

**1. Explain the meaning of the word 'Social Science'. (150 words /5 marks)**

In simple term, Social Science is the systematic study of human society.

We know that human beings need to live in group, in order to survive and progress. This group can be small, like a family, friends or school, also can be large like people living in a country.

In a group, people interact, share common resources and depend upon each other. They enjoy festivals, take care of each other for well-being, ensure safety and security. This interaction is termed as society.

The social interactions are organised through institutions like, Government, schools, banks etc. These institutions determine the way people live and distribute the resources.

Social science is the study of such institutions in an organised and systematic way. It collects information, analyses facts, compare evidence and draw conclusions which can be applied in real life situation.

Social science helps us understand how people live, work, govern, and progress together.

**2. Discuss the scope of Social Science. / What do we study in social science? (145 words/5 marks)**

As a discipline, Social Science tries to understand the human lives in totality. Means, it analyses each and every aspect of human interactions/ activities, like livelihood, customs, traditions, interaction with natural environment etc. As this information are from various fields, Social Science uses multiple disciplines to draw a complete picture.

Geography studies the natural environment like soil, climate, landforms and the interactions of man with the environment.

History analyses the past events and its effects on present world. It tells us how the society has evolved and helps us to learn from past.

Political Science studies the functions of different institutions. It trains us the art of citizenship. We know our rights and duties. We develop better understanding to govern ourselves.

Economics studies how the resources are being used, goods and services are produced. We understand our needs and conditions that cause scarcity.

**3. Explain the relevance of studying Social Science. / Why do we study Social Science? (160 words/ 5 marks)**

- Sense of Nationalism: History teaches the contributions of various sections/ regions to India's freedom struggle. We know about our glorious past and the contribution of great scholars in the fields of science, literature or art.
- Environmental concerns: Geography teaches us to appreciate our environment. We can think critically about our actions that can be helpful in conserving natural environment.
- Values and principles of Indian Constitution: In Political Science, the focus is on laying down foundations that underlie the value framework of the Indian Constitution, i.e. equality, liberty, justice, fraternity, dignity, plurality, and freedom from exploitation.  
Empathy: Economics induces the discussion of poverty and unemployment and tries find out ways to create an equable society in terms of earning and standard of living.
- Sustainability: Human development and quality of present life must be preserved for future generations. Pollution and scarcity of resources are the major concern for present generation.

4. Describe the guiding values of Social Science. (How study of social science contributes towards making a harmonious society?)

The guiding values of social science are;

- Diversity

Diversity means variation that we observe in a society, like religion, language, food habits etc. We must appreciate and accept diversity especially in a country like India. Diversity enriches society and teaches respect for differences. For example, we get holidays to celebrate Eid, Holi and Christmas.

- Inclusivity

Ensures participation of all citizens. Inclusivity means ensuring everyone has equal opportunities regardless of caste, gender, or background.

Example: Reservation policies in education and jobs aims to uplift marginalised groups.

- Sustainability

We must protect the environment and resources for the future generation.

Like promoting renewable energy, conservation of soil and water and adopting eco-friendly practices.

- Equity

It promotes justice and fairness to all, even to the weakest in the society. Equity ensures fairness by giving more support to those who need it most. Example: Mid-Day Meal Scheme in schools to support nutrition for all children.

- Interconnections

All the values of Social Science are interconnected, means diversity can not be sustained without equity and inclusivity. Each value promotes another and all the values are essential for a harmonious society.

**Together, these values guide decision-making in society and strengthen democracy.**

## ACTIVITIES

1. Project: Floods: A comprehensive study report

Study about the last flood in Bihar

(Geography) Find out the cause of the flood

(History) Try to enlist the occurrence of floods in past.

(Political Science) Write the Government policies meant for disaster relief.

(Economics) Enlist the Financial loss and rebuilding costs.