

---

**NEPAL STUDIES**

**8024/02**

Paper 2 Written Paper

**For Examination from 2016**

SPECIMEN MARK SCHEME

**1 hour 45 minutes**

---

**MAXIMUM MARK: 75**

---

This document consists of **12** printed pages.

## Section A

- 1 (a) (i) Describe the location of Nepal within Asia. [2]

Credit an overall locator **1 mark**, such as that it is in south central Asia and some detail **1 mark**, such as that it shares a border with China and India.

- (ii) Identify three staple grain crops that are produced and consumed in Nepal. [3]

Valid examples include: rice, wheat/buckwheat, millet, barley, corn/maize. Credit each grain crop **1 mark**.

- (b) Photographs A and B show the same settlement in Nepal in 1980 and 2005.

- (i) Suggest one feature of the landscape shown in Photograph A which encouraged the development of a settlement here. [1]

Possible features include: availability of some flat building land in the valley floor; shelter in the curve of the mountains / Himalaya; access to building materials such as stone and aggregate.

The feature credited must be visible or a reasonable deduction from the photographic evidence, rather than speculation or imported knowledge.

- (ii) Using evidence from the photographs, describe two changes to the settlement. [4]

Basic change	Supporting evidence
End of donkey trains	Other transport is available, e.g. airport
Settlement is better connected	A runway and roads have been built
Population has increased	The settlement is bigger
Introduction of solar power	Solar/photovoltaic panels
Dwellings have changed	Houses look bigger / more substantial / tin roofs / two-storeys

Credit a basic change **1 mark** and a change supported by evidence **2 marks**.

Maximum **2 marks** per change.

Accept reasonable alternative answers.

- (iii) Explain one reason why the changes you described in (ii) occurred. [3]

Basic reason	Development/support
There has been development/modernisation.	Increased government investment / better transport to and from the settlement
Increased tourism	Lots of people visiting / created demand for new airport / better roads / improved settlements

Credit a basic reason **1 mark** and a developed or supported reason **2 or 3 marks**.

Accept reasonable alternative answers.

- (c) 'Nepalis have always migrated abroad. The only change in the 21st century is that the distances are greater.'

Assess whether you agree with these statements, supporting your response with examples. [12]

Level	Marks	Description
Level 3	10–12	A developed, well-focused and organised response which addresses the whole question. Examples are relevant, detailed and applied effectively in support.
Level 2	6–9	A satisfactory response which may contain some good points, but which remains limited or partial in one or more of understanding, argument, evaluation or exemplar support.
Level 1	1–5	A few creditable points. The approach may be faulty and the focus of the response may not be the focus of the question. Little or no relevant exemplar material.
	0	No response, or no creditable response.

**Indicative content:**

Nepal has long been a country of out-migration (and next to no in-migration aside from teachers from neighbouring Darjeeling), both into army service (British Army Gurkha regiments, and then later Indian Army and Singapore Police), tea plantations in India and Burma and road building across India. Any facts or data provided deserve extra marks. More recently, migration patterns have extended and expanded, including the Middle East, Far East, Europe and United States.

Answers may explore differences between seasonal, circular and permanent migration. Discussion of push factors affecting migration (not enough food, high birth rates, land pressure) versus pull factors (social mobility of India, citizenship rights versus subject status in Nepal with historically extractive revenue systems and labour practices).

Increasingly, in the 21st century, Nepalis are found in the UK, the Arab world and Europe, as a result of Gurkha pension and settlement rights, out-migration on account of Nepal's civil war and decade-long conflict and migration for education. Discussion of the importance of the remittance economy and non-resident Nepalis (NRNs).

For a response which only addresses one statement, **max. Level 2.**

- 2 (a) (i) **State the historical significance of Lumbini.** [1]

The birth place of Siddhartha Gautama / (who became) the Buddha.

- (ii) Explain two reasons why Nepal is a popular destination for religious pilgrimages by Hindus. [4]

Basic reason	Development/support
Nepal has many holy sites	The sites are principal holy sites for Hindus (particularly those following Shiva or Vishnu), e.g. Muktinath, Pashupatinath
Shiva and Parvati are thought to live in the Himalayas	In particular Mount Kailash which is in Tibet but is best accessed from Nepal / Nepal is a main route for pilgrims going to Tibet

Credit a basic reason **1 mark** and a developed or supported reason **2 marks**. Maximum **2 marks** per reason.

Accept reasonable alternative answers.

- (b) Fig. 1 shows a cartoon of climbers at the foot of a mountain in Nepal.

- (i) George Mallory gave the reason “because it’s there” for why he wanted to climb a Himalayan peak. Name the mountain. [1]

Mount Everest (tolerance: accept also Chomolunga, Sagarmatha or just Everest)

- (ii) Briefly explain why there is so much trash (rubbish) on the mountain shown in Fig. 1. [3]

Basic reason (why)	Development/support
Over-use / over-climbing	Commercialisation of mountain climbing / more climbers are coming to the area / lack of respect for the environment / the climbers leave rubbish / climbers too lazy or too tired to carry their rubbish / which doesn't degrade at high altitude
Growth in popularity of adventure tourism	Development/support as above

Credit a basic reason **1 mark** and a developed or supported explanation **2 or 3 marks**.

Accept reasonable alternative answers.

- (iii) Outline two issues that members of the Sherpa community face as mountain guides. [4]

Issue	Development/support
Equal pay	Sherpas are not always paid at the same rate as foreign guides/climbers / whether in the ascent or in support roles
Equal working conditions	They don't have access to the same equipment / they don't have same insurance cover for injury
Lack of equal respect and recognition	Do not have same access to book contracts / speaking tours

Credit an issue **1 mark** and a developed or supported outline **2 marks**.

Maximum **2 marks** per issue.

Accept reasonable alternative answers.

- (c) 'The challenges that Nepal faces today are strongly linked with the fact that the Nepali state has failed to play a proactive and a positive role.' How far do you agree? Support your answer with examples. [12]

Level	Marks	Description
Level 3	10–12	A developed, well-focused and organised response which addresses the whole question. Examples are relevant, detailed and applied effectively in support.
Level 2	6–9	A satisfactory response which may contain some good points, but which remains limited or partial in one or more of understanding, argument, evaluation or exemplar support.
Level 1	1–5	A few creditable points. The approach may be faulty and the focus of the response may not be the focus of the question. Little or no relevant exemplar material.
	0	No response, or no creditable response.

### Indicative content

Answers may argue that following unification, the state could have done more to set up and carry through policies to ensure citizens' prosperity and happiness.

Answers may explore failures of the state to address problems since unification. For example inequalities that have remained and discrimination and marginalisation that has continued.

Candidates could discuss continuation of a strong caste system that segments society and marginalisation of different groups. And that the state could do more to ensure that all religions and faiths are equally recognised and respected. Candidates could mention Muluki Ain endorsed by Jung Bahadur in 1854 as an example of a regressive policy. Candidates could also refer to the financial corruption the Rana dynasty, during which time it could be argued there was little planning and reform.

As a more recent example, candidates could refer to King Mahendra's Panchayat system (1960–1990), when the state was a unitary one in the name of national identity. At this time there was one party rule, one language, one national dress, one education system, one

currency, one set of national heroes, and one supreme leader – the King. Candidates could argue that this system only served the King’s political needs and did little to overcome the problems that the people were experiencing.

Answers may refer to positive actions by the Nepali state such as:

- introducing a series of progressively more inclusive constitutions
- establishing a National Human Rights Commission and a Truth and Reconciliation Commission
- outlawing discrimination based on untouchability
- introducing literacy and health programmes, leading to improvements in the basic economic indicators in Nepal.

3 (a) (i) State the three main sources of Nepal’s Gross National Product (GNP). [3]

agriculture / farming 1 mark, tourism / hospitality services 1 mark, remittances 1 mark

(ii) Explain one reason why the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) is a better indicator of development than GNP. [2]

Basic reason	Development/support
MPI is more broadly based / MPI is a composite measure	MPI comprises more dimension than a sole economic measure and takes account of other social factors

Credit a basic reason 1 mark and a developed or supported reason 2 marks.  
Accept reasonable alternative answers.

(b) Fig. 2 shows changes in the indicators which comprise MPI for Nepal between 2012 and 2013.

(i) Identify the three indicators shown on Fig. 2 which improved the most. [3]

cooking fuel 1 mark, electricity 1 mark, assets 1 mark

(ii) State the change in school attendance shown on Fig. 2. [1]

–1.5

- (iii) Suggest two reasons why school attendance has been slow to increase in Nepal. [4]

Basic reason	Development/support
Children kept at home	For agricultural labour / family duties for girls / traditionalism / cheaper to keep children working at home than pay other workers
Families live in remote places / access to schools is difficult	Poor infrastructure / access to transport to reach schools
Caste / religion	Traditionally some groups of people haven't attended school

Credit a basic reason **1 mark** and a developed or supported reason **2 marks**.  
Maximum **2 marks** per reason.  
Accept reasonable alternative answers.

- (c) Some people view Nepal as an impoverished land-locked country. Others view it as a resource-rich land-linked country.

Explain which of these views you agree with more, supporting your response with examples. [12]

Level	Marks	Description
Level 3	10–12	A developed, well-focused and organised response which addresses the whole question. Examples are relevant, detailed and applied effectively in support.
Level 2	6–9	A satisfactory response which may contain some good points, but which remains limited or partial in one or more of understanding, argument, evaluation or exemplar support.
Level 1	1–5	A few creditable points. The approach may be faulty and the focus of the response may not be the focus of the question. Little or no relevant exemplar material.
	0	No response, or no creditable response.

Indicative content:

In the first view, Nepal is one of the poorest countries of the world, indebted, runs a negative balance of trade and is heavily dependent on remittances and foreign aid. It has been portrayed, as the 'yam between two boulders': locked between China and India without independent access except by air and no access to sea ports. In addition, China and India are massive Asian giants and Nepal has little leverage with them to negotiate terms in trade, politics or resource rights.

In an alternate view, Nepal's potential and opportunity is recognised over its challenges. It can be thought of as 'resource-rich' in terms of people, exceptional mountain landscapes, wildlife and culture, and its capacity to be energy sufficient and even export surplus energy to its neighbours were the infrastructure to be repaired. The term 'land-linked' indicates the growing importance of the relationships with China and India (and beyond) in terms of flows of commodities, people and resources. Increasingly, Chinese and Indian tourism are far more important to Nepal than Western tourism, and the proximity and relatively open land borders will mean more visitors, investment and impact.

## Section B

## Draft generic level descriptors for part (a)

Level	Marks	Description
Level 3	8–10	A developed, well-focused and organised response which addresses all the demands of the question. Good knowledge and understanding with use of relevant and detailed example(s).
Level 2	5–7	A satisfactory response which may contain some good points. Some use of example(s). Remains limited in knowledge and understanding or partial in not attempting to meet all the demands of the question.
Level 1	1–4	A few creditable points in a response of basic quality. The approach may be faulty and the focus of the response may not be the focus of the question. Little or no relevant exemplar material.
	0	No response, or no creditable response.

## Draft generic level descriptors for part (b)

Level	Marks	Description
Level 4	13–15	Response is structured as an argument. Well-directed knowledge, detailed examples and good understanding support a convincing argument and clear evaluation.
Level 3	9–12	A solid response with some good knowledge and understanding and some use of examples. Argument is largely firm with some gaps or limitations. Evaluation offered is partial or may be brief where the response is narrative or explanatory in approach.
Level 2	5–8	A limited response with some satisfactory points. Weak and inaccurate use of examples or some generality. Argument is partial or not sustained. Evaluation may be superficial or absent.
Level 1	1–4	A few creditable points in a brief, faulty or poorly focussed response. Little or no use of relevant examples. Argument is weak and evaluation absent.
	0	No response, or no creditable response.



- 4 (a) **Outline how household structure is changing in Nepal and suggest reasons for these changes.** [10]

The syllabus specifies 'nuclear families, joint families, care for elderly' and allows for other changes to be studied. A full outline may refer to two or more changes in household structure.

Reasons for these changes may be:

- social, e.g. modernisation, education, women's work patterns
- economic, e.g. impacts of migration, costs
- environmental, e.g. housing allocations
- political, e.g. governance and state stimulus
- technological (may be covered under modernisation)
- psychological, e.g. changing approaches to joint families

Accept any reasonable alternative answers.

It is likely that social and economic (or socio-economic reasons) will dominate the responses.

Credit the recognition that change in household structure is not uniform and varies spatially and by group and region; acknowledge also that reasons are complex, interactive and dynamic; and may include personal choice(s) and decisions.

For a response to one element of the question (outline / suggest reasons) **maximum 6 marks.**

- (b) **'Primary health initiatives in Nepal cause as many problems as they solve.'**

**How far do you agree? Answer with reference to examples.** [15]

Candidates should know that primary health interventions have been a feature of the development of Nepal since its opening in the early 1950s, and candidates should refer to the current wide availability of village nurses and community health workers.

In discussing the problems of primary healthcare interventions candidates may refer to the following:

- Top-down nature of many of the first interventions: processes not properly explained to villagers and follow ups not conducted. For example, widespread vaccination campaigns were effective at lowering infant mortality, but were not accompanied by family planning efforts. The result was that there more children living longer which put pressure on family land and resources.
- Mixed success of family planning in rural Nepal: women report complications after surgery or poor reactions to hormonal treatments, and speak of being bribed with food and gifts to comply with national targets on sterilisation.
- Propagation of Western biomedicine as the solution for all medical ills. Aside from Ayurveda which has a strong base of practice and clients in urban areas, traditional medical practices in Nepal (faith healers, herbal remedies, acupuncture, moxibustion and Tibetan medicine) have not been accorded respect and recognition in Nepal. This has alienated traditional midwives, herbal healers and shamans, and devalued traditional medical knowledge systems.
- Retention of doctors and nurses in rural Nepal is poor (many abandon their posts through lack of support and poor salaries). Some villages are left with no medical practitioners at all.

Candidates wishing to analyse the positive contribution of primary health interventions may refer to the following:

- Nepal's basic health indicators have improved considerably over the years.
- Looking forward, Nepal could build better partnerships with communities to ensure that medical interventions and health initiatives are recognised, understood and accepted at village level and not perceived as aid that comes from outside without explanation or aftercare.

Accept any reasonable alternative answers.

**5 (a) Describe what is meant by sustainable economic development and explain why sustainability is important for Nepal. [10]**

Economic development is the improvement in the material and non-material elements of life. This involves economic growth, which means a greater quantity of goods and services is recorded in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and an improvement in the quality of life in matters such as better environment, more opportunity and healthier living conditions,.

In clarifying 'sustainable' candidates may offer a definition of sustainable development, such as *'sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'* used in the Brundtland report, 1987.

Candidates may take an example (generic or actual) to explain sustainable development, such as food production, water supply or energy. Development will not be sustainable if there are harmful side effects such as pollution and depletion of natural resources. These may lower current living standards and reduce resources for subsequent generations.

It is creditable to recognise that sustainability may be social, environmental and political, as well as economic.

The importance to sustainability may be approached in a number of ways, for example:

- as global citizens, we have a responsibility to care for the planet and its future and should safeguard Nepal's natural resources
- sustainable economic development will safeguard Nepal's economy, environment and the quality of life for individuals, families and communities in Nepal

Sustainability also means ending Nepal's reliance on donor aid so this may be addressed in the answer somewhere: development that is managed by the country itself may be more sustainable.

A full response could consist of one approach, if well-developed and supported by one or more examples. Candidates may take more than one approach.

For a response to one element of the question (describe / explain), **maximum 6 marks**.

- (b) With the help of one or more examples, assess the extent to which tourism in Nepal is truly sustainable. [15]**

Any aspect(s) of tourism may be considered. This includes different types of tourism from groups on escorted itineraries to mountaineers, ecotourism, niche tourism, etc. Candidates may also address different aspects of tourism as a business and a service industry, such as accommodation, transport, media and advertising and activities.

Answers may include the assessment of who owns, runs and manages tourism as a business and where these are located, alongside key ideas such as leakage and dependency. Foreign ownership and profit taking might limit benefits.

The question also relates to the impact(s) of tourism, for example positive and negative or short-term and long-term, on society and culture, economy, environment and politics. Long-term damage to the environment might lead to lack of sustainability.

Candidates may discuss national parks, restricted area permits and other approaches to tourism management, such as Visit Nepal years, relaxing or waiving visa fees and also the rising importance of domestic and regional tourism.

Answers may draw on the 'low impact, high yield' model that Bhutan has developed in response to Nepal, and which Nepal is now experimenting with: namely, in terms of sustainability and footprint, would Nepal benefit more from 1 tourist who spends \$500 a day or 10 tourists who each spend \$50? This approach may make tourism more sustainable.

Lasting impact of relationships with tourists for sponsorship of children, invitations to the West: focus on Sherpa as a case study.

Indicators of quality may include the ability to engage with the word 'truly' in the question; to recognise a diversity of outcomes in different places and experienced by different groups of people and/or stakeholders; and to acknowledge change over time and the dynamic nature of the sector, for example as tourist numbers increase and carrying capacity is breached.

- 6 (a) Outline what is being done to promote post-conflict reconstruction in Nepal. [10]**

Answers may describe Nepal's civil war (1996–2006), and explain the UN-brokered peace process, the Constituent Assembly election in 2008, reintegration of Maoist combatants in new national army, the surprise win by Maoists of the election in 2008 and resurgence of traditional political parties in the 2013 election.

Candidates may outline broader processes which are contributing to a sustainable peace, such as establishing the truth and reconciliation committee, return of combatants to civilian life, de-politicisation of schools, hospitals and civil service, provisions for affirmative action policies and equitable restructuring of the state through a new constitution.

- (b) Explain how Nepal's relationship is changing with India and China and assess the consequences of these changes for Nepal. [15]

Answers may refer to the turn towards China over the last decade, and a more emboldened position towards India and negotiations about water rights. Since before 1962, and culminating in the war of that year, there has been deep political tension between India and China. These tensions have arisen mainly due to border disagreements.

From the 1950s onwards, Nepal has been a buffer and neutral zone between the two, which it has used to its benefit. As direct Indian-Chinese trade has started and relations between the two countries has improved, Nepal's geopolitical position is challenged.

Major negotiations for peace during Nepal's civil conflict were negotiated in India. In Nepal, India has significant political influence. Economically, and in terms of development and tourism, China is playing an increasingly important role in Nepal. Chinese goods (food, drink, electronics and clothes) are prevalent in the highlands and mountainous regions of Nepal.

An issue for Nepal-China relations is Tibet. China is concerned that Tibetans flee to Nepal seeking safe passage en route to India. Police in Nepal, under direct political pressure from China, are taking a more hard-lined approach to demonstrations for free Tibet.

Fundamentally, both China and India wish for a politically stable Nepal that remains economically and politically dependent on them (low quality exports from India and China that are not suitable for even their domestic markets are sent to Nepal). Water rights, given that 1 billion Indians depend on Himalayan runoff for their water, are an increasingly central part of Nepal-India negotiations and treaties.

For a response to one element of the question (explain / assess), **maximum 8 marks**.