

Class X - Social Science

Democratic Politics

Political Parties

CBSE NOTES

Political Parties - Mastery 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. Explain the necessity of political parties in a democracy with reference to their functions.

Hint: Think about how political parties bridge the gap between the government and the citizens.

2. Compare and contrast the one-party system and the multi-party system with examples.

Hint: Focus on the number of parties, political competition, and representation of interests.



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

3. Discuss the challenges faced by political parties in India with examples.

Hint: Consider how these challenges affect the functioning and credibility of political parties.

4. Analyze the role of national and regional parties in Indian politics with examples.

Hint: Think about the geographical reach and policy focus of these parties.



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

5. Evaluate the impact of political parties on the democratic process in India.

Hint: Consider both the positive contributions and the challenges posed by political parties.

6. How do political parties shape public opinion? Provide examples.

Hint: Think about the tools and strategies parties use to influence public perception.



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

7. What are the reforms suggested to improve the functioning of political parties in India?

Hint: Consider how these reforms can address the current challenges faced by political parties.

8. Discuss the significance of the Election Commission's role in recognizing political parties.

Hint: Think about the criteria and benefits associated with recognition by the Election Commission.



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

9. How does the dynastic succession challenge affect political parties? Provide examples.

Hint: Consider how dynastic politics impacts party dynamics and public perception.

10. Explain the concept of 'defection' in Indian politics and its impact on the political system.

Hint: Think about the balance between preventing defections and allowing healthy dissent within parties.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

1. Explain the necessity of political parties in a democracy with reference to their functions.

Solution: Political parties are essential in a democracy as they perform several key functions: contesting elections, formulating policies, making laws, forming and running governments, playing the role of opposition, shaping public opinion, and providing access to government machinery. These functions ensure that democracy operates smoothly by representing diverse interests, facilitating governance, and ensuring accountability.

2. Compare and contrast the one-party system and the multi-party system with examples.

Solution: A one-party system, as seen in China, allows only one party to govern, limiting political competition and choices. In contrast, a multi-party system, like in India, allows multiple parties to compete, offering a variety of choices and representing diverse interests. While the one-party system ensures stability, it lacks democratic competition. The multi-party system promotes democracy but can lead to political instability due to coalition governments.

3. Discuss the challenges faced by political parties in India with examples.

Solution: Political parties in India face challenges such as lack of internal democracy, dynastic succession, the growing role of money and muscle power, and lack of meaningful choices for voters. For instance, the concentration of power in a few leaders and the nomination of family members in top positions undermine internal democracy. The influence of wealthy candidates and criminals in elections highlights the issue of money and muscle power.

4. Analyze the role of national and regional parties in Indian politics with examples.

Solution: National parties, like the BJP and INC, have a presence across India and influence national policies. Regional parties, such as the DMK and Shiv Sena, focus on state-specific issues and play a crucial role in forming coalition governments at the center. Both types of parties contribute to the federal structure of India by representing diverse interests at different levels.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

5. Evaluate the impact of political parties on the democratic process in India.

Solution: Political parties play a pivotal role in India's democracy by facilitating political participation, representing diverse interests, and ensuring governance. However, issues like corruption, lack of internal democracy, and the influence of money and muscle power can undermine the democratic process. Effective reforms and greater public participation are needed to enhance their positive impact.

6. How do political parties shape public opinion? Provide examples.

Solution: Political parties shape public opinion by raising and highlighting issues, launching movements, and mobilizing public support through campaigns and rallies. For example, the AAP's anti-corruption movement in 2011 significantly influenced public opinion against corruption. Parties also use media and public meetings to disseminate their views and policies.

7. What are the reforms suggested to improve the functioning of political parties in India?

Solution: Suggested reforms include regulating internal affairs of parties, ensuring transparency in funding, mandating a quota for women in party positions, and state funding of elections. These measures aim to enhance internal democracy, reduce corruption, and promote gender equality within parties.

8. Discuss the significance of the Election Commission's role in recognizing political parties.

Solution: The Election Commission recognizes political parties based on their electoral performance, ensuring a fair and transparent political process. Recognized parties receive benefits like a common symbol and airtime on public media, which helps in creating a level playing field. This recognition also lends credibility to parties and ensures their participation in the democratic process.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

9. How does the dynastic succession challenge affect political parties? Provide examples.

Solution: Dynastic succession leads to the concentration of power within a few families, undermining meritocracy and internal democracy. For example, the Gandhi family in the INC and the Thackeray family in Shiv Sena have dominated party leadership, limiting opportunities for other members. This practice can alienate ordinary workers and reduce the party's effectiveness.

10. Explain the concept of 'defection' in Indian politics and its impact on the political system.

Solution: Defection refers to elected representatives switching parties for personal gain, often leading to political instability. The Anti-Defection Law was introduced to curb this practice by disqualifying defectors. While this law has reduced defections, it has also stifled dissent within parties, as members fear losing their seats for opposing party leadership.



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