introduced formal reforms, elementary education in India was highly flexible and adapted to the needs of local society. It was primarily conducted in thousands of small institutions known as Pathshalas and Madrasas, which lacked fixed infrastructure like dedicated buildings, benches, blackboards, or printed textbooks. According to reports by William Adam, teaching was mostly oral, and the "Guru" or "Maulvi" would tailor the lessons to each student's progress rather than following a rigid syllabus. A key feature of this system was its flexibility regarding rural life; there were no fixed fees, and schools closed during harvest seasons so that children from farming families could help in the fields. This ensured that education was accessible to the poor, as fees were often determined by the parents' income, and attendance was not forced by a strict calendar.

5. Explain the efforts made by Rabindranath Tagore in the field of education.

- Rabindranath Tagore was a great social reformer and educationist. published the Visva- Bharti university at shantiniketan in 1901.
- Tagore, through his own experience of studying in school, believed that the system of education prevalent at that time was not very effective . As a child, he did not have freedom to be creative and explored his thoughts and the system was rather oppressive. So, he set up an institution where children could explore their thoughts freely.
- His institution focused on self learning outside the rigid rules of British education ,focus was given on the creativity and curiosity of the child efforts made by teachers to understand them.
- Tagore, unlike Gandhi, wanted to combine the best of both western and Indian learning without any restrictions.