

# WORLD HISTORY – UPSC MAINS PYQS (BRAINSTORMING SHEETS - 43 YEARS PYQS COVERED)

## MACRO TOPIC - AMERICAN & FRENCH REVOLUTIONS

#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
1.	French Revolution — Relevance	2025	15	The French Revolution has enduring relevance to the contemporary world. Explain.
2.	Foundations of the Modern World	2019	15	Explain how the foundations of modern world were laid by the American and French revolution.
3.	American Revolution — Economic Revolt	2013	12.5	'American Revolution was an economic revolt against mercantilism.' Substantiate.

## MACRO TOPIC - GOLD WAR & CONTEMPORARY WORLD POLITICS

#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
4.	Suez Crisis 1956	2014	12.5	What were the events that led to the Suez Crisis in 1956? How did it deal a final blow to Britain's self-image as a world power?
5.	Bangladesh Liberation war	2013	12.5	Critically examine the compulsions which prompted India to play a decisive role in the emergence of Bangladesh.
6.	Soviet Impact on Indian Leadership	1982	10	Explain briefly how the ideas and experiments of Soviet Government in USSR influenced Poet Rabindranath Tagore, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru.

## MACRO TOPIC - DECOLONISATION

#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
7.	Decolonisation in Malay Peninsula	2017	10	What problems are germane to the decolonization process in the Malay Peninsula?
8.	Anti-Colonial Movements in West Africa	2016	12.5	The anti-colonial struggles in West Africa were led by the new elite of Western-educated Africans. Examine.
9.	Anti-Colonialism in India	2014	12.5	What were the major political, economic and social developments in the world which motivated the anti-colonial movement in India?

## MACRO TOPIC - IMPERIALISM & COLONIALISM

#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
10.	Railways & Socio-Economic Effects	2023	10	Bring out the socio-economic effects of the introduction of railways in different countries of the world.
11.	Indentured Labour & Cultural Identity	2018	10	Why indentured labour was taken by the British from India to their colonies? Have they been able to preserve their cultural identity over there?
12.	Scramble for Africa	2013	12.5	'Africa was chopped into states artificially created by accidents of European competition.' Analyze.
13.	British Policy towards Tibet	1999	10	How far Curzon's policy towards Tibet was influenced by strategic consideration?
14.	British Policy towards Tibet	1994	10	Discuss the British policy towards Tibet from the end of the nineteenth century to the Viceroyalty of Lord Curzon.

### MACRO TOPIC - INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
15.	Impact on India's Economy	2024	10	How far was the Industrial Revolution in England responsible for the decline of handicrafts and cottage industries in India?
16.	Origins & Quality of Life	2015	12.5	Why did the industrial revolution first occur in England? Discuss the quality of life of the people there during the industrialization. How does it compare with that in India at present times?

### MACRO TOPIC - POLITICAL PHILOSOPHIES

#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
17.	Gandhi's Socialism vs Marxian Socialism	1990	15	What was Mahatma Gandhi's concept of Socialism? How did it differ from Marxian socialism?

### MACRO TOPIC - WORLD WAR I & INTERWAR EUROPE

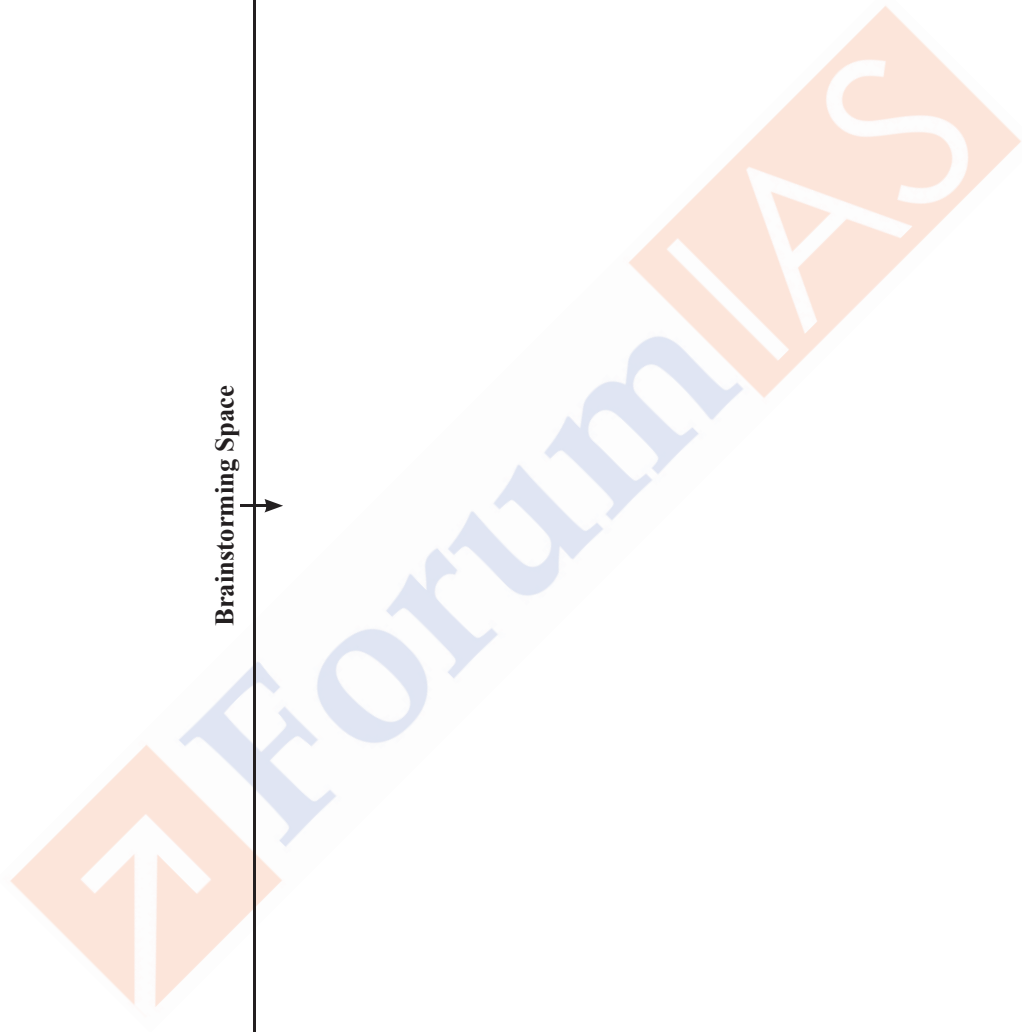
#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
18.	Causes of WWI — Balance of Power	2024	15	How far is it correct to say that the First World War was fought essentially for the preservation of balance of power?
19.	Germany's Responsibility for WWI & WWII	2015	12.5	To what extent can Germany be held responsible for causing the two World Wars? Discuss critically.
20.	Challenge to Democratic Systems	2021	15	'There arose a serious challenge to the Democratic State System between the two World Wars.' Evaluate the statement.
21.	Great Depression — Policy Response	2013	12.5	What policy instruments were deployed to contain the Great Economic Depression?

### MACRO TOPIC - WORLD WAR II

#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
22.	WWII & India's Political Scene	1994	15	How did the outbreak of the Second World War affect India's political scene? Did the Cripps Mission resolve the political crisis in India?

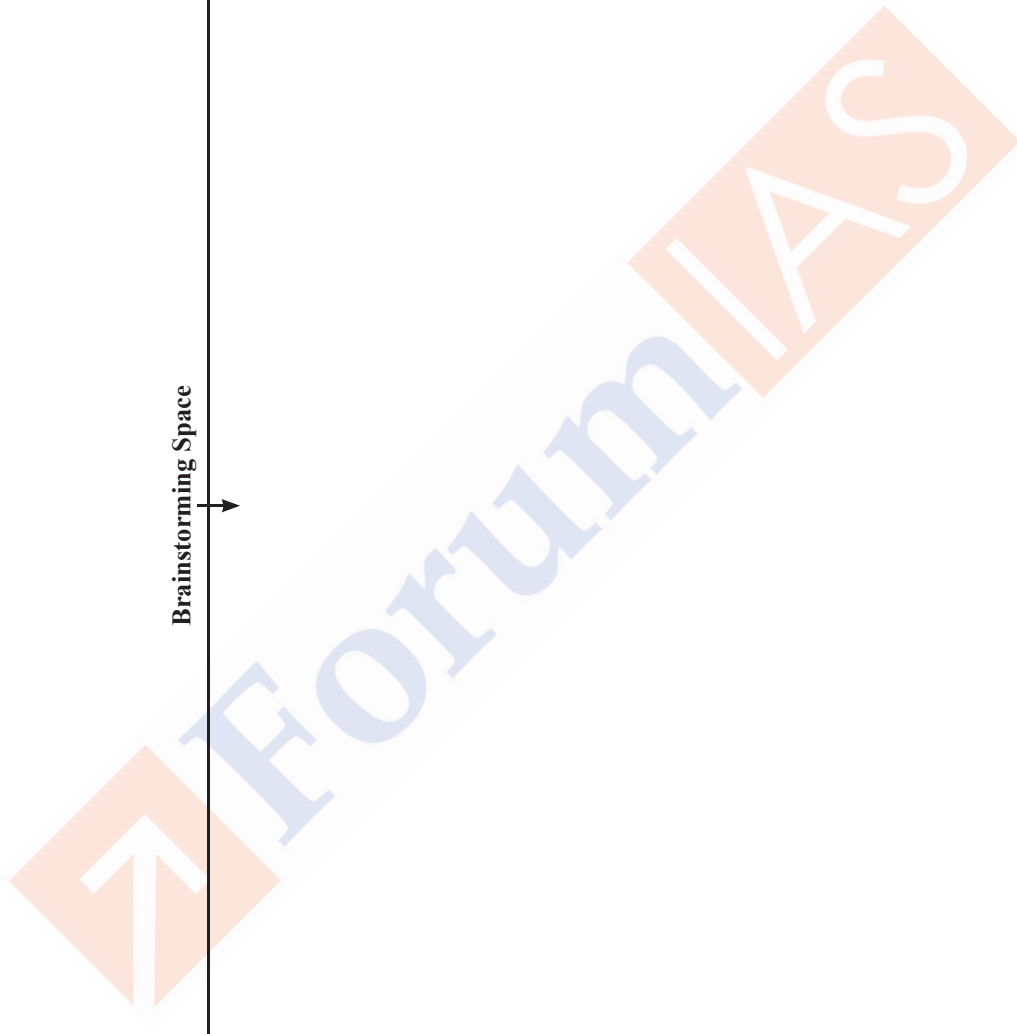
**Q.1)** The French Revolution has enduring relevance to the contemporary world. Explain. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2025]

Brainstorming Space



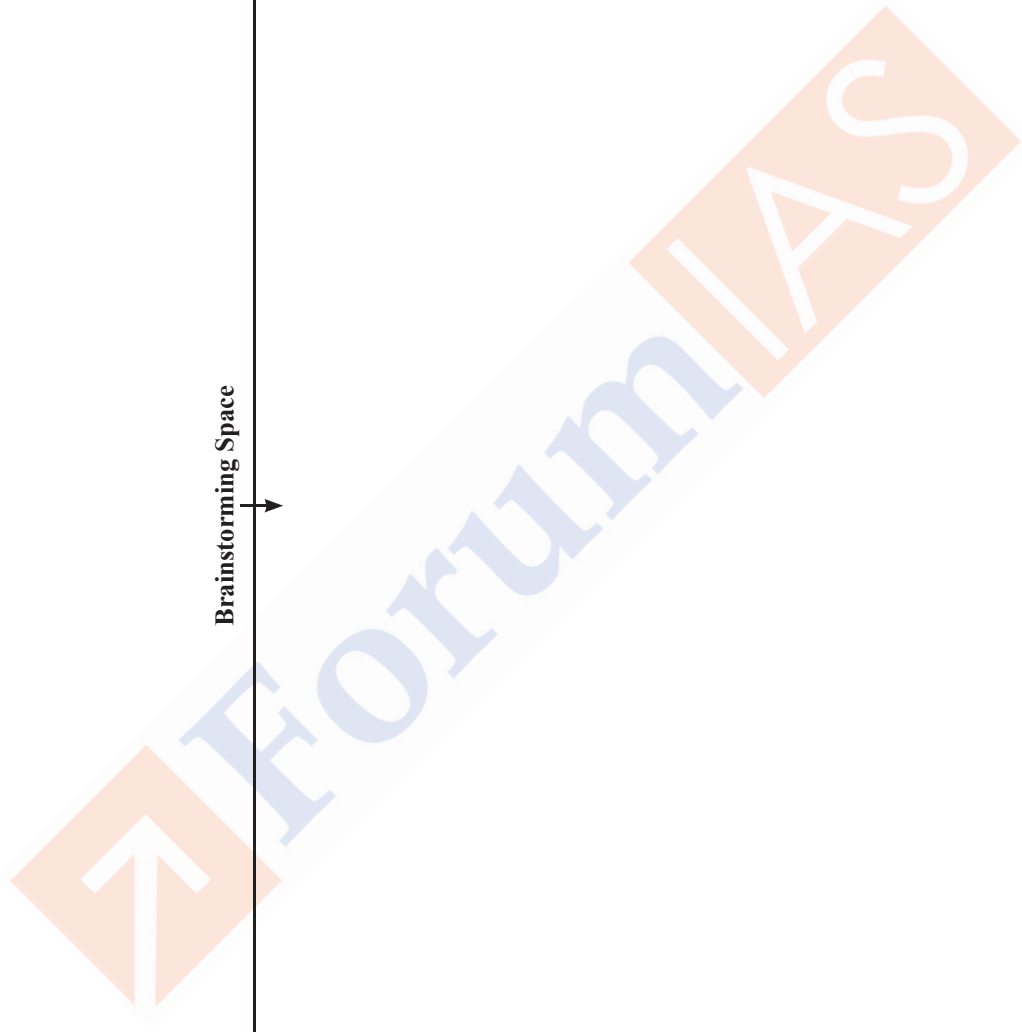
**Q.2)** Explain how the foundations of modern world were laid by the American and French revolution. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2019]

Brainstorming Space



Q.3) American Revolution was an economic revolt against mercantilism.' Substantiate. (12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2013]

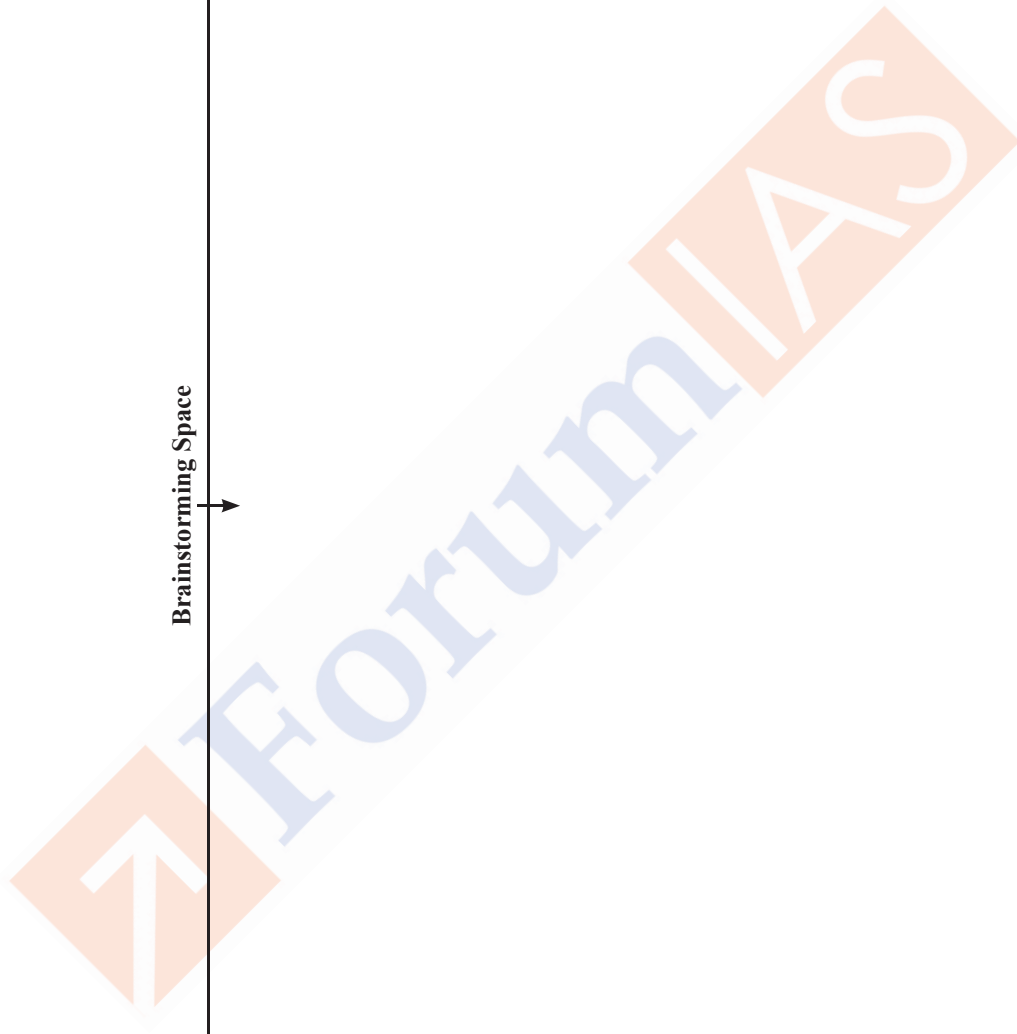
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Q.4) What were the events that led to the Suez Crisis in 1956? How did it deal a final blow to Britain's self-image as a world power?

(12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2014]

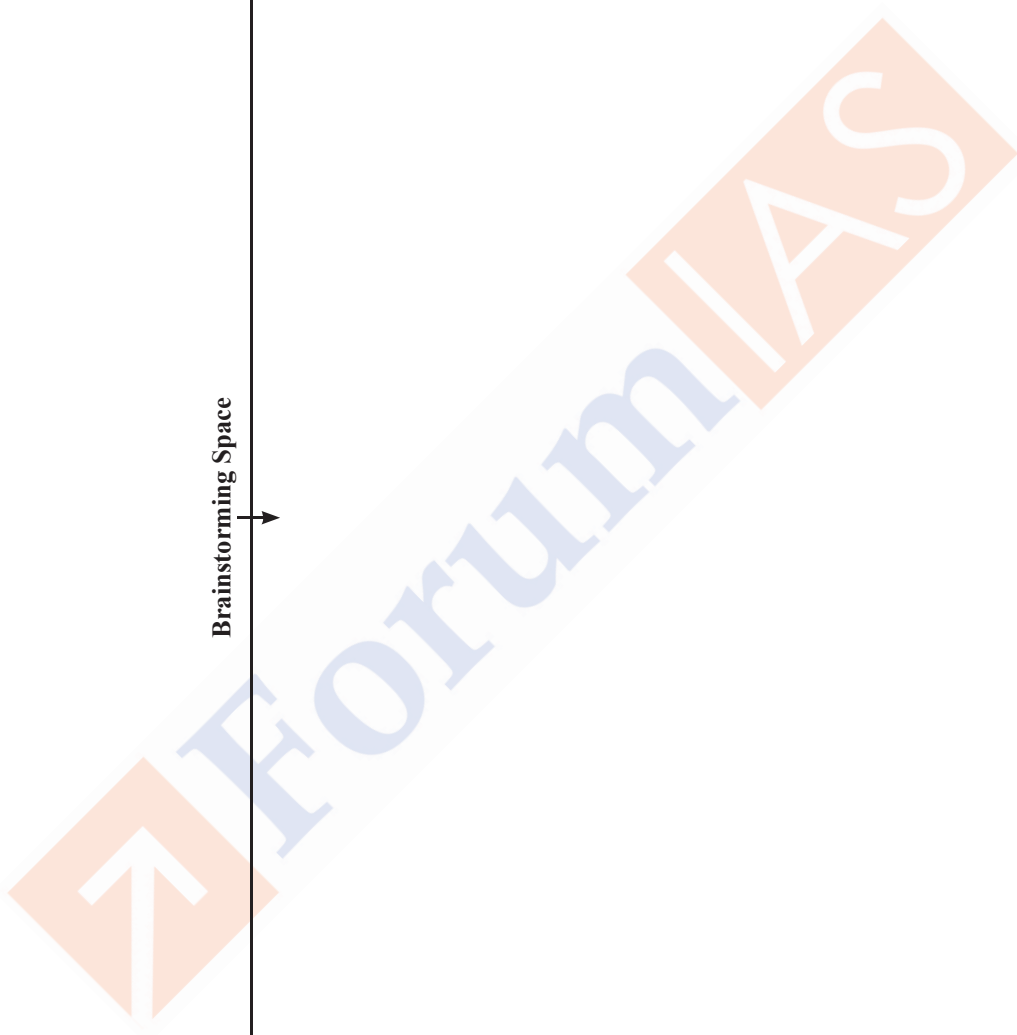
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**Q.5)** Critically examine the compulsions which prompted India to play a decisive role in the emergence of Bangladesh.

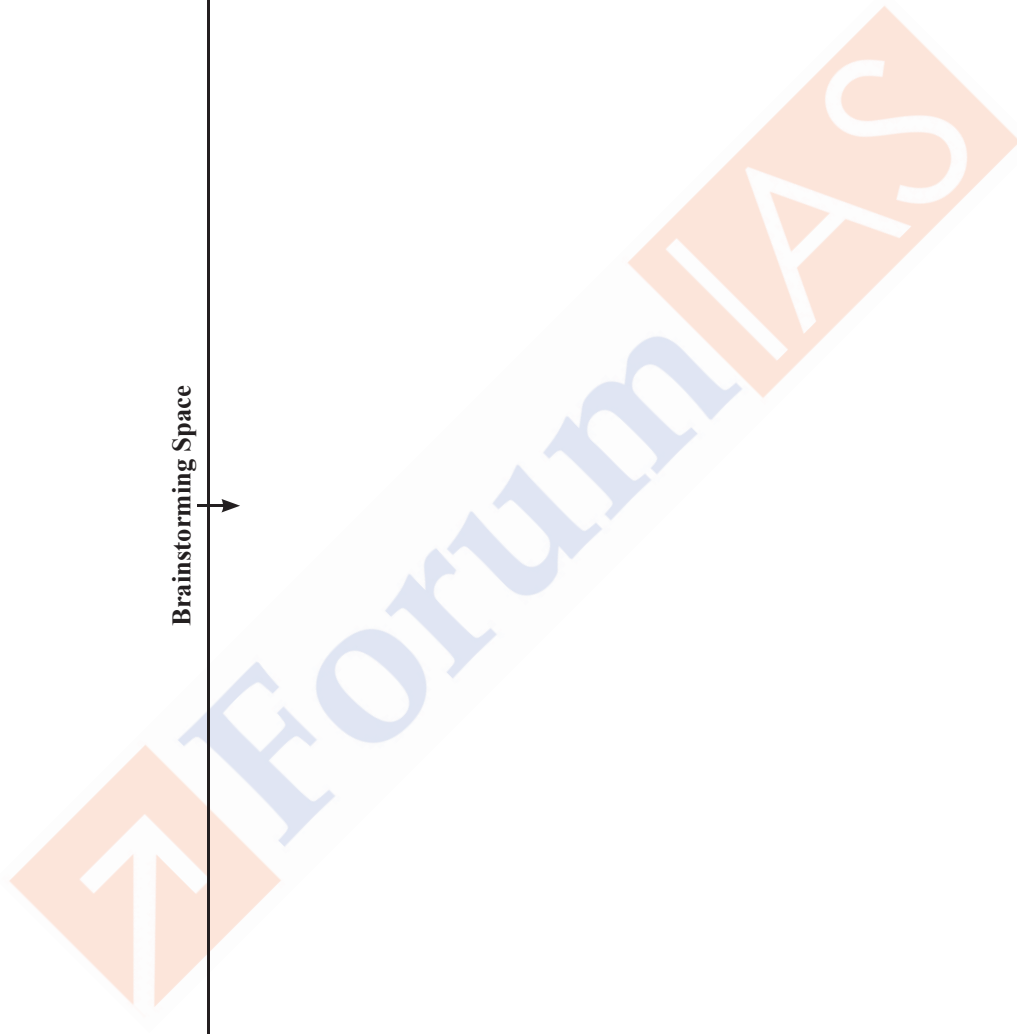
(12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2014]

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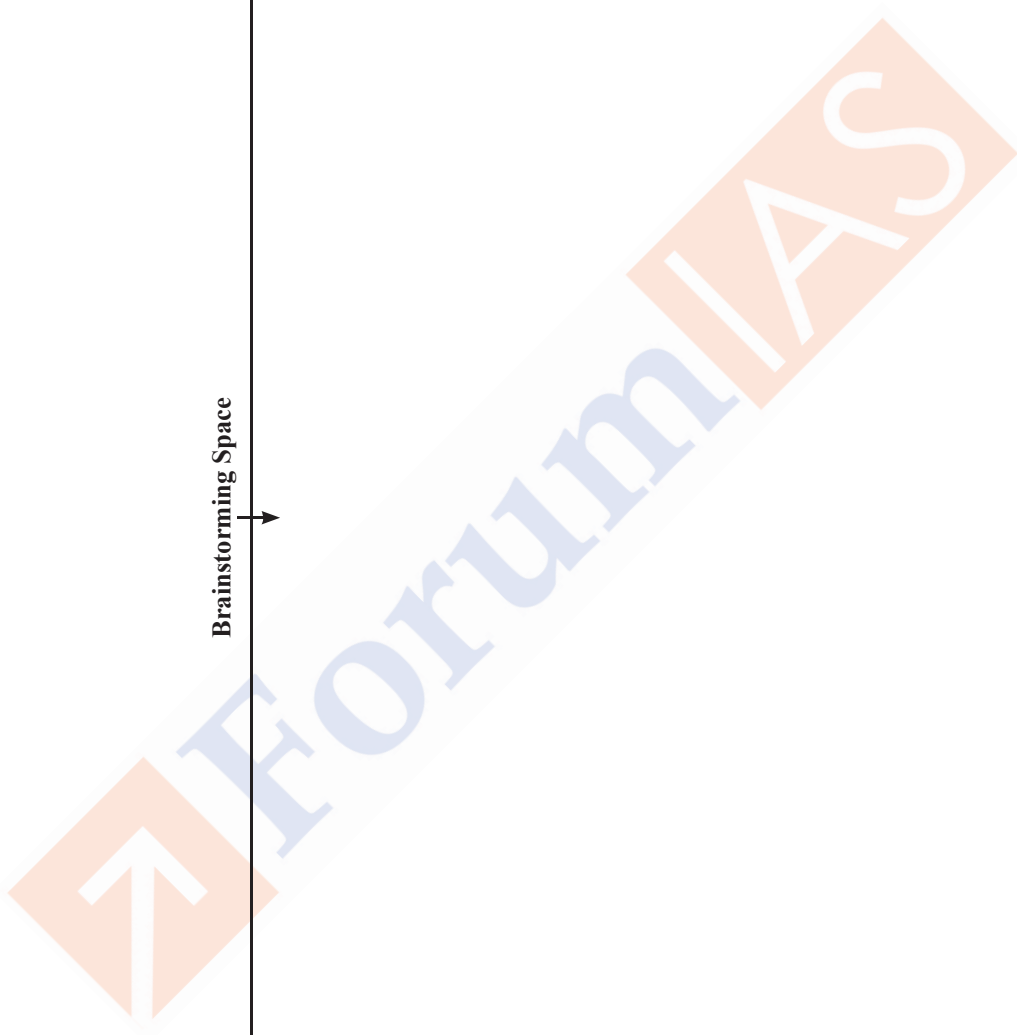
Q.6) Explain briefly how the ideas and experiments of Soviet Government in USSR influenced Poet Rabindranath Tagore, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [1982]

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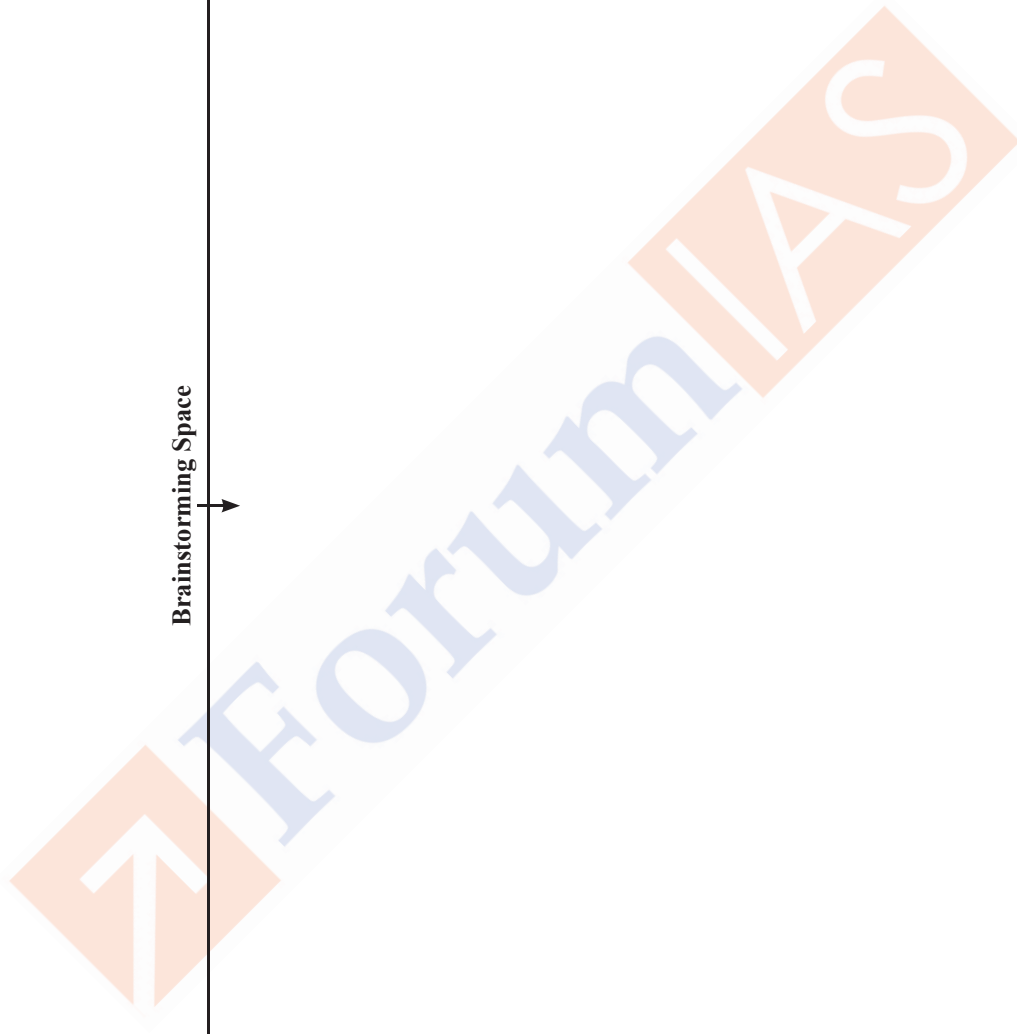
Q.7) What problems are germane to the decolonization process in the Malay Peninsula? (10 Marks, 150 Words) [2017]

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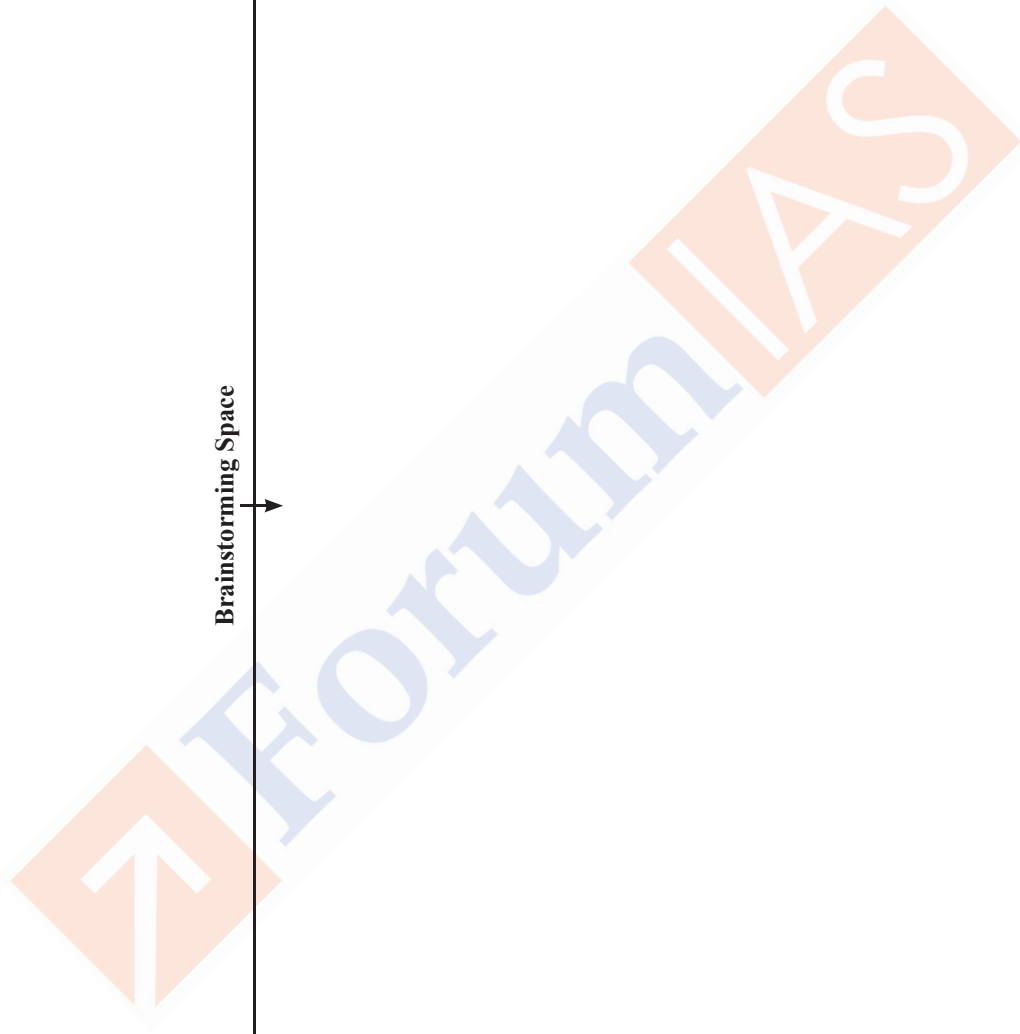
Q.8) The anti-colonial struggles in West Africa were led by the new elite of Western-educated Africans. Examine.(12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2013]

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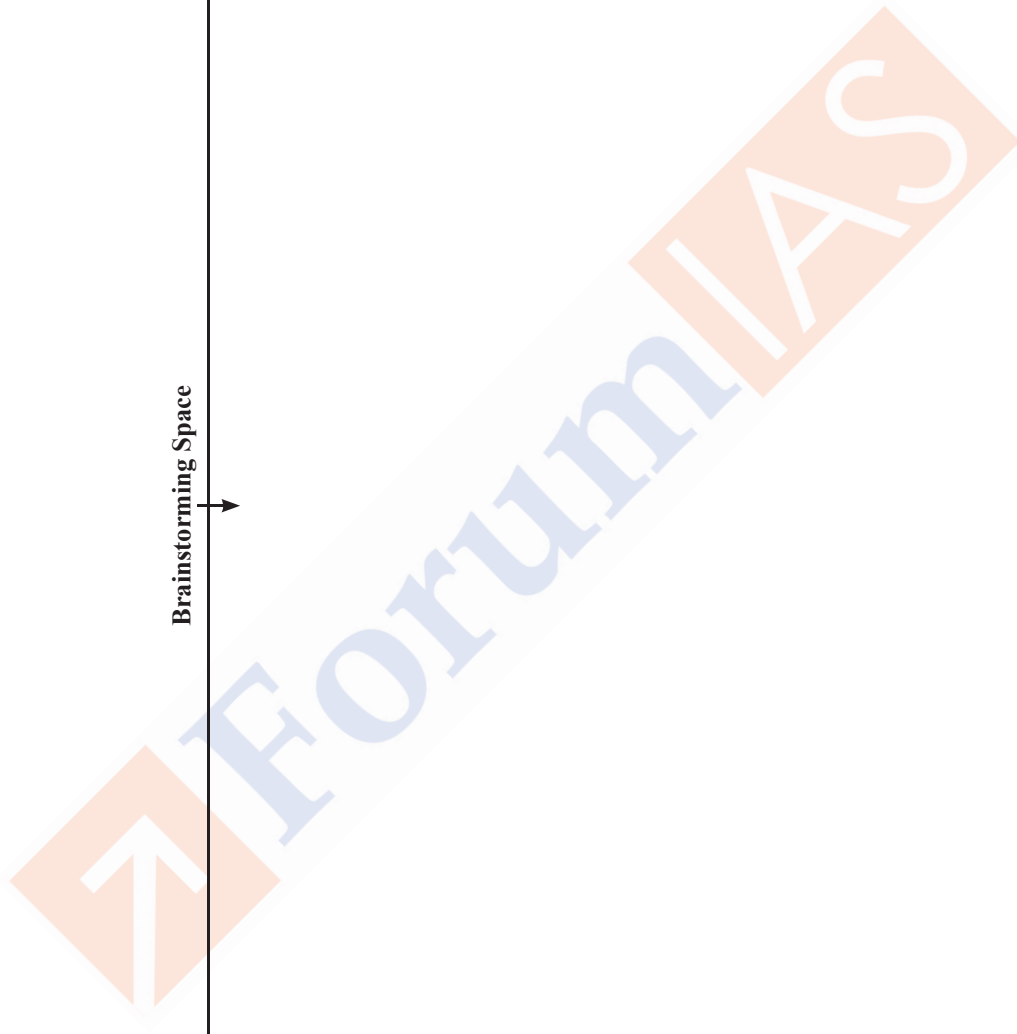
**Q.9)** What were the major political, economic and social developments in the world which motivated the anti-colonial movement in India?  
(12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2014]

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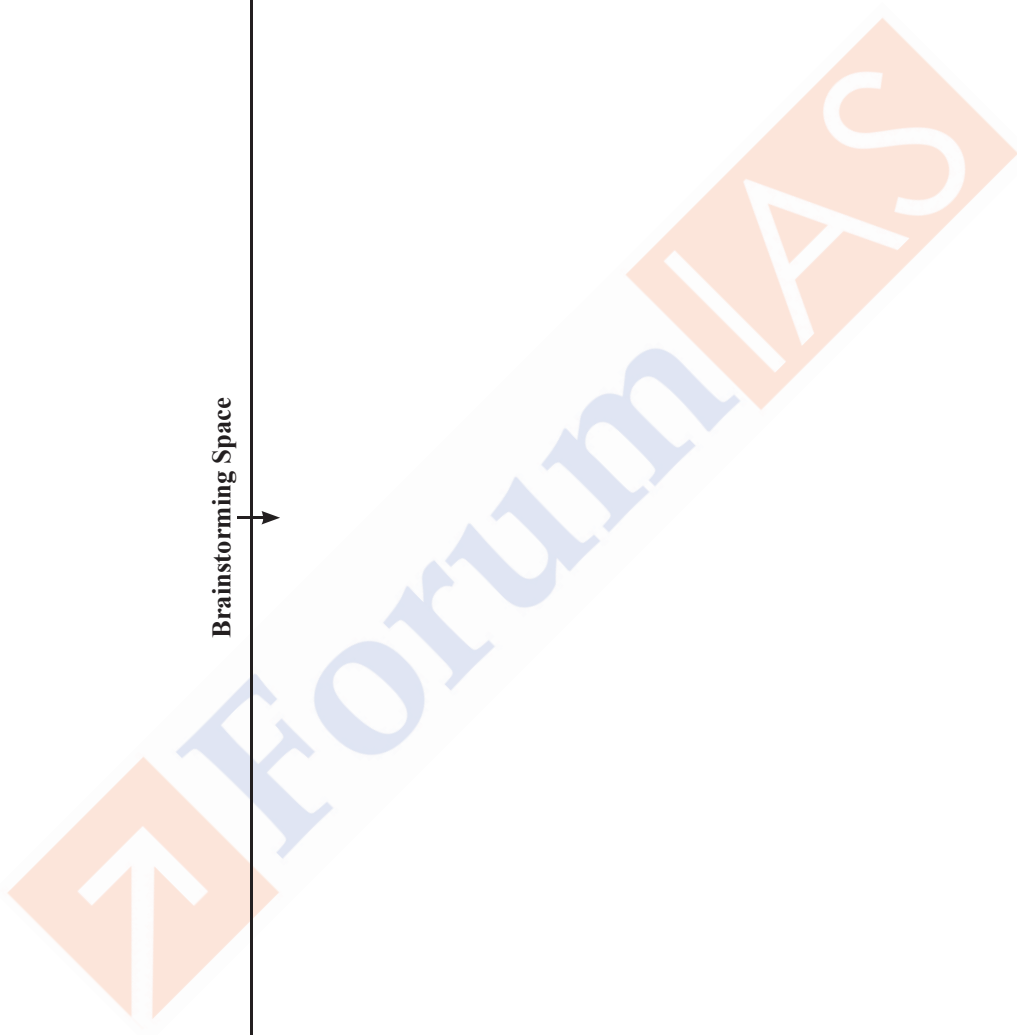
**Q.10)** Bring out the socio-economic effects of the introduction of railways in different countries of the world. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [2023]

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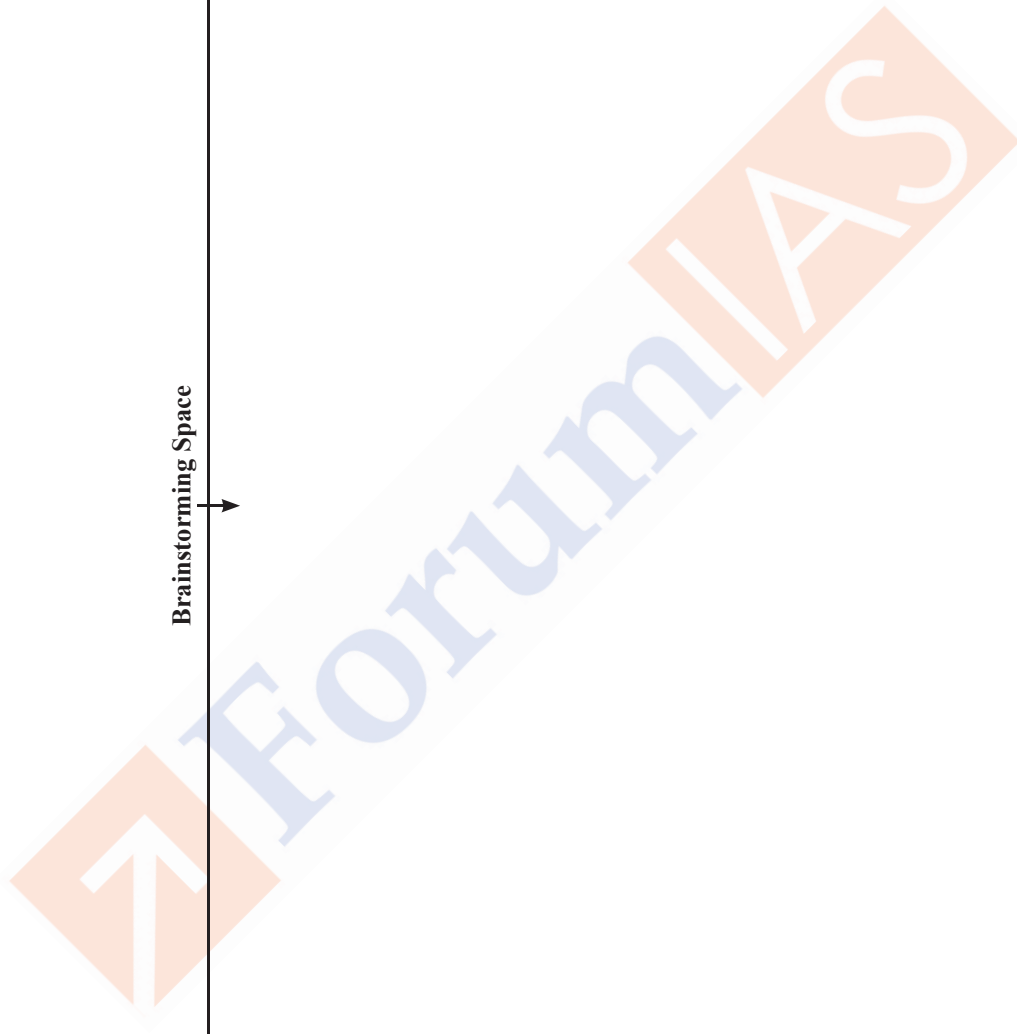
**Q.11)** Why indentured labour was taken by the British from India to their colonies? Have they been able to preserve their cultural identity over there?  
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [2018]

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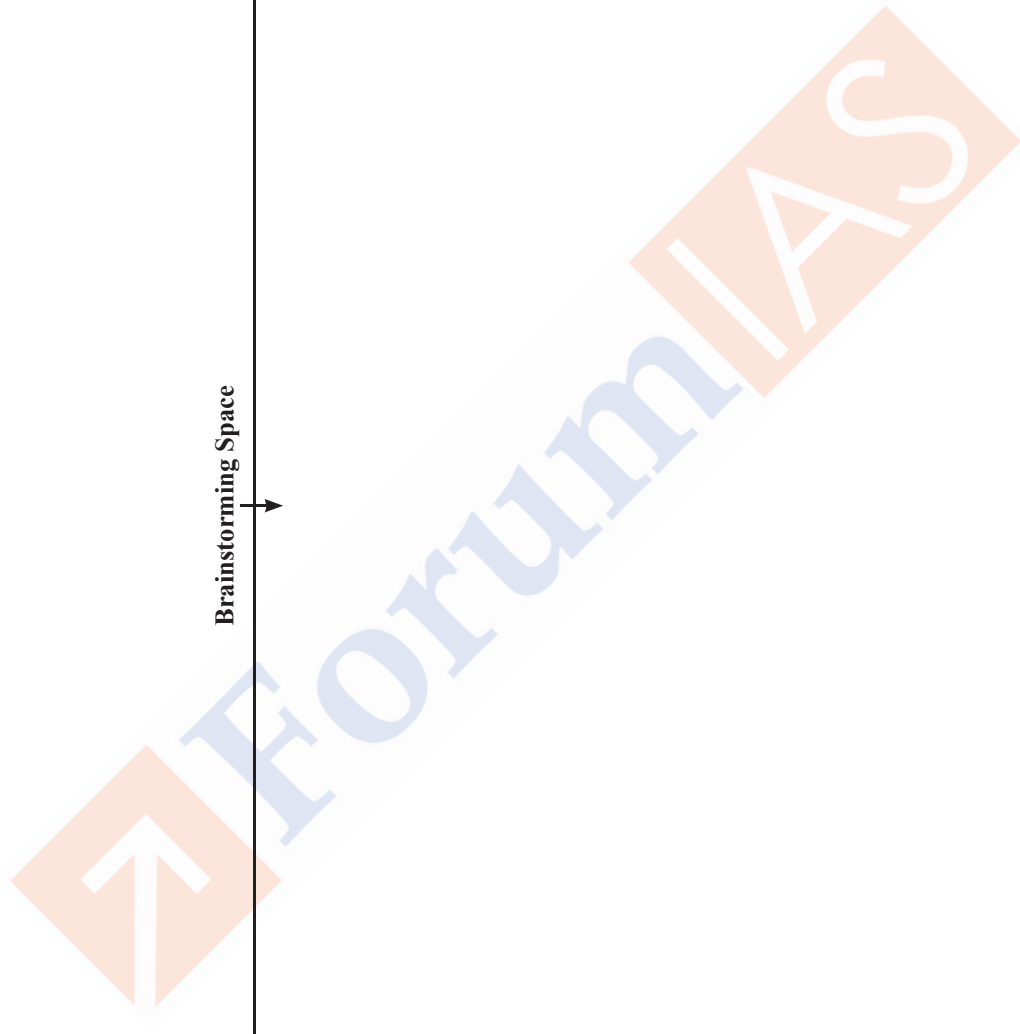
Q.12) Africa was chopped into states artificially created by accidents of European competition.' Analyze. (12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2013]

Brainstorming Space



**Q.13)** How far Curzon's policy towards Tibet was influenced by strategic consideration?  
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1999]

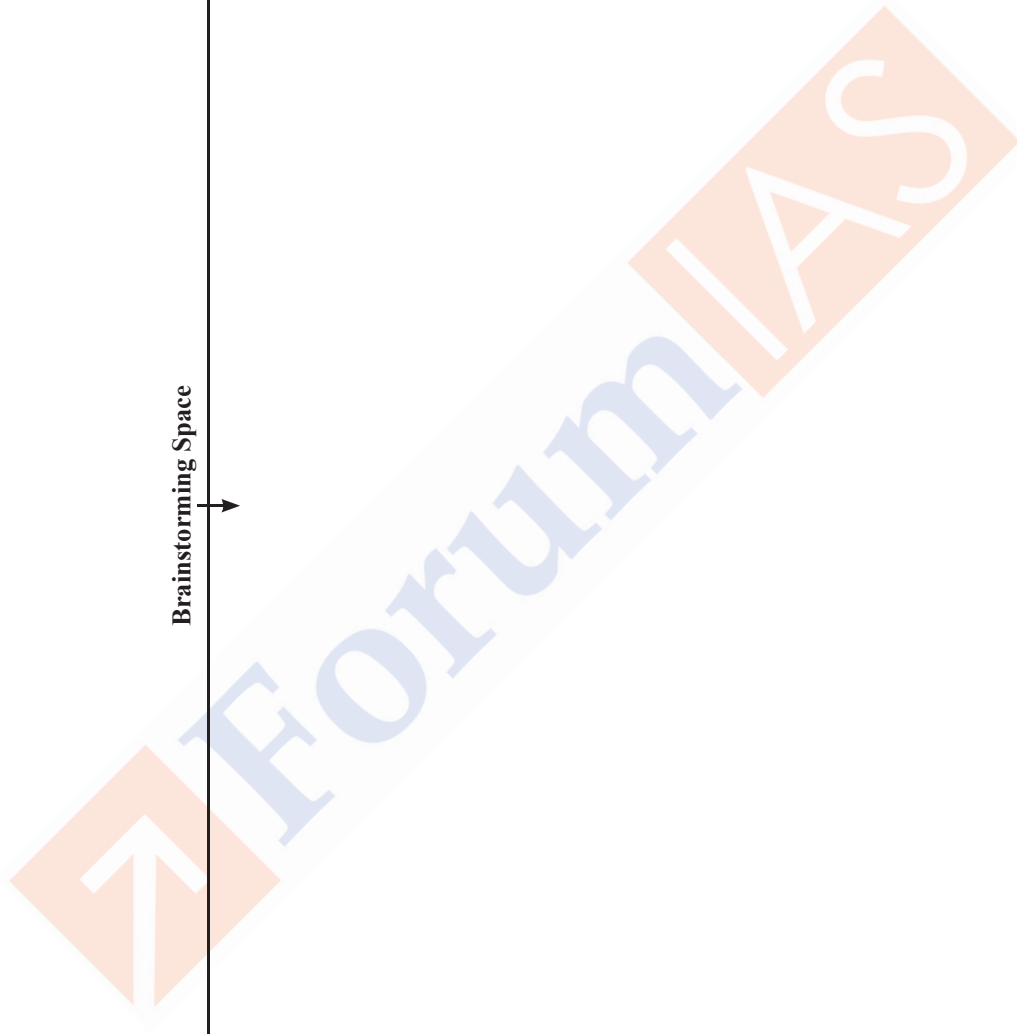
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**Q.14)** Discuss the British policy towards Tibet from the end of the nineteenth century to the Viceroyalty of Lord Curzon.

(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1994]

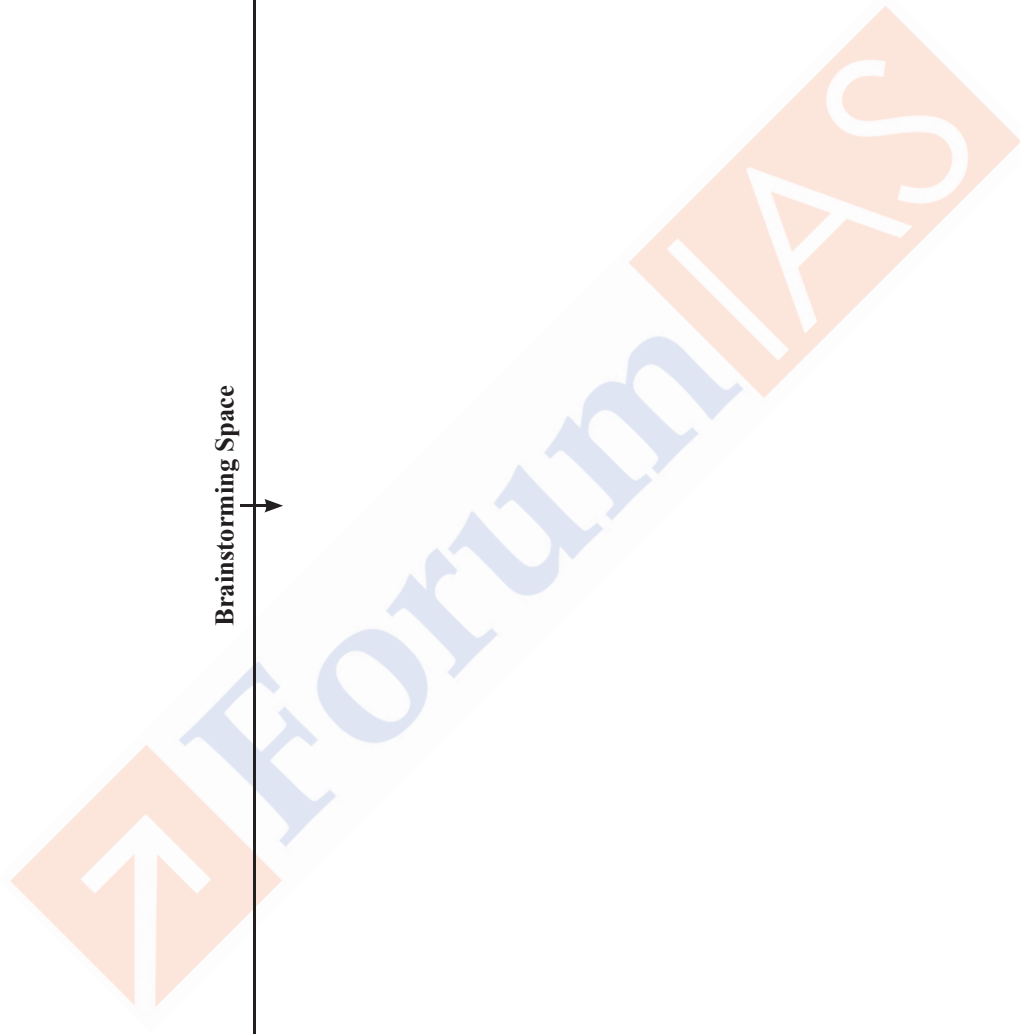
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**Q.15)** How far was the Industrial Revolution in England responsible for the decline of handicrafts and cottage industries in India?

(10 Marks, 150 Words) [2024]

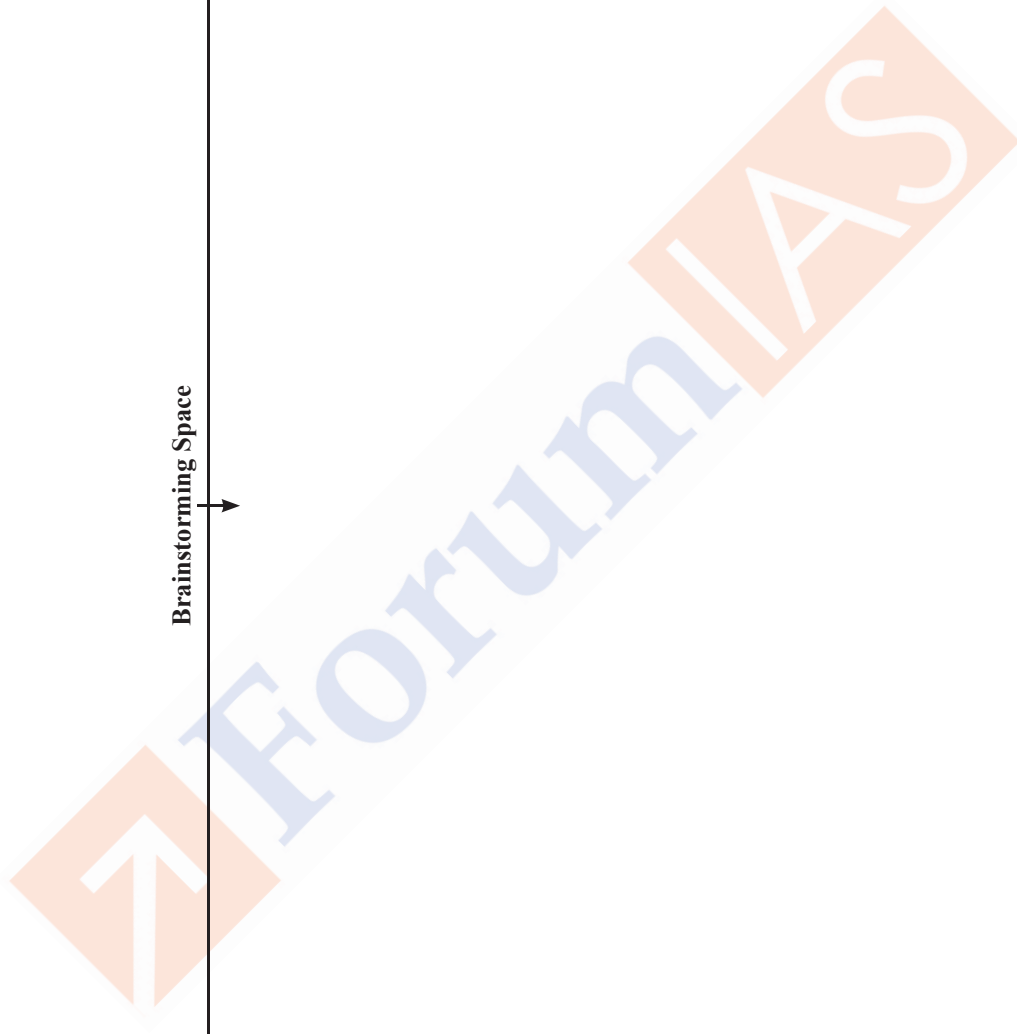
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**Q.16)** Why did the industrial revolution first occur in England? Discuss the quality of life of the people there during the industrialization. How does it compare with that in India at present times?

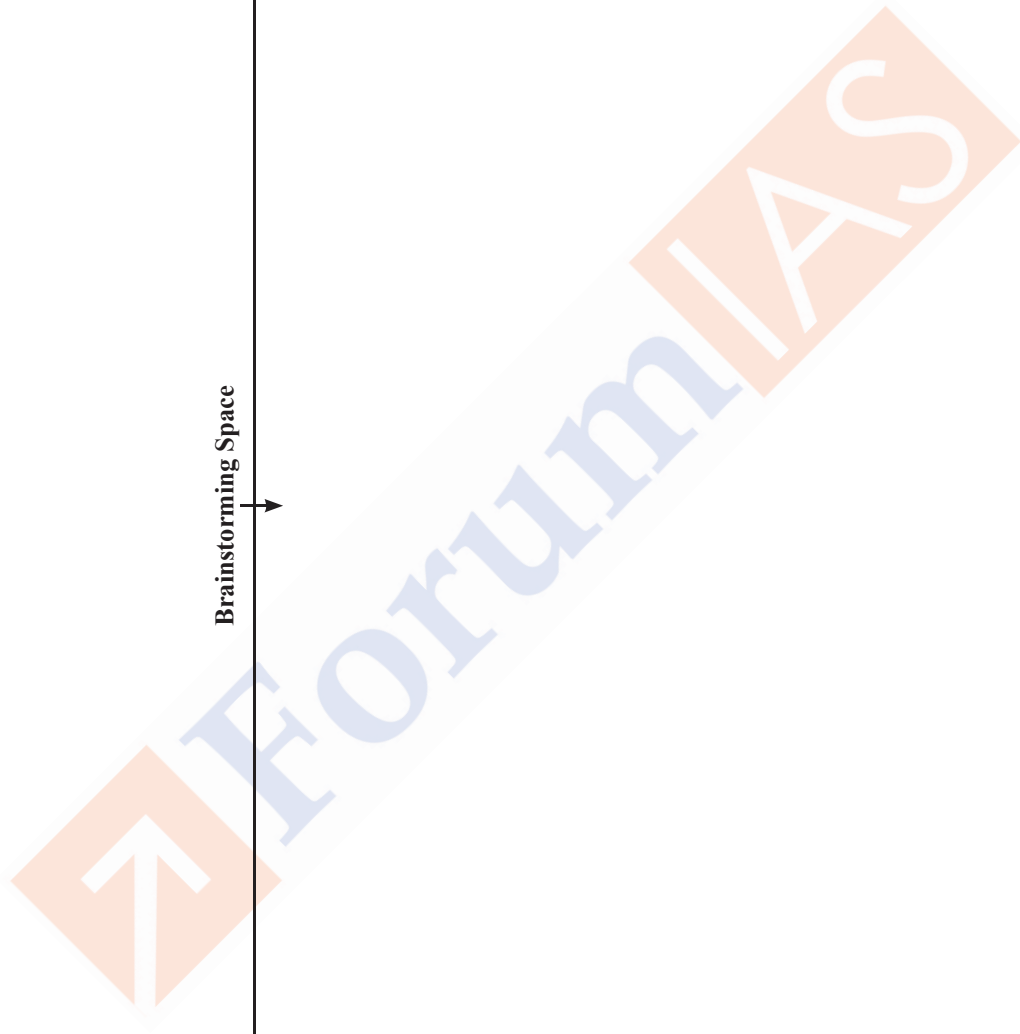
(12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2015]

Brainstorming Space



**Q.17)** What was Mahatma Gandhi's concept of Socialism? How did it differ from Marxian socialism? (15 Marks, 250 Words) [1990]

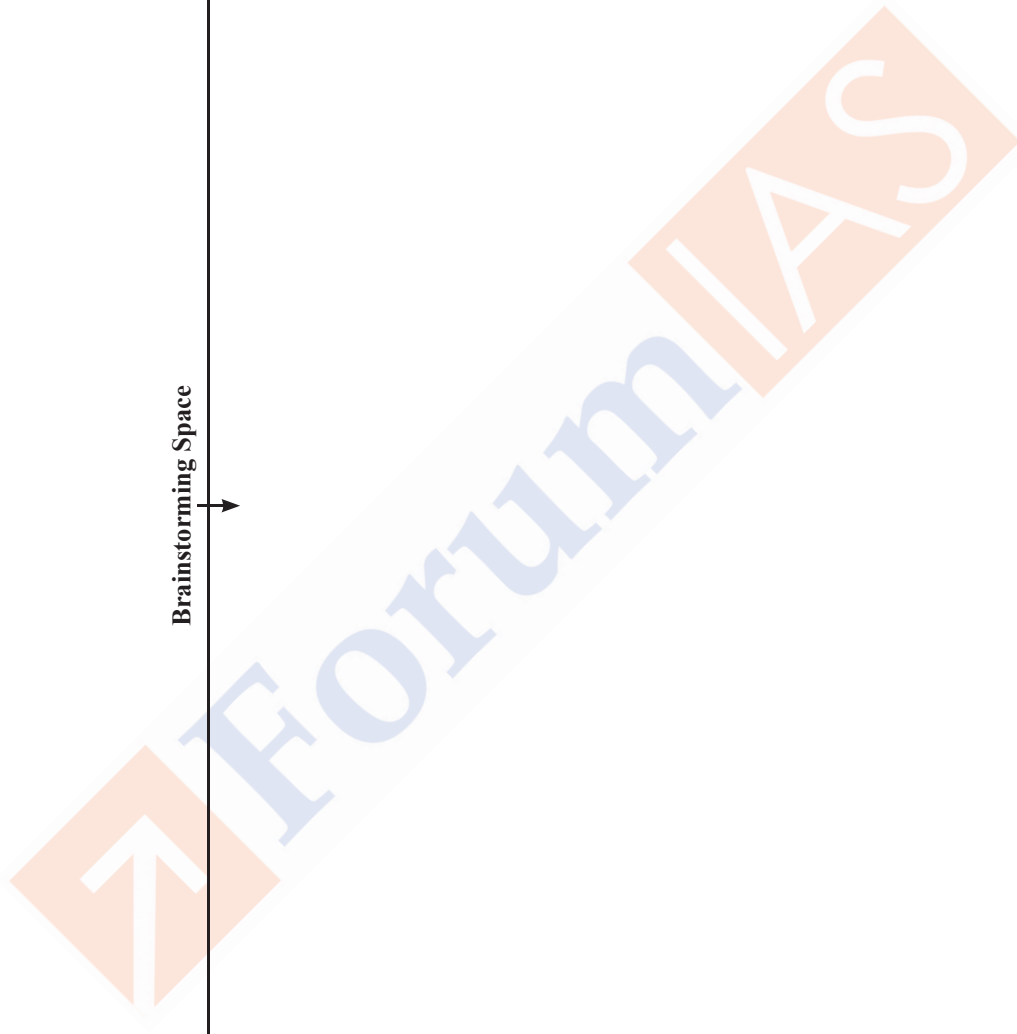
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**Q.18)** How far is it correct to say that the First World War was fought essentially for the preservation of balance of power?

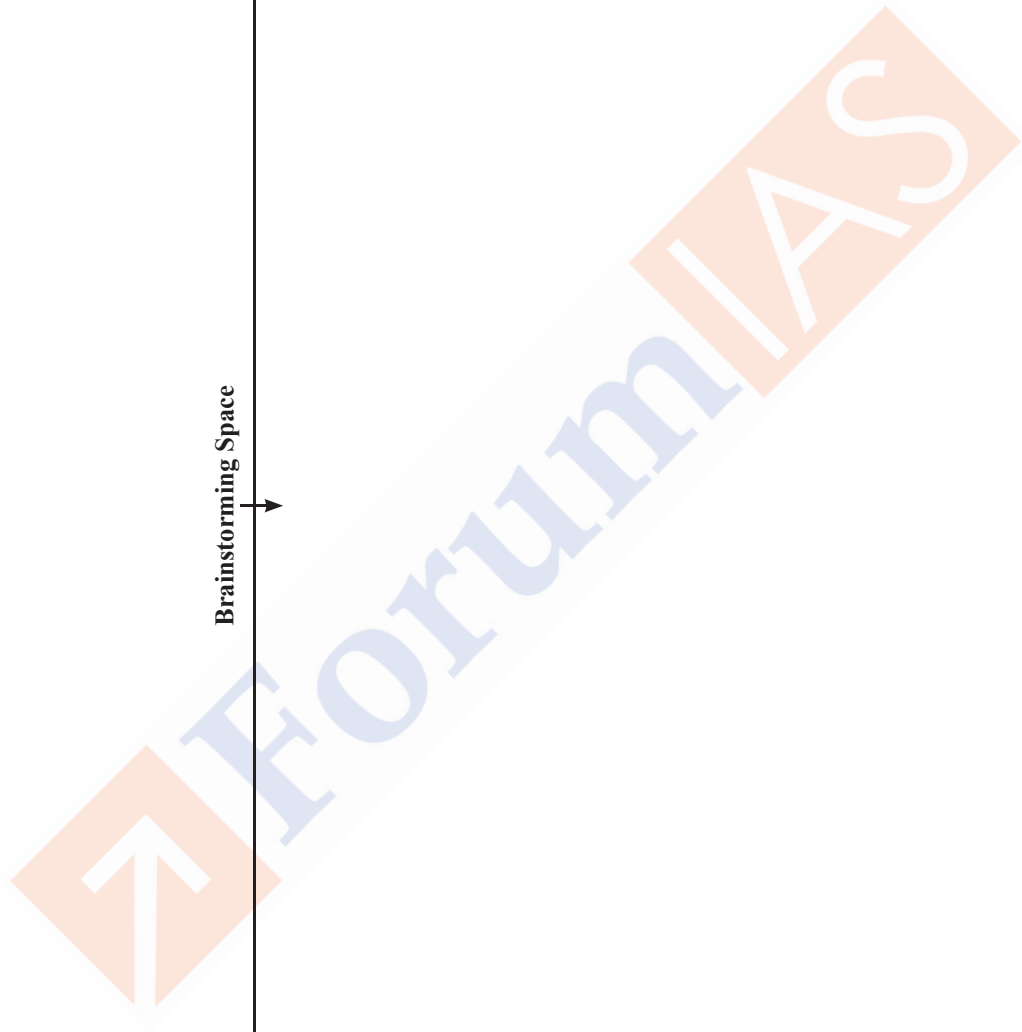
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2024]

Brainstorming Space



**Q.19)** To what extent can Germany be held responsible for causing the two World Wars? Discuss critically. (12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2015]

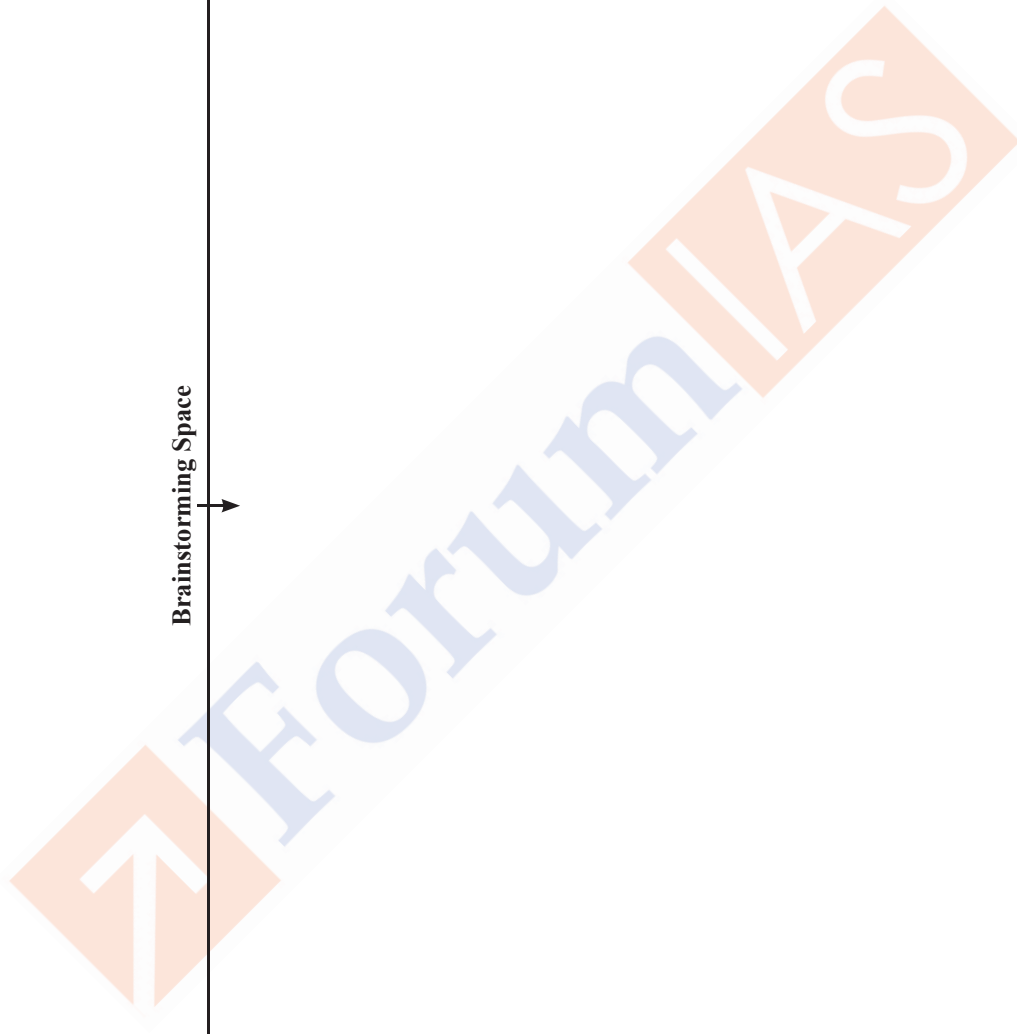
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**Q.20)** There arose a serious challenge to the Democratic State System between the two World Wars.' Evaluate the statement.

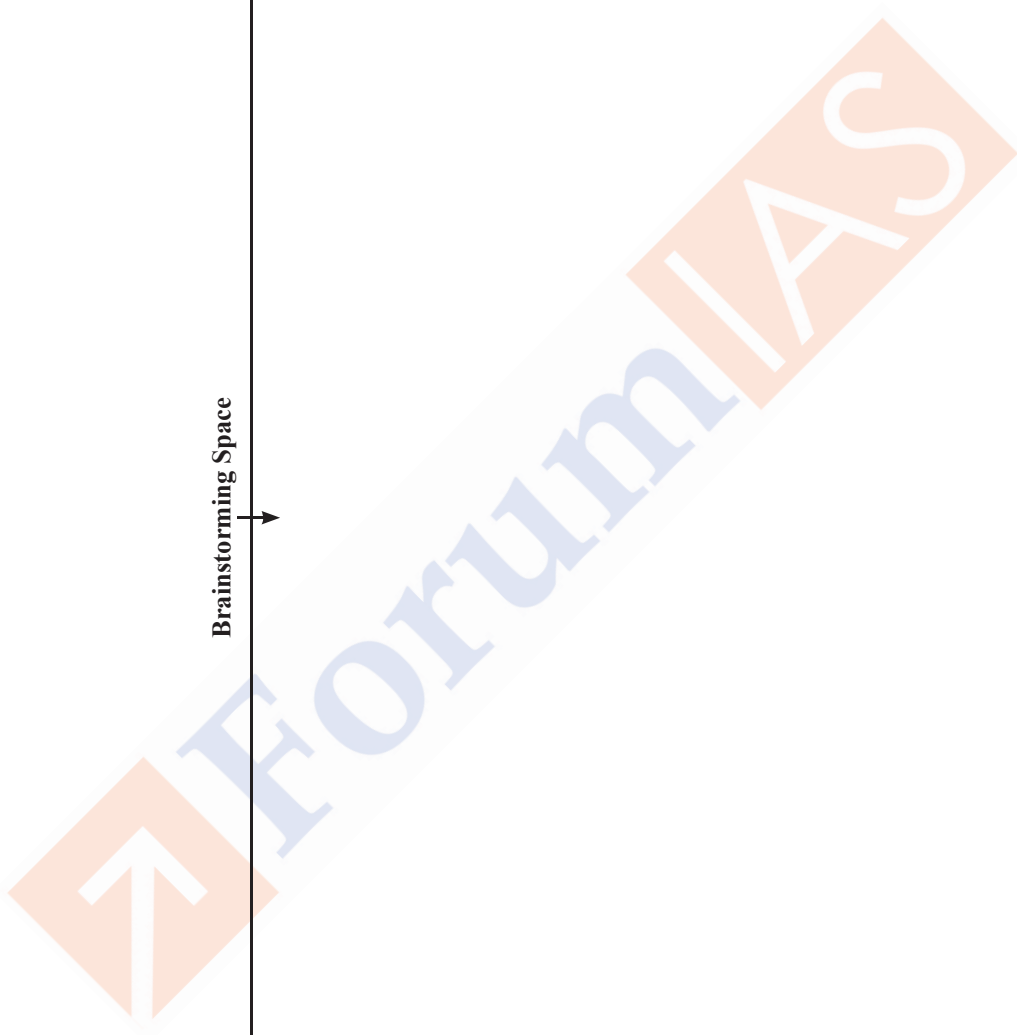
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2021]

Brainstorming Space



**Q.21)** What policy instruments were deployed to contain the Great Economic Depression? (12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2013]

Brainstorming Space



Q.22) How did the outbreak of the Second World War affect India's political scene? Did the Cripps Mission resolve the political crisis in India?

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [1994]

Brainstorming Space

