

Example: Choose Your Own Exam Questions

Course: Development Studies

Level: Graduate

Set-Up

See the example for the structure of this approach for an essay exam; but it can be applied to all kinds of exams (including multiple-choice) as well.

Development Studies Exam

Please answer three questions.

1. Was 'colonial knowledge' constructed entirely by the coloniser? Answer with reference to either Africa or India or both?
2. 'Colonialism is dead. Long live colonialism.' Discuss with reference either to colonial discourses or to the institutions and policies of colonial states?
3. How did colonial rulers secure the collaboration of colonized people in their own subordination?
4. Did any section of rural society benefit from colonial rule? Answer with reference to either Africa or India or Both?
5. Compare and contrast the nature of democratic transitions in Africa and Latin America?
6. 'Nationalism is necessary for establishment of democracy, but cannot sustain it'. Discuss with reference to Africa or South Asia or both?
7. The 'tribe' in Africa was a figment of the colonial imagination. Discuss with reference to one or more example?
8. 'Religion is always a negative force in politics.' Discuss with reference to at least two cases.
9. 'Peasant rebellions were important factor in the constitution of state power in many developing countries.' Discuss with reference to Mexico or Zimbabwe.
10. Is land reform revolutionary? Discuss with reference to any two developing countries
11. Is structural adjustment driven by a political or economic imperative?
12. Do neo-liberal economic strategies create the conditions for the realization of liberal democratic political arrangements?