

Ques-1 The First War of Independence
1857 class- X

Objective Questions:

① Why was the "War of 1857" hailed as the First War of Independence?

Ans- It is generally hailed as the First War of Independence because it was the first Mass uprising in which all the sections of Indian Society participated against a common enemy, i.e. the British. It paved the way for the rise of modern national movement.

2 Name two ways in which the British expanded their territorial power in India.

② The British expanded their political power in India by four ways:

(a) By Outright wars

(b) By the system of Subsidiary Alliance

(c) by adopting the Doctrine of Lapse

(d) and on the pretext of misrule.

③ What was the Subsidiary Alliance? Page 2
Name the Indian state brought the British using the Subsidiary Alliance.

Ans - The Subsidiary Alliance was introduced by Lord Wellesley. The Subsidiary Alliance was an agreement between the British East India Company and the Indian princely states by virtue of which these states lost their sovereignty to the British and the subsidiary states had to accept the British as the supreme power. Awadh and Maratha ruler Baji Rao II accepted the Subsidiary Alliance.

④ Explain the term the Doctrine of Lapse

Ans → Lord Dalhousie the Governor General of India annexed many Indian states to the Company using the Doctrine of Lapse. According to the Act, if an Indian ruler died without a male heir his kingdom would lapse it would come under the British rule.

Geno 3

Satara, Jaitpur, Sambhalpur, Udaipur and Nagpur became the victims of this lapse.

⑤ Who was Nana Sahib? What was his main grievance against the British?

Ans Nana Sahib was the adopted son of Bajirao II. Nana Sahib was accepted as the rightful ruler of Maratha. The British refused to grant him the pension they were paying to Bajirao II. This was his main grievance.

6 State two announcements which adversely affected the Mughal dynasty in India.

Ans Bahadur Shah Zafar, the Mughal ruler, was under the protection of the Company and received pension from the British. In 1849, Lord Dalhousie announced that successors of Bahadur Shah Zafar would not bring

be permitted to use the Red Fort as their palace.

In 1856, Lord Canning announced that after the death of Bahadur Shah, his successors would not be allowed to use the imperial titles with their names. This decision of the British hurt the feelings of the Muslims.

(7) Mention any two consequences of the annexation of Awadh?

Ans: The annexation of the Awadh had several consequences that adversely affected the people of Awadh.

- ① They had to pay higher land revenue and additional taxes of food, houses, and ferries.
- ② The Company's sepoys of whom 75,000 were from Awadh, were worst affected.

History

8) Give the meaning of absentee sovereignty? why was it resented by the Indians?

Ans. Absentee sovereignty means that India was being ruled by the British government from England at a distance of thousands of mile. This was resented by the Indians.

9) what were the apprehensions of Indian about the introduction of the railways?

Ans → People were suspicious of introduction of Railways and telegraphs. The orthodox Indians noted that in the railway compartments the higher castes and lower castes were made to sit side by side. They believed that British had introduced such practices to defile their caste and religion.

10) what was the provision of the General Service Enlistment Act which was resented by the Indian Soldiers?

Ans. The British parliament passed the

The General Servicingment ~~Act~~ Enlistment (6)
Act in 1856. As per this Act. Indian
Soldiers could be sent overseas on duty.
This Act did not take into account the
sentiment of the Indian Soldiers. The
Brahmin Soldiers saw in this a
danger to their Caste. This led to a
feeling of resentment among them.

(11) what was the immediate cause of the
First War of Independence?

Ans:- In 1856, the British introduced the
new Enfield rifle. The loading
Process of the ~~Indian~~ Enfield rifles
involved bringing the cartridge to
the mouth and biting of the top
greased paper with the teeth. ~~There~~
There was a rumour in the Bengal
Regiments that the greased Cartridge
had the fat of cow or pig. The Sepoys
were convinced

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12. State two consequences of the First war of Independence?

Ans) Even though the uprising of 1857 was suppressed it brought about far reaching effects Indian socio-political life. These were:

(a) End of the East India Company's Rule

(b) End of Mughals and Peshwa.

Long Question

Economic exploitation of the Country, produced discontent, resentment and resistance among the people.

Explain the following:

(a) Ruin of trade and handicraft

Ans) The most important reason for the popular discontent was

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The economic exploitation by the British. The Economic ^{Exploitation} took the following form

Decay of Cottage Industries and handicrafts
Heavy duties on Indian silk and cotton textiles in Britain destroyed Indian industries. On the other hand, British goods were imported into India at a nominal duty. By the middle of the 19th Century, export of cotton and silk goods from India ceased. The art of spinning and weaving which for ages had given employment to thousands of artisans became extinct.