

Class VI - Social Science

Exploring Society India and Beyond
Grassroots Democracy — Part 1: Governance

CBSE NOTES

Grassroots Democracy — Part 1: Governance - 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. What is the meaning of 'governance'? Discuss its significance in organizing society.

Hint: Consider how governance is applied in both small (like families) and large (like nations) groups.

2. Why do we need a government? Explain its roles and responsibilities.

Hint: Reflect on different services the government provides in your daily life.



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

3. Define 'democracy'. Why is it considered an important form of governance?

Hint: Think about how democracy is practiced in your school or community.

4. Describe the three organs of government and their functions.

Hint: List examples of each organ in your country.



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

5. What is meant by 'separation of powers'? Why is it necessary in a democracy?

Hint: Consider the impact of one branch overstepping its role.

6. Explain the concept of grassroots democracy and its importance.

Hint: Think about local councils or community meetings in your area.



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

7. Discuss how digital technologies have impacted governance in India.

Hint: Consider recent examples of digital initiatives by the government.

8. How does the government address issues that arise at different levels (local, state, national)?

Hint: Think about an event in your community that required government response.



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

9. Describe the role of representatives in a democracy.

Hint: Consider who your representatives are and how they impact your community.

10. What is the significance of citizens' participation in governance?

Hint: Think of ways you or your peers can participate in governance.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

1. What is the meaning of ‘governance’? Discuss its significance in organizing society.

Solution: Governance refers to the process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented (or not implemented) in society. It is significant because it helps maintain order, ensures the welfare of citizens, and creates a structured environment for coexistence. For example, in a school, governance is seen in the rules set by teachers to ensure a conducive learning space. The principles of governance ensure that the rights and responsibilities of all individuals are respected, contributing to social harmony. This structured approach contributes to the wider stability and functionality of communities.

2. Why do we need a government? Explain its roles and responsibilities.

Solution: A government is necessary to create and enforce laws, maintain public order, protect citizens' rights, and provide essential services. The roles include legislating laws to regulate behavior, maintaining law and order through police forces, and providing public amenities like education and healthcare. For instance, without a government to enforce traffic rules, road safety would decline leading to chaos. The government also plays a vital role in representing the needs and interests of the people.

3. Define ‘democracy’. Why is it considered an important form of governance?

Solution: Democracy is a system of governance where power resides in the hands of the people, who elect representatives to make decisions on their behalf. It is important because it encourages participation, allows for peaceful transitions of power, and ensures accountability. An example of this is the right to vote, where citizens can influence laws and policies. Additionally, democracy protects individual freedoms and rights, contributing to a just society.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

4. Describe the three organs of government and their functions.

Solution: The three organs of government are the legislature, executive, and judiciary. The legislature, comprised of elected representatives, creates and amends laws. The executive, led by the president or prime minister, implements these laws to ensure effective governance. The judiciary interprets laws and administers justice through courts. For example, when a new law against cybercrime is passed, it is the legislature's role to create the law, while the executive is responsible for enforcing it, and the judiciary ensures that violations are punished fairly.

5. What is meant by 'separation of powers'? Why is it necessary in a democracy?

Solution: Separation of powers refers to dividing government responsibilities into distinct branches to limit any one branch from exercising the core functions of another. This is necessary to prevent abuse of power and to provide checks and balances within the system. For instance, if the legislature makes a law that the judiciary finds unconstitutional, it can nullify it. This prevents any branch from becoming too powerful and protects democratic governance.

6. Explain the concept of grassroots democracy and its importance.

Solution: Grassroots democracy is a form of democracy that emphasizes the role of the common people in governance. It allows citizens at the most local levels to participate directly in political decision-making. This is important as it empowers individuals, ensures representation of diverse views, and fosters community engagement in governance. For instance, local community boards often discuss and determine issues relevant to their neighborhoods, improving civic involvement.

7. Discuss how digital technologies have impacted governance in India.

Solution: Digital technologies have transformed governance in India by enhancing transparency, efficiency, and accessibility. Citizens can access government services online and participate in decision-making processes via e-governance platforms. For example, the use of digital payment systems maximizes efficiency and reduces corruption in public financial transactions. While these advancements processes, they also require new laws to address issues such as cybercrime.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

8. How does the government address issues that arise at different levels (local, state, national)?

Solution: The government operates at three levels: local, state, and national. Local governments address community-specific issues, such as local road repairs. State governments handle broader concerns, like education and health services across various districts. The national government deals with overarching issues affecting the entire country, like defense and foreign relations. For instance, in case of a flood, a local authority first reacts, but if it escalates, state and national support may be invoked.

9. Describe the role of representatives in a democracy.

Solution: In a democracy, representatives are elected to voice the interests and concerns of their constituents in the government. They participate in creating laws, discussing policies, and addressing issues that affect the public. For example, a Member of Parliament meets with voters to understand their needs and conveys that information in the legislature. This representation is crucial as it ensures that all citizens have a say in how they are governed, fostering inclusiveness and accountability.

10. What is the significance of citizens' participation in governance?

Solution: Citizen participation is fundamental in governance as it leads to more inclusive and representative decision-making. It strengthens democracy by ensuring that diverse perspectives are heard and respected in policy formation. For instance, public consultations allow citizens to express their views on proposed laws or projects. Active participation cultivates a sense of ownership among citizens regarding community issues, promoting accountability from leaders.



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