

The Significance of NCERT Textbooks and Their Scope

***Mamta Jain**

****Dr. Ashok Sidana**

Abstract

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is an autonomous organisation of the Government of India that was established on 1 September 1961 as a literary, scientific and charitable Society under the Societies' Registration Act (Act XXI of 1860). Its headquarters are located at Sri Aurobindo Marg in New Delhi. Dr Hrushikesh Senapathy has been director of the council since September 2015. NCERT assists and advises the central and state governments on academic matters related to school education. While preparation for entrance level exams, one must prepare completely through a process which requires an overall development of your understanding of the subject. This rigorous process demands going through the appropriate study material and solving tricky numericals along with an efficient revision. The most significant role played here is that of the study material for it is the first concrete base on which further understanding is based. The NCERT books are best known for their simplicity and putting out concepts as they are without diving much deep into more complex theories.

Introduction

Most of the exam questions are from NCERT Books: One of the biggest benefits of studying from NCERT books is the fact that many questions in NEET are either directly fetched from these books or follow a similar pattern. So, you must not forget to refer to these books for your preparation.

Credible Information: All the NCERT books have been written by experts after doing extensive research on topics. The information is completely authentic and is far better than other sources.(1,2)

Strong basics and fundamentals: NCERT books include basics and fundamentals on all topics for students. So, it makes it easier for students to understand concepts and prepare in a better way for any competitive exam, be it JEE-Main or AIPMT.

Simple to read and understand: NCERT books have an easy-to-understand language written by experts after extensive research. Since these books are lucid and direct in their approach, it becomes simple for students to understand the technical aspects of topics like kinetics or energy.

If you have a knack for grasping the concept and then applying it to solve a problem, then NCERT books are outstanding material to kick start your board and entrance exam preparation. With a little more guidance and exposure to difficult problems, you can work wonders with conceptual questions.

Better Concepts in Ncert Books

1. The concepts in NCERT Textbooks are explained very clearly and give the students accurate and correct information.
2. The questions and problems in exercises in NCERT Book are well presented and based on the worked examples and formulae discussed before the exercises i.e the questions of one exercise are not placed by mistake before the introduction of concept as in some other books/publications

3. Also the tough problems are presented after the easier ones to help improve the students' confidence in problem solving
4. Students should focus more on essential topics during CBSE board preparation which are best covered by NCERT books(3,4)
5. Optional exercise problems in Maths textbook help in increasing mathematical knowledge of the student. The activities in the science textbooks help students to do experiments in the physics, chemistry and biology laboratory
6. The print in the NCERT Textbook is easier to read and the spelling, language, punctuation and grammar are good
7. NCERT Books help as a platform for upcoming competitive exams like JEE Mains, JEE Advanced, AIPMT, NEET and also serve as a foundational knowledge base for Bachelors level studies towards becoming engineers, doctors, lawyers etc.

Variability of NCERT Textbooks

What makes the NCERT textbook different is the processes through which the pulse of this diverse country, and the needs of rural children, are addressed. Thematic organisation and presentation of topics focus more on the processes of learning than mere outcomes. The tasks and activities are to enable learners to do and discover.

The physical aspect of the book is another merit. NCERT textbooks, printed in colour, are the least-priced today; no textbook up to Class VIII costs beyond Rs. 50. The NCERT works on a no-profit-no-loss basis. About 19 school systems (Boards and SCERTs) from 14 States have adopted or adapted the books. Those who wish to adopt them have only to send a request to the NCERT and a soft copy is sent. The material is press-ready and the States print by acknowledging the NCERT and paying a 5% royalty. (5,6)

Students Should Prefer NCERT Books for CBSE Board

The syllabus released by CBSE is completely based on NCERT. There is a myth among students that NCERT Books are not sufficient for their exam preparation. Hence, they look for other reading sources for their exam prep. In reality, however, NCERT Books are sufficient to prepare for examinations. Here are some tips on how to make best use of NCERT Books: Important Paragraphs and Lines: The 1 mark questions in the exams are meant to test the basic conceptual clarity of the students. Hence, it is important to read the important lines given in every chapter that will help solve the complex 1 mark questions in the exams. Students should frame important questions from important lines in every paragraph and revise them during the examination prep. Exercise Questions: The exercises given at the end of every chapter are meant to make the student practise the concepts involved in the chapter. These exercises, if practised adequately, ensure the desired results in the exam. Diagrams: Diagrams help a student grasp the concepts more easily and quickly. There are numerous process based questions in exams. Students should present the answers to these questions with the help of Flow Diagrams. These diagrams help a student fetch good marks. Examples: There are numerous examples given in NCERT textbooks. These examples are meant to increase the conceptual clarity of the student. Hence, it is important to give proper attention to these examples. Theory in Math Textbook: Since Math is deemed to be a practical subject, students tend to ignore the theoretical part given in their Math NCERT textbook. 2016 CBSE Math Board Exam for Class XII saw students struggling with their paper, because many questions were from the theory portion given in the textbook. Preparation from NCERT Books should be followed by writing down important points from

every chapter that could be easily revised during exams. This practice not only gets good marks but also helps a student understand the topics and concepts well. At TCYonline, a student gets to practice different 1 mark questions. A student also gets FREE NCERT solutions to the Exercise Questions given in the textbook.(7,8)

****ph.d. Research Scholar, Dept of Education, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur
Working As Lecturer In Sawai Man Singh School, Jaipur**

****professor, Agresen Tt College, Keshav Vidyapeeth, Jamdoli**

References

1. Kumar, prabhat. "memorandum of association". Retrieved 12 september 2016.
2. "flipbook | ncert | learning on the go, govt. Of india". Epathshala.nic.in. Retrieved 2017-07-08.
3. "why ncert textbooks matter". The hindu. May 7, 2017.
4. from 2018, only ncert to publish school textbooks, the times of india, 7 June 2017.
5. leading the change: 50 years of ncert, ncert, 19 August 2011
6. "leading_the_change" (pdf). Ncert.
7. "leading_the_change" (pdf). Www.ncert.nic.in.
8. "rfd_ncert.pdf" (pdf). Www.ncert.nic.in.