



MA in Communication for Sustainable Development
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SAMPLE TEST PAPER

- 1. The primary objective of SAARC is to promote:**
 - A) Military cooperation
 - B) Regional economic and social development
 - C) Political unification
 - D) Currency union

- 2. SAFTA was primarily introduced to:**
 - A) Promote cultural exchange
 - B) Reduce tariffs and enhance intra-regional trade
 - C) Create a common currency
 - D) Control migration

- 3. Which factor has most constrained SAARC's effectiveness?**
 - A) Lack of development needs
 - B) Political tensions among member states
 - C) Absence of secretariat
 - D) Language diversity

- 4. SAARC Development Fund (SDF) focuses mainly on:**
 - A) Defense projects
 - B) Social, economic, and infrastructure projects
 - C) Media regulation
 - D) Electoral reform

- 5. Regional cooperation in South Asia is especially critical for addressing:**
 - A) Space exploration
 - B) Transboundary climate risks
 - C) Arctic governance
 - D) Nuclear deterrence

- 6. Which South Asian challenge best illustrates the need for regional governance?**
 - A) Urban traffic congestion
 - B) River-basin water sharing
 - C) Stock market volatility
 - D) Tourism branding

- 7. SAARC's limited trade integration contrasts most sharply with:**
 - A) ASEAN

- B) OPEC
- C) EU
- D) AU

8. Informal trade in South Asia persists largely due to:

- A) Cultural preferences
- B) High formal trade barriers and weak border facilitation
- C) Excess foreign aid
- D) Low population density

9. Which sector has strong potential for SAARC-level cooperation?

- A) Film censorship
- B) Disaster risk reduction
- C) Nuclear weapons
- D) Electoral management

10. Regional inequality within South Asia is best described as:

- A) Uniform across countries
- B) Varying significantly by geography, gender, and class
- C) Only urban-based
- D) Declining uniformly

11. The Basic Needs Approach emerged as a critique of:

- A) Feminist economics
- B) Growth-first development models
- C) Post-development theory
- D) World-systems theory

12. Dependency theorists argue that underdevelopment results primarily from:

- A) Domestic cultural values
- B) Unequal global economic relations
- C) Population growth
- D) Weak education systems

13. World-systems theory categorizes countries into:

- A) Developed and developing
- B) Core, semi-periphery, periphery
- C) North and South
- D) Capitalist and socialist

14. Neoliberal reforms typically emphasize:

- A) State ownership
- B) Market liberalization and deregulation
- C) Universal welfare expansion
- D) Import substitution

15. The capability approach defines development as expansion of:

- A) National income
- B) Human freedoms and choices
- C) Industrial output
- D) Technological diffusion

16. Which is a limitation of GDP-based development measurement?

- A) Too qualitative
- B) Ignores distribution and unpaid work
- C) Measures happiness directly
- D) Includes political rights

17. Multidimensional poverty recognizes deprivation in:

- A) Income only
- B) Health, education, and living standards
- C) Employment only
- D) Agriculture only

18. Structural adjustment programs were mainly associated with:

- A) UNDP
- B) IMF and World Bank
- C) WTO
- D) UNESCO

19. A key critique of structural adjustment is that it often:

- A) Increased social spending
- B) Reduced state capacity and welfare provision
- C) Promoted equity
- D) Strengthened labor protections

20. Import Substitution Industrialization (ISI) aimed to:

- A) Increase export dependence
- B) Replace imports with domestic production
- C) Remove tariffs
- D) Liberalize capital flows

21. Feminist development theory highlights the importance of:

- A) GDP growth
- B) Gendered power relations and unpaid care work
- C) Military expenditure
- D) Export promotion

22. “Post-development” critiques argue that development discourse often:

- A) Empowers local voices
- B) Imposes Western models and knowledge
- C) Reduces inequality
- D) Is value-neutral

23. Human security differs from national security by focusing on:

- A) State sovereignty
- B) Individual well-being and safety
- C) Military power
- D) Border control

24. The concept of “social reproduction” draws attention to:

- A) Market efficiency
- B) Care work sustaining economies and societies

- C) Financial capital
- D) Industrial labor only

25. Sustainable development requires balancing:

- A) Growth and military strength
- B) Economic, social, and environmental goals
- C) Trade and security
- D) Aid and investment

26. Good governance is commonly associated with:

- A) Centralization
- B) Transparency and accountability
- C) Censorship
- D) Authoritarian stability

27. Decentralization can improve service delivery when:

- A) Local capacity and accountability exist
- B) Budgets are removed
- C) Elections are banned
- D) Central control is absolute

28. Rent-seeking behavior refers to:

- A) Productive investment
- B) Gaining income through manipulation of rules
- C) Innovation
- D) Cooperative action

29. Policy coherence for the SDGs implies:

- A) Sectoral isolation
- B) Alignment across policy areas
- C) Donor dominance
- D) Reduced monitoring

30. The “implementation gap” highlights the difference between:

- A) Theory and ideology
- B) Policy design and actual outcomes
- C) Donor and recipient goals
- D) Media and public opinion

31. State capacity mainly refers to a government’s ability to:

- A) Win elections
- B) Design and implement effective policies
- C) Control media
- D) Suppress dissent

32. Civil society organizations contribute to development by:

- A) Replacing the state
- B) Enhancing participation and accountability
- C) Enforcing military policy
- D) Regulating markets

33. Corruption undermines development primarily by:

- A) Increasing efficiency
- B) Diverting resources and weakening institutions
- C) Improving service delivery
- D) Encouraging investment

34. Social protection policies aim to:

- A) Eliminate markets
- B) Reduce vulnerability and poverty risks
- C) Increase inequality
- D) Promote privatization

35. Cash transfer programs are often used to:

- A) Replace all public services
- B) Support household consumption and resilience
- C) Increase inflation intentionally
- D) Discourage education

36. Inclusive development focuses on:

- A) Aggregate growth only
- B) Reducing inequality and exclusion
- C) Urban elites
- D) Export competitiveness

37. Rights-based development emphasizes:

- A) Charity
- B) Entitlements and accountability
- C) Donor discretion
- D) Technical efficiency only

38. Participatory governance prioritizes:

- A) Expert-only decisions
- B) Citizen involvement in decision-making
- C) Military leadership
- D) Media campaigns

39. Accountability mechanisms include:

- A) Audits and oversight institutions
- B) Censorship laws
- C) Executive decrees
- D) Informal norms only

40. Policy evaluation primarily asks:

- A) Is it popular?
- B) What worked, for whom, and why
- C) Was it expensive?
- D) Was it fast?

41. Qualitative research is particularly strong at:

- A) Statistical generalization
- B) Understanding context and meaning

- C) Eliminating bias
- D) Predicting GDP growth

42. Triangulation in research improves:

- A) Sample size
- B) Credibility and validity
- C) Randomization
- D) Ethics approval

43. A theory of change helps evaluators to:

- A) Measure GDP
- B) Map causal pathways and assumptions
- C) Avoid participation
- D) Replace monitoring

44. Agenda-setting theory suggests media influence:

- A) What people think
- B) What people think *about*
- C) Political institutions directly
- D) Economic growth

45. Framing affects development communication by:

- A) Hiding information
- B) Shaping interpretation and meaning of issues
- C) Eliminating bias
- D) Ensuring neutrality

46. Misinformation differs from disinformation because it:

- A) Is always true
- B) May lack intent to deceive
- C) Is government-approved
- D) Is peer-reviewed

47. Climate adaptation policies primarily aim to:

- A) Reduce emissions
- B) Adjust systems to climate impacts
- C) Promote exports
- D) End agriculture

48. Climate justice emphasizes:

- A) Equal responsibility for all countries
- B) Unequal contributions and impacts
- C) Market efficiency only
- D) Technological neutrality

49. Food insecurity can persist despite availability due to:

- A) Overproduction
- B) Lack of access, affordability, and stability
- C) Climate mitigation
- D) Trade surplus

50. Ethical development research requires:

A) No consent

B) Informed consent and minimizing harm

C) Data extraction only

D) Donor approval only