

SNU Chennai Entrance Examination 2023 (SNUCEE 2023)
History Syllabus

1. Indian History

Unit 1. Towards Independence and Partition: The Last Phase (1935-1947).

- Working of provincial autonomy: Congress and other ministries. The main features of Provincial Autonomy should be explained. A critical account of the election of 1937 and the working of the Congress ministries must be given.
- Failure of the Cripps Mission; Quit India resolution; Government repression of revolt of 1942. Why the Cripps Mission was sent to India should be explained along with its proposals. the Quit India resolution.
- Transfer of power (1945-1947), Reasons for change in the attitude of the British government after World War II - Cabinet Mission: its aims and the major provisions of its Plan. Election to the Constituent Assembly and the results. Controversy between Congress and League. Muslim League's Direct Action and communal riots. Congress and Muslim League's decisions on these issues. 1947.
- Mountbatten Plan – main features: acceptance of the Plan by major political parties; modifications in the Indian Independence Act. Reasons why the Congress accepted partition.

Unit 2: Establishment and development of Indian democracy (1947 – 1966).

The refugee problem, the transfer of assets and the river waters dispute. (ii) The foundation of Indian Democracy: significance of the first general election based on universal adult suffrage (1952): role of political parties, problems of preparation and their solutions, process, result and impact of the elections.

Unit 3. Challenges to Indian democracy (1964 – 1977).

The role of the Syndicate: (a) In the appointment of Lal Bahadur Shastri in 1964 and Indira Gandhi in 1966 as prime minister. (b) Importance of the election of 1967: the factionalism in the Congress in 1969. Emergence of Opposition political parties and their main leaders.

- Naxal Movement: causes of its rise; the struggle carried out by peasants and students; government measures against it; reasons for its decline in the 1970's and its impact.
- JP Movement (1974-75),

- Emergency (1975-76): reasons for imposition; main features of the suspension of democratic rights.

Unit 4. Changing face of the Indian democracy (1977 – 1986).

Return of Congress to power (1979 – 1986). Centre-State relations to be studied with reference to: (a) Punjab: separatist demands and the Centre's response. (b) Demands in the North-East.

Unit 5. India's Foreign Policy

Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Reasons for following a non-aligned policy in the context of the Cold War to be discussed. Aims – Panchsheel. Establishment and growth – Bandung and Belgrade conferences; Cold War and NAM in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. Sino-Indian War Background: Initial relations with the Peoples' Republic of China; disputes over (a) Tibet issue: (b) Border issues.

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2. World History

Unit1: World War II

Factors leading to the War: aggressive foreign policies of Germany, Italy and Japan. Should be discussed in some detail, showing how these aggressive policies made war more likely and worldwide in scope. (ii) Course of the War: Europe, Africa and Far East. American entry and contribution. Main theatres of the War during 1939-1945 should be done separately in chronological order; the main battles should be done in some detail: El Alamein, Stalingrad, Midway and the policy of "island hopping" in the Pacific. The US contribution should be done separately for Europe and the Pacific. (iii) Reasons for the defeat of the Axis Powers. Each of the reasons for the defeat of the Axis should be explained.

Unit 2: De-colonisation – in Africa (Ghana & Kenya).

Ghana: democracy, dictatorship and military government (1957-69). Brief background to independence, Nkrumah's role, reasons for his overthrow; coup of 1966. (ii) Kenya: conflict and independence (1947 – 1969). Background: conflict over independence and role of Kenyatta.

Unit 3: Cold War 1945-91– origin, course, end and impact

(i) Origins of the Cold War: End of wartime unity; Yalta and Potsdam Conferences; Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan; Molotov Plan. (ii) The Cold War expands: Berlin Blockade; NATO; division of Germany; “thaw” in the Cold War (1953-59) - how partial was it? Warsaw Pact. In the 1960-62 period, the U-2 affair and the Berlin Wall incident should be mentioned; the Cuban Missile crisis should be done in detail (iii) Breakup of the USSR Reasons for collapse of USSR: economic failure; Gorbachev’s policies (Glasnost and Perestroika).