

Class 9 - Social Science

Understanding Society India and Beyond PART-I

Political Science - Democracy

CBSE NOTES

Political Science - Democracy - Practice Worksheet

Strengthen your foundation with key concepts and basic applications.



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Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

1. How has the idea of democracy evolved over time and shaped our understanding of it today?

Hint: Consider discussing key historical events and their impacts on democratic philosophy.

2. What are the different forms of democracy, and how are they practised in India and other parts of the world?

Hint: Compare direct versus representative democracy and provide examples of each.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

3. What are the essential features of a democracy, and how do they extend beyond government institutions?

Hint: Focus on how each feature contributes to societal norms and citizen engagement.

4. What are the challenges faced by Indian democracy?

Hint: Identify specific examples of challenges and discuss potential reforms.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

5. Explain the significance of the Constitution in maintaining democracy in India.

Hint: Discuss specific constitutional provisions that enhance democratic functions.

6. What role do Fundamental Rights play in the Indian democratic framework?

Hint: Quote specific articles of the Constitution that delineate these rights.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

7. How does the concept of popular sovereignty manifest in Indian democracy?

Hint: Refer to the voting process and its impact on government accountability.

8. Discuss the importance of the rule of law in a democratic society.

Hint: Explain how the rule of law curtails the abuse of power.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

9. What is the significance of political parties in a democracy?

Hint: Consider discussing the role of opposition parties as well.

10. How does accountability and transparency strengthen democracy?

Hint: Reflect on examples where transparency has positively influenced governance.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

1. How has the idea of democracy evolved over time and shaped our understanding of it today?

Solution: The evolution of democracy is marked by significant historical events, including the development of philosophical ideals. Key milestones include the establishment of early democratic practices in ancient Greece and the significant influences from the Enlightenment period, which emphasized reason and individual rights. The struggles against colonialism and the subsequent global spread of democratic ideals shaped the modern understanding of democracy, highlighting themes of popular sovereignty and participatory governance as seen in India's transition post-independence. These historical developments have contributed to the democratic frameworks and institutions we recognize today.

2. What are the different forms of democracy, and how are they practised in India and other parts of the world?

Solution: Democracy can take several forms, primarily including direct and representative democracy. In India, a representative democracy is practiced, where citizens elect representatives to make decisions on their behalf. Globally, various countries adopt different democratic practices based on their unique contexts. For example, Switzerland employs direct democracy extensively through referendums, while the United States operates a representative system with federal and state governance.

3. What are the essential features of a democracy, and how do they extend beyond government institutions?

Solution: Key features of democracy include popular sovereignty, the rule of law, fundamental rights, and political participation. These features extend beyond governmental institutions as they dictate social norms and values, guiding citizen involvement, individual freedoms, and equality in public discourse. For example, civil society organizations advocate for democracy by ensuring transparency and accountability, illustrating democracy's social dimensions.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

4. What are the challenges faced by Indian democracy?

Solution: Indian democracy faces several challenges including corruption, social inequality, and political violence. Other concerns involve the disenfranchisement of marginalized communities and issues related to the electoral process, such as manipulation and voter apathy. Additionally, regional disparities and communal tensions complicate civic participation. Addressing these challenges requires ongoing reforms and the strengthening of democratic institutions.

5. Explain the significance of the Constitution in maintaining democracy in India.

Solution: The Constitution of India serves as the fundamental legal framework of the country, establishing the principles of democracy, including fundamental rights and the separation of powers. It protects against the abuse of power and maintains individual freedoms. Provisions for amendments ensure that the Constitution remains relevant to changing times, thereby underlining its significance in sustaining democratic governance.

6. What role do Fundamental Rights play in the Indian democratic framework?

Solution: Fundamental Rights act as a safeguard against arbitrary state action and ensure individual freedoms. They guarantee rights such as equality, freedom of expression, and the right to education, empowering citizens to participate meaningfully in the democratic process. These rights can be enforced in courts, reflecting their importance in promoting justice and accountability within the Indian democracy.

7. How does the concept of popular sovereignty manifest in Indian democracy?

Solution: Popular sovereignty is the principle that the authority of a government is derived from its citizens. In India, this is evident through regular elections where eligible citizens elect representatives. This embodiment of citizen authority ensures that elected officials remain accountable to the electorate, reinforcing democratic ideals of governance and collective decision-making.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

8. Discuss the importance of the rule of law in a democratic society.

Solution: The rule of law is crucial in a democracy as it underpins the legal system, ensuring that laws are applied equally and fairly. It prevents the arbitrary use of power by establishing that everyone, including government officials, is subject to the law. This principle reinforces public trust in legal institutions and supports justice in the society.

9. What is the significance of political parties in a democracy?

Solution: Political parties are fundamental to a democracy as they represent diverse interests, help in shaping public policy, and facilitate electoral processes. They mobilize voters and provide a platform for political discourse, ensuring that various perspectives are heard during elections. This representation helps in promoting accountability and responsiveness in governance.

10. How does accountability and transparency strengthen democracy?

Solution: Accountability and transparency create a responsive government by ensuring that officials are answerable to citizens for their actions. Mechanisms like the Right to Information Act empower citizens by allowing them to access government information, promoting transparency. Such practices enhance trust in the political system and enable informed citizen participation.



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