

Social Science

(Chapter – 1) (Democracy in the Contemporary World) (Democratic Politics – I)

Question 1:

Which of the following does not lead to the spread of democracy?

- (a) Struggle by the people
- (b) Invasion by foreign countries
- (c) End of colonialism
- (d) People's desire for freedom

Answer 1:

- (b) Invasion by foreign countries

Question 2:

Which of the following statement is true about today's world?

- (a) Monarchy as a form of government has vanished.
- (b) The relationship between different countries has become more democratic than ever before.
- (c) In more and more countries rulers are being elected by the people.
- (d) There are no more military dictators in the world.

Answer 2:

- (c) In more and more countries rulers are being elected by the people

Question 3:

Use one of the following statements to complete the sentence: Democracy in the international organisations requires that ...

- (a) The rich countries should have a greater say.
- (b) Countries should have a say according to their military power.
- (c) Countries should be treated with respect in proportion to their population.
- (d) All countries in the world should be treated equally.

Answer 3:

- (d) All countries in the world should be treated equally

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Question 4:

Based on the information given in this chapter, match the following countries and the path democracy has taken in that country.

Country	Path to democracy
(a) Chile	1. Freedom from British colonial rule
(b) Nepal	2. End of military dictatorship
(c) Poland	3. End of one party rule
(d) Ghana	4. King agreed to give up his powers

Answer 4:

(a) → 2, (b) → 4, (c) → 3, (d) → 1

Question 5:

What are the difficulties people face in a non-democratic country?

Answer 5:

People face various difficulties in a non-democratic country as we have seen in case of Chile, Myanmar, Ghana, Pakistan, Poland, Nepal etc.

In non-democratic countries, **the people have no security of life**. For example, in Chile thousands of people were killed by military rulers.

People are not free to express their opinions. Criticizing the government or rulers in a nondemocratic country would lead to severe punishments.

There is no freedom for the people either to elect their government or to be elected. Even if they find any government or ruler not to their benefit or well-being, they cannot change it since there is no election.

In non-democratic countries **no opposition parties or opposition leader is tolerated**. As we have seen in Poland during the regime of a non-democratic government, the workers are not allowed to form their independent Trade Unions. Only such unions can survive which rightly or wrongly support the policies of the government.

In absence of a democratic government **there is no socio-economic equality**. Societies in such countries remain divided among privileged and non-privileged classes which result in corruption in every department of the government. Ordinary people cannot aspire for any post. People are always at the mercy of the autocratic ruler or the dictator.

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Question 6:

Which freedoms are usually taken away when a democracy is overthrown by the military?

Answer 6:

Freedoms denied to the people when a democracy is overthrown by the military are so many.

In 1973, a military rule or a non-democratic government was established in Chile by General Augusto Pinochet while in Poland, there was a non-democratic government led by General Jeruzelski before 1989. We have seen people were denied many of their freedoms when they did not have democracies, for example:

The people had no 'right to freedom of speech' as was the case with the women of Calama in Chile.

The people had no 'right to form associations or trade unions' as was the case with the workers like a crane operator and an electrician in Poland.

In Poland thousands of Solidarity members were put in prison. Freedom to organize, protest and express opinions were taken away.

In Chile more than three thousand people were killed by the military. The life of the people was at the mercy of the ruler.

The people had no 'right to have free elections' as was the case in Poland before the dawn of democracy there.

It was because of the above reasons i.e. no freedom of expression, no freedom of forming their own Trade Unions, no right to have free elections, socio-economic inequality and lack of security of life that the people liked to have change in their dictatorial government.

Question 7:

Which of the following positions can contribute to democracy at the global level? Give reasons for your answer in each case.

(a) My country gives more money to international institutions. Therefore, I want to be treated with more respect and exercise more power.

(b) My country may be small or poor. But my voice must be heard with equal respect, because these decisions will affect my country.

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(c) Wealthy nations will have a greater say in international affairs. They cannot let their interests suffer just because they are outnumbered by poor nations.

(d) Big countries like India must have a greater say in international organisations.

Answer 7:

(a) If any country gives more money to international institutions and its citizens want more respect and more power, it would not contribute to democracy at the global level. Every country and its citizens enjoy equal status whether it is a poor or a rich country. **Equality is the basic principle of democracy.**

(b) If any country is small or poor but its citizens are treated equally and their voice is heard with equal respect **it will promote to equality and freedom of expression.** If this is done at the global level, then this will definitely contribute to democracy at the global level. Because of these two facts we can say that the (b) position is nearer to democracy.

(c) The third position would also not lead to democracy at the global level because **there should be no distinction between the rich nations and the poor nations.** Otherwise it will not help in bringing socio-economic equality which is one of the important aspects of democracy. At the global level all the countries, whether poor or rich, should be treated at par with each other.

(d) The last (d) position would also not contribute democracy at the global level because **the sizes or the geographical area of a country should not be a condition of superiority.** However, in my opinion in international organizations like UN, General Assembly should become like a world parliament with representatives from each country in proportion to the population of the country further study

Social Science

(Chapter – 2) (What is Democracy? Why is Democracy?) (Democratic Politics – I)

Question 1:

Here is some information about four countries. Based on this information, how would you classify each of these countries. Write 'democratic', 'undemocratic' or 'not sure' against each of these.

(a) Country A: People who do not accept the country's official religion do not have a right to vote

Answer: Undemocratic

(b) Country B: The same party has been winning elections for the last twenty years

Answer: Not sure

(c) Country C: Ruling party has lost in the last three elections

Answer: Democratic

(d) Country D: There is no independent election commission

Answer: Undemocratic

Question 2:

Here is some information about four countries. Based on this information, how would you classify each of these countries. Write 'democratic', 'undemocratic' or 'not sure' against each of these.

(a) Country P: The parliament cannot pass a law about the army without the consent of the Chief of Army

Answer: Undemocratic

(b) Country Q: The parliament cannot pass a law reducing the powers of the judiciary

Answer: Undemocratic

(c) Country R: The country's leaders cannot sign any treaty with another country without taking permission from its neighbouring country.

Answer: Not sure

(d) Country S: All the major economic decisions about the country are taken by officials of the central bank which the ministers cannot change.

Answer: Not sure

Social Science

(Chapter – 2) (What is Democracy? Why is Democracy?)

(Democratic Politics – I)

Question 3:

Which of these is not a good argument in favour of democracy? Why?

- (a) People feel free and equal in a democracy
- (b) Democracies resolve conflict in a better way than others
- (c) Democratic government is more accountable to the people
- (d) Democracies are more prosperous than others

Answer: Economic prosperity depends on many factors; like availability of natural resources, quality of human resources, finance, geopolitical scenario, etc. A particular form of government is some role to play, so it cannot be seen as a good argument in favour of democracy.

Question 4:

Each of these statements contains a democratic and an undemocratic element. Write out the two separately for each statement.

(a) A minister said that some laws have to be passed by the parliament in order to conform to the regulations decided by the World Trade Organisation.

Answer: The fact that the laws need to be passed by the parliament is democratic, while conformation to the WTO regulations is undemocratic.

(b) The Election Commission ordered re-polling in a constituency where large scale rigging was reported.

Answer: Re-polling is democratic, while rigging is undemocratic.

(c) Women's representation in the parliament has never reached 10 per cent. This led women's organisations to demand one-third seats for women.

Answer: Poor level of women's representation is undemocratic, while the demand for one-third seats is democratic.

Question 5:

Which of these is not a valid reason for arguing that there is a lesser possibility of famine in a democratic country?

- (a) Opposition parties can draw attention to hunger and starvation.
- (b) Free press can report suffering from famine in different parts of the country.
- (c) Government fears its defeat in the next elections.
- (d) People are free to believe in and practise any religion.

Answer: (d) People are free to believe in and practise any religion.

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(Chapter – 2) (What is Democracy? Why is Democracy?) (Democratic Politics – I)

Question 6:

There are 40 villages in a district where the government has made no provision for drinking water. These villagers met and considered many methods of forcing the government to respond to their need. Which of these is not a democratic method?

- (a) Filing a case in the courts claiming that water is part of right to life.
- (b) Boycotting the next elections to give a message to all parties.
- (c) Organising public meetings against government's policies.
- (d) Paying money to government officials to get water.

Answer: (d) Paying money to government officials to get water.

Question 7:

Write a response to the following arguments against democracy:

(a) Army is the most disciplined and corruption-free organisation in the country. Therefore army should rule the country.

Answer: Army officers are not elected by people and hence an army rule would be undemocratic.

(b) Rule of the majority means the rule of ignorant people. What we need is the rule of the wise, even if they are in small numbers.

Answer: Democracy is based on the idea of universal adult franchise. Restricting the rulers from a small section comprising of 'wise' people would defeat the purpose of representational democracy.

(c) If we want religious leaders to guide us in spiritual matters, why not invite them to guide us in politics as well. The country should be ruled by religious leaders.

Answer: Religious leaders are not elected by people and hence a country should not be ruled by religious leaders.

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(Chapter – 2) (What is Democracy? Why is Democracy?) (Democratic Politics – I)

Question 8:

Are the following statements in keeping with democracy as a value? Why?

(a) Father to daughter: I don't want to hear your opinion about your marriage. In our family children marry where the parents tell them to.

Answer: In this case, the daughter does not have the freedom of choice, hence this is undemocratic.

(b) Teacher to student: Don't disturb my concentration by asking me questions in the classroom.

Answer: The teacher may be involved in thinking about an important topic and hence is asking the student not to disturb her. It cannot be said with surety whether the teacher's request is democratic or not.

(c) Employee to the officer: Our working hours must be reduced according to the law.

Answer: The employee is asking for a fundamental right and hence it is democratic.

Question 9:

Consider the following facts about a country and decide if you would call it a democracy. Give reasons to support your decision.

(a) All the citizens of the country have right to vote. Elections are held regularly.

Answer: Regular elections and universal adult franchise are two important features of a democracy and hence this is a democratic situation.

(b) The country took loan from international agencies. One of the conditions for giving loan was that the government would reduce its expenses on education and health.

Answer: An international agency should not interfere in the internal matters of a country. Hence this is undemocratic.

(c) People speak more than seven languages but education is available only in one language, the language spoken by 52 percent people of that country.

Answer: This is an example where majority view is being imposed and hence is undemocratic.

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(d) Several organisations have given a call for peaceful demonstrations and nationwide strikes in the country to oppose these policies. Government has arrested these leaders.

Answer: Democratic government should provide the right to protest. The government is denying such right to its citizens and hence is undemocratic.

(e) The government owns the radio and television in the country. All the newspapers have to get permission from the government to publish any news about government's policies and protests.

Answer: Freedom of media is very important for a democracy. This is an undemocratic example.



Social Science

(Chapter – 3) (Constitutional Design) (Democratic Politics – I)

Question 1:

Here are some false statements. Identify the mistake in each case and rewrite these correctly based on what you have read in this chapter.

(a) Leaders of the freedom movement had an open mind about whether the country should be democratic or not after independence.

Answer: This is a true statement.

(b) Members of the Constituent Assembly of India held the same views on all provisions of the Constitution.

Answer: Members of the Constituent Assembly of India had different opinions on various provisions of the constitution.

(c) A country that has a constitution must be a democracy.

Answer: This cannot be said with surety; in the context of information given in this chapter.

(d) Constitution cannot be amended because it is the supreme law of a country.

Answer: Constitution can be amended to keep up with the changes in aspirations of the society.

Question 2:

Which of these was the most salient underlying conflict in the making of a democratic constitution in South Africa?

- (a) Between South Africa and its neighbours
- (b) Between men and women
- (c) Between the white majority and the black minority
- (d) Between the coloured minority and the black majority

Answer:

- (d) Between the coloured minority and the black majority

Social Science

(Chapter – 3) (Constitutional Design) (Democratic Politics – I)

Question 3:

Which of these is a provision that a democratic constitution does not have?

- (a) Powers of the head of the state
- (b) Name of the head of the state
- (c) Powers of the legislature
- (d) Name of the country

Answer:

- (b) Name of the head of the state

Question 4:

Match the following leaders with their roles in the making of the Constitution:

Column I	Column II
(a) Motilal Nehru	1. President of the Constituent Assembly
(b) B R Ambedkar	2. Member of the Constituent Assembly
(c) Rajendra Prasad	3. Chairman of the Drafting Committee
(d) Sarojini Naidu	4. Prepared a Constitution for India in 1928

Answer: (a) - 4, (b) - 3, (c) - 1, (d) - 2

Question 5:

Read again the extracts from Nehru's speech 'Tryst with Destiny' and answer the following:

- (a) Why did Nehru use the expression "not wholly or in full measure" in the first sentence?

Answer: The task of building a nation is a gargantuan task which cannot be fulfilled in one's lifetime. Hence Nehru had used the expression, "not wholly or in full measure, but substantially".

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(b) What pledge did he want the makers of the Indian Constitution to take?

Answer: He wanted them to take the pledge of building a nation in which there would not be a single person with tears in his eyes. He wanted them to understand the huge responsibility which destiny had thrust upon them.

(c) “The ambition of the greatest man of our generation has been to wipe every tear from every eye”. Who was he referring to?

Answer: He was referring to Mahatma Gandhi.

Question 6:

Here are some of the guiding values of the Constitution and their meaning. Rewrite them by matching them correctly.

Column I	Column II
(a) Sovereign	1. Government will not favour any religion
(b) Republic	2. People have the supreme right to make decisions.
(c) Fraternity	3. Head of the state is an elected person.
(d) Secular	4. People should live like brothers and sisters.

Answer 6: (a) - 2, (b) - 3, (c) - 4, (d) - 1

Question 7:

A friend from Nepal has written you a letter describing the political exercises situation there. Many political parties are opposing the rule of the king. Some of them say that the existing constitution given by the monarch can be amended to allow more powers to elected representatives. Others are demanding a new Constituent Assembly to write a republican constitution. Reply to your friend giving your opinions on the subject.

Answer 7: Both the options are plausible. If the existing constitution is proper then it can be amended to include more powers to elected representatives. If the existing constitution is full of loopholes, then a new constitution should be drafted. For this, a Constituent Assembly should be formed by including the elected representatives and they should collectively decide about a particular option.

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(Chapter – 3) (Constitutional Design) (Democratic Politics – I)

Question 8:

Here are different opinions about what made India a democracy. How much importance would you give to each of these factors?

(a) Democracy in India is a gift of the British rulers. We received training to work with representative legislative institutions under the British rule.

Answer: The importance of this fact cannot be ignored. We should acknowledge that we learnt many good things from the British rulers and democracy was one of them.

(b) Freedom Struggle challenged the colonial exploitation and denial of different freedoms to Indians. Free India could not be anything but democratic.

Answer: Freedom struggle was important in spreading the idea of nationalism in India and inculcating the practice of making decisions by consensus.

(c) We were lucky to have leaders who had democratic convictions. The denial of democracy in several other newly independent countries shows the important role of these leaders.

Answer: We were indeed lucky that we did not have leaders who were autocratic. India's freedom struggle is the only example of a bloodless freedom struggle in the contemporary history. This could be possible because our nationalist leaders had the maturity to listen to others' views.

Question 9:

Read the following extract from a conduct book for 'married women', published in 1912. 'God has made the female species delicate and fragile both physically and emotionally, pitifully incapable of self-defence. They are destined thus by God to remain in male protection – of father, husband and son – all their lives. Women should, therefore, not despair, but feel obliged that they can dedicate themselves to the service of men'. Do you think the values expressed in this para reflected the values underlying our constitution? Or does this go against the constitutional values?

Answer 9: The constitution treats every citizen equally irrespective of gender distinction. Hence this paragraph does not reflect the underlying value in our constitution.

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(Chapter – 3) (Constitutional Design)
(Democratic Politics – I)

Question 10:

Read the following statements about a constitution. Give reasons why each of these is true or not true.

- (a) The authority of the rules of the constitution is the same as that of any other law.
- (b) Constitution lays down how different organs of the government will be formed.
- (c) Rights of citizens and limits on the power of the government are laid down in the constitution.
- (d) A constitution is about institutions, not about values.

Answer 10:

- (a) This is not a true statement since the authority of the rules of the Constitution is much more than that of any other law.
- (b) No, it is not correct because our Constitution lays down how different organs of the Government will be formed.
- (c) This is a correct statement since in our Constitution rights of citizens and limits on the power of the government have been clearly laid down.
- (d) A constitution is about institutions through which different values are being inculcated.

Social Science

(Chapter – 4) (Electoral Politics) (Democratic Politics – I)

Question 1:

Which of the following sentiments about the reason for conducting elections are false?

- a. Elections enable people to judge the performance of the government.
- b. People select the representative of their choice in an election.
- c. Elections enable people to evaluate the performance of the judiciary
- d. People can indicate which policies they prefer.

Answer 1: (c) Elections enable people to evaluate the performance of the judiciary

Question 2:

Which of these is not a good reason to say that Indian elections are democratic?

- a. India has the largest numbers of voters in the world.
- b. India's election commission is very powerful.
- c. In India, everyone above the age of 18 has a right to vote.
- d. In India, the losing parties accept the electoral verdict.

Answer 2: (a) India has the largest numbers of voters in the world.

Question 3:

a It is necessary to keep the voters list up to date because	i there is a fair representation of all sections of our society
b Some constituencies are reserved for SCs and STs so that	ii everyone has equal opportunity to elect their representative
c Everyone has one and only one vote so that	iii all candidates must have a fair chance of competing in elections
d Party in power is not allowed to use government vehicles because	iv some people may have moved away from the area where they voted last

Answer 3: (a) iv

(b) i

(c) ii

(d) iii.

Social Science

(Chapter – 4) (Electoral Politics) (Democratic Politics – I)

Question 4:

List all the different election related activities mentioned in the chapter and arrange them in a time sequence, beginning with the first activity and ending with the last. Some of these activities are given below:

Releasing election manifestos, Counting of votes, Making of voters' list, Election campaign, Declaration of election results, Casting of votes, Ordering of re-poll, Announcing election schedule, Filing nomination.

Answer 4: Different election related activities:

- a) Making of voters' list
- b) Announcing election schedule
- c) Filing nomination
- d) Election campaign
- e) Releasing election manifestos
- f) Casting of votes
- g) Counting of votes
- h) Declaration of election results
- i) Ordering of re-poll

Question 5:

Surekha is an officer-in-charge of ensuring free and fair elections in an assembly constituency in a state. Describe what she should focus on for each of the following stages of election:

- a. Election campaign
- b. Polling day
- c. Counting day.

Answer 5:

a. Election campaign – During election campaign, the different political parties hold their meetings, take out their rallies, distribute their manifestos, display their posters and do door-to-door canvassing. Surekha as an officer-in-charge should see that the meetings are held within the stipulated time, there are no clashes during the rallies, no party is violating code of conducts for elections such as, wall-postering, character assassination of the opponents etc.

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(Chapter – 4) (Electoral Politics) (Democratic Politics – I)

b. Polling day – On the polling day, the voters go to their nearest polling booths to cast their votes. On this day she has to see that:

- The polling is done in a peaceful atmosphere.
- No bogus voter casts the vote.
- There is police arrangement in every booth.
- No unsocial element enters any booth.
- There is no booth capturing or rigging.
- The ballot boxes or electronic machines reach counting center safely.

c. Counting day – On the counting day the agents of almost every candidate take their seats inside the counting center. Surekha as an officer-in-charge has to take care of the following:

- ✓ There is a proper seating arrangement for the agents of different candidates.
- ✓ Proper police arrangement is there to ward off any undue incident.
- ✓ Counting of votes is carried peacefully without any outside interference and to the full satisfaction of all the candidates.
- ✓ Rejoicing should be peaceful and un-provocative.

Question 6:

The table below gives the proportion of different communities among the candidates who won elections to the US Congress. Compare these to the proportion of these communities in the population of the US. Based on this would you suggest a system of reservations in the US

	Proportion of the community (in per cent) in the	
	House of representatives	Population of US
Blacks	8	13
Hispanics	5	13
Whites	86	70

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Answer 6:

1. The Blacks have lesser number of seats i.e. 8, in the House of Representatives as compared to their population (13%) so a system of reservation should be there for them in US Congress.
2. In case of Hispanics, the need of reservation is somewhat more as the number of their members in the House of Representatives is far less (5) as compared to their population (13%).
3. There is no need of reservation for the Whites as they have already more seats (86) in the House of Representatives as compared to their population (70%).

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(Chapter – 4) (Electoral Politics) (Democratic Politics – I)

Question 7:

Can we draw the following conclusions from the information given in this chapter? Give two facts to support your position for each of these.

- a. Election Commission of India does not have enough powers to conduct free and fair elections in the country.
- b. There is a high level of popular participation in the elections in our country.
- c. It is very easy for the party in power to win an election.
- d. Many reforms are needed to make our elections completely free and fair.

Answer 7:

(a) It is wrong to say that election commission of India does not have enough powers to conduct free and fair elections. Because Election Commission of India have enough powers to conduct free and fair elections in the country. The Election Commission of India is an independent and powerful body.

Firstly, the Election Commissioner of India is appointed by the President or Government of India. He can not be removed. Secondly, the can order Election Commissioner can order the Government to follow certain guidelines. Thirdly, if he feels that the elections have not been conducted fairly, he can order repoll in certain booths or even in the entire constituency. Fourthly, during election duty, other Government servants work under the control of Election Commissioner.

(b) It is a fact that there is a high level of popular participation in the elections in our country. During the last 50 years or so, the turn out of voters in the North America and Europe has declined while in India it has either remained stable or increased. It has been found that in our country the poor, the illiterate and the unprivileged people vote in larger proportion as compared to the rich and the privileged classes.

(c) It is quite a wrong notion that party in power can win an election quite easily in India. If such a thing would have been true, the Congress stalwart like Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, would not have been defeated by Raj Narain, an ordinary politician. There are many occasions when the ruling party has lost elections in India.

(d) There is no system as such where can not be a reform and improvement. Reforms are required to prevent use of money, muscle power, and unfair practices from bearing fruit.

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(Chapter – 4) (Electoral Politics) (Democratic Politics – I)

Question 8:

Chinappa was convicted for torturing his wife for dowry. Satbir was held guilty of practicing untouchability. The court did not allow either of them to contest elections. Does this decision go against the principles of democratic elections?

Answer 8:

In both the cases, Chinappa and Satbir, the court has done the right thing by not allowing either of them to contest elections. This decision does not go against the principle of democratic elections. The convicted and the guilty persons should not be allowed to contest elections otherwise they would criminalize the whole election process and that jeopardize the high principles of democracy.

Question 9:

Here are some reports of electoral malpractices from different parts of the world. Is there anything that these countries can learn from India to improve their elections? What would you suggest in each case?

- (a) During an election in Nigeria, the officer-in-charge of counting votes deliberately increased the votes of one candidate and declared him elected. The court later found out that more than 5 lakh votes cast for one candidate were counted in favour of another.
- (b) Just before the elections in Fiji, a pamphlet was distributed warning voters that a vote for former Prime Minister, Mahendra Chaudhry will lead to bloodshed. This was a threat to voters of Indian origin.
- (c) In the US, each state has its own method of voting, its own procedure of counting and its own authority for conducting elections. Authorities in the state of Florida took many controversial decisions that favoured Mr. Bush in the Presidential elections in 2000. But no one could change those decisions.

Answer 9:

- (a) The officer-in-charge during elections (counting) should have been impartial and should have ordered repoll. For voting there should be electronic machines so that no fraud could be done in counting. In the event of non-availability of electronic machines, the votes should be counted in presence of representatives of different candidates or political parties. Nigeria can learn this lesson from India.

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(b) Such a thing is quite wrong against the spirit of a free and fair election. Firstly, the voters should never be threatened to cast their vote against their conscience. Secondly, if at all, any pamphlet was to be distributed then it should have been done at least 48 hours before the date of election as done in India. So Fiji can learn these lessons from India – not to intimidate the voters and even if such a thing happens, then the election can be postponed or cancelled.

(c) In India, one and uniform rules are followed in all states as far as the method of voting, procedure of counting are concerned. Different rules, different authorities, and different procedures of counting lead to the ambiguity and vagueness and take away the sense of justice, which is one of the main principles of democracy. US can take some good points and lessons from India how to follow same rules, procedures etc. in all states and across the country.

Question 10:

Here are some reports of malpractices in Indian elections. Identify what the problem in each case is. What should be done to correct the situation?

- (a) Following the announcement of elections the minister promised to provide financial aid to reopen the closed sugar mill.
- (b) Opposition parties alleged that their statements and campaign was not given the due attention in Doordarshan and All India Radio.
- (c) An inquiry by the Election Commission showed that electoral rolls of a state contain names of 20 lakh fake voters.
- (d) The hoodlums of a political party were moving with guns, physically preventing supporters of other political parties to meet the voters and attacking meetings of other parties.

Answer 10:

(a) By doing so, the minister has erred on two counts. Firstly, he should not have made this promise when the announcement of elections has already been made. Secondly, by promising financial aid he is trying to bribe the voters by using financial tricks. He is trying to take advantage of his party being in power. This mill should not be opened and it should be left to the winning party to decide after the elections.

(b) In order to remove this allegation of the opposition parties, the best solution is that Doordarshan and All India Radio must be made autonomous bodies so that government could not influence them in its favour. Equal time should be given to all parties and candidates to present their views in front of the voters.

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(c) The Election Commission has the power to remaking of the electoral rolls and to see that the names of 20 lakh fake voters are removed from the new electoral rolls.

(d) The Election Commission has the power to check this malpractice of moving with guns, physically preventing supporters of other political parties to meet the voters and attacking meetings of other parties. It can withdraw the recognition of any party or disqualify such a candidate from contesting elections if its supporters are found to be moving with weapons.

Question 11:

Ramesh was not in class when this chapter was being taught. He came the next day and reported what he had heard from his father. Can you tell Ramesh what is wrong with these statements?

(a) Women always vote the way men tell them. So what is the point of giving them the right to vote?

(b) Party politics creates tension in society. Elections should be decided by consensus not by competition.

(c) Only graduates should be allowed to stand as candidates for elections.

Answer 11:

(a) Women always vote the way men tell them to do is a wrong statement. It would be totally undemocratic if we debar women who are about 50 per cent of the population, of their right to vote on the basis of gender distinction. It will also take away the quality of true representation of a democracy. Often we see husband contesting election from one party while his wife contesting from another party.

(b) A healthy competition provides option to the people to choose the better. A consensus can make the people deaf and dumb which against the spirit of democracy. Electoral competition is necessary because it provides incentives to political parties and leaders and forces them to serve the people better.

(c) Educational qualifications are not necessary to all kinds of jobs. It is also a wrong notion that only graduates should be allowed to contest elections. A majority of people who fought for the independence of the country were almost illiterate. They have equal right with those of the educated to enjoy the fruit of the hard won independence. It is also agreed that if a graduate degree is made an eligibility criteria, then more than 90% of the voters would become ineligible for contesting an election. Would that be a democracy, certainly not. India follows the rule – ‘One person one vote’. This is in true spirit of democracy.

Social Science

(Chapter – 5) (Working of Institutions)
(Democratic Politics – I)

Question 1:

If you are elected as the President of India which of the following decision can you take on your own?

- (a) Select the person you like as Prime Minister.
- (b) Dismiss a Prime Minister who has a majority in Lok Sabha.
- (c) Ask for reconsideration of a bill passed by both the Houses.
- (d) Nominate the leaders of your choice to the Council of Ministers.

Answer 1:

- (c) Ask for reconsideration of a bill passed by both the Houses.

Question 2:

Who among the following is a part of the political executive?

- (a) District Collector
- (b) Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs
- (c) Home Minister
- (d) Director General of Police

Answer 2:

- (c) Home Minister

Question 3:

Which of the following statements about the judiciary is false?

- (a) Every law passed by the Parliament needs approval of the Supreme Court
- (b) Judiciary can strike down a law if it goes against the spirit of the Constitution
- (c) Judiciary is independent of the Executive
- (d) Any citizen can approach the courts if her rights are violated

Answer 3:

- (a) Every law passed by the Parliament needs approval of the Supreme Court

Social Science

(Chapter – 5) (Working of Institutions)
(Democratic Politics – I)

Question 4:

Which of the following institutions can make changes to an existing law of the country?

- (a) The Supreme Court
- (b) The President"
- (c) The Prime Minister
- (d) The Parliament

Answer 4:

- (d) The Parliament

Question 5:

Match the ministry with the news that the ministry may have released: exercises

Column I	Column II
(a) A new policy is being made to increase the jute exports from the country.	1. Ministry of Defence
(b) Telephone services will be made more accessible to rural areas.	2. Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Public Distribution
(c) The price of rice and wheat sold under the Public Distribution System will go down	3. Ministry of Health
(d) A pulse polio campaign will be launched.	4. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
(e) The allowances of the soldiers posted on high altitudes will be increased.	5. Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

Answer 5:

- (a) - 4, (b) - 5, (c) - 2, (d) - 3, (e) - 1

Social Science

(Chapter – 5) (Working of Institutions)
(Democratic Politics – I)

Question 6:

Of all the institutions that we have studied in this chapter, name the one that exercises the powers on each of the following matters.

- (a) Decision on allocation of money for developing infrastructure like roads, irrigation etc. and different welfare activities for the citizens
- (b) Considers the recommendation of a Committee on a law to regulate the stock exchange
- (c) Decides on a legal dispute between two state governments
- (d) Implements the decision to provide relief for the victims of an earthquake.

Answer 6:

- (a) Cabinet
- (b) Parliament
- (c) Supreme Court
- (d) Permanent Executive

Question 7:

Why is the Prime Minister in India not directly elected by the people? Choose the most appropriate answer and give reasons for your choice.

- (a) In a Parliamentary democracy only the leader of the majority party in the Lok Sabha can become the Prime Minister.
- (b) Lok Sabha can remove the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers even before the expiry of their term.
- (c) Since the Prime Minister is appointed by the President there is no need for it.
- (d) Direct election of the Prime Minister will involve lot of expenditure on election.

Answer 7:

- (a) In a Parliamentary democracy only the leader of the majority party in the Lok Sabha can become the Prime Minister.

Social Science

(Chapter – 5) (Working of Institutions)

(Democratic Politics – I)

Question 8:

Three friends went to watch a film that showed the hero becoming Chief Minister for a day and making big changes in the state. Imran said this is what the country needs. Rizwan said this kind of a personal rule without institutions is dangerous. Shankar said all this is a fantasy. No minister can do anything in one day. What would be your reaction to such a film?

Answer 8:

While it may look quite appealing in a movie; the real life is strikingly different. Governance in a democracy is all about taking everyone along with you. Moreover, in a large and diverse country like India, it is not possible to take decision on the whims of an individual. Implementation of a decision needs to coordination among various organs of the government and a minister is just a part of that system.

Question 9:

A teacher was making preparations for a mock parliament. She called two students to act as leaders of two political parties. She gave them an option: Each one could choose to have a majority either in the mock Lok Sabha or in the mock Rajya Sabha. If this choice was given to you, which one would you choose and why?

Answer 9:

I would choose to have a majority in the Lok Sabha. The leader of the Lok Sabha is directly answerable to the public and hence it can be quite challenging for him.

Social Science

(Chapter – 5) (Working of Institutions)
(Democratic Politics – I)

Question 10:

After reading the example of the reservation order, three students had different reactions about the role of the judiciary. Which view, according to you, is a correct reading of the role of judiciary?

- (a) Srinivas argues that since the Supreme Court agreed with the government, it is not independent.
- (b) Anjaiah says that judiciary is independent because it could have given a verdict against the government order. The Supreme Court did direct the government to modify it.
- (c) Vijaya thinks that the judiciary is neither independent nor conformist, but acts as a mediator between opposing parties. The court struck a good balance between those who supported and those who opposed the order.

Answer 10:

- (c) Judiciary is independent because it could have given a verdict against the government order. The Supreme Court did direct the government to modify it.

Social Science

(Chapter – 6) (Democratic Rights)
(Democratic Politics – I)

Question 1:

Which of the following is not an instance of an exercise of a fundamental right?

- (a) Workers from Bihar go to the Punjab to work on the farms
- (b) Christian missions set up a chain of missionary schools
- (c) Men and women government employees get the same salary
- (d) Parents' property is inherited by their children

Answer 1:

- (d) Parents' property is inherited by their children

Question 2:

Which of the following freedoms is not available to an Indian citizen?

- (a) Freedom to criticise the government
- (b) Freedom to participate in armed revolution
- (c) Freedom to start a movement to change the government
- (d) Freedom to oppose the central values of the Constitution

Answer 2:

- (b) Freedom to participate in armed revolution

Question 3:

Which of the following rights is available under the Indian Constitution?

- (a) Right to work
- (b) Right to adequate livelihood
- (c) Right to protect one's culture
- (d) Right to privacy

Answer 3:

- (c) Right to protect one's culture

Question 4:

Name the Fundamental Right under which each of the following rights falls:

- (a) Freedom to propagate one's religion
- (b) Right to life
- (c) Abolition of untouchability
- (d) Ban on bonded labour

Social Science

(Chapter – 6) (Democratic Rights)
(Democratic Politics – I)

Answer 4:

- (a) Right to freedom of religion
- (b) Right to freedom
- (c) Right to equality
- (d) Right to freedom

Question 5:

Which of these statements about the relationship between democracy and rights is more valid? Give reasons for your preference.

- (a) Every country that is a democracy gives rights to its citizens.
- (b) Every country that gives rights to its citizens is a democracy.
- (c) Giving rights is good, but it is not necessary for a democracy.

Answer 5:

- (a) Every country that is a democracy gives rights to its citizens

Question 6:

Are these restrictions on the right to freedom justified? Give reasons for your answer.

- (a) Indian citizens need permission to visit some border areas of the country for reasons of security.
- (b) Outsiders are not allowed to buy property in some areas to protect the interest of the local population.
- (c) The government bans the publication of a book that can go against the ruling party in the next elections.

Answer 6:

- (a) Country's security is more important than the right to freedom of a citizen, hence this restriction is justified.
- (b) Some areas may be culturally or ecologically vulnerable and hence outsiders are not allowed to buy property in such areas. This restriction is also justified.
- (c) This restriction is not justified because we have the freedom of expression.

Social Science

(Chapter – 6) (Democratic Rights)
(Democratic Politics – I)

Question 7:

Manoj went to a college to apply for admission into an MBA course. The clerk refused to take his application and said “You, the son of a sweeper, wish to be a manager! Has anyone done this job in your community? Go to the municipality office and apply for a sweeper’s position”. Which of Manoj’s fundamental rights are being violated in this instance? Spell these out in a letter from Manoj to the district collector.

Answer 7:

The following rights are being violated.

- ✓ **Right to Equality:** Everyone is equal in the eyes of the law. No one can be denied admissions on grounds of birth. The person is practicing “untouchability” in an indirect way, and this is an offence in the eyes of law. His right to opportunity is also being violated.
- ✓ **Right to Freedom:** Manoj has a right to apply for any job anywhere as long as he is citizen of country.

These two points should be pointed out in your letter to the District Collector.

Question 8:

When Madhurima went to the property registration office, the exercises Registrar told her, “You can’t write your name as Madhurima Banerjee d/o A. K. Banerjee. You are married, so you must give your husband’s name. Your husband’s surname is Rao. So your name should be changed to Madhurima Rao.” She did not agree. She said “If my husband’s name has not changed after marriage, why should mine?” In your opinion who is right in this dispute? And why?

Answer 8:

There is no law which states that a woman can own property in her married name only. The constitution gives equal right to both men and women. So if Madhurima wants to give her maiden name, though married, she has the right to do so. The Registrar is being traditional.

Social Science

(Chapter – 6) (Democratic Rights)
(Democratic Politics – I)

Question 9:

Thousands of tribals and other forest dwellers gathered at Piparia in Hoshangabad district in Madhya Pradesh to protest against their proposed displacement from the Satpura National Park, Bori Wildlife Sanctuary and Panchmarhi Wildlife Sanctuary. They argue that such a displacement is an attack on their livelihood and beliefs. Government claims that their displacement is essential for the development of the area and for protection of wildlife. Write a petition on behalf of the forest dwellers to the NHRC, a response from the government and a report of the NHRC on this matter.

Answer 9:

Letter from Tribals to NHRC

- Government's proposal is a violation of human rights.
- It is taking away their right to live, right to follow their beliefs.
- For centuries the forests have been their means of livelihood.
- They have practised their rituals here.
- No alternative has been suggested to them.
- Nothing has happened to the wildlife, so why this sudden interest?
- Displacement would cause untold misery to them, their families, children and their future.

Response from the Government

- The government had given a warning to the people two years ago.
- There has been an alarming rise in poaching, cutting of trees and killing of wildlife.
- Environmental pollution has also increased.
- It is the government's duty to protect the endangered species.
- The government has offered compensation and promised rehabilitation in alternative places.
- Offered jobs to the men.

NHRC's Report

- ✓ Both sides have a point.
- ✓ The Tribals have tradition, practice and decades of residence behind them. It is their world and life.

Social Science

(Chapter – 6) (Democratic Rights)

(Democratic Politics – I)

- ✓ Sudden uprooting will leave them emotionally disturbed, turn them into vagabonds and force them into jobs or occupations which they have never followed.
- ✓ The Government is right in its concern for wildlife. It is its duty to save certain species from becoming extinct. Poachers are having a field day, and every day the environment is threatened.

Suggestions: Transfer should be slow, not sudden. First, shelter and occupation should be provided to all the people. Education should be the primary concern. Only through education can the younger generation take to the new environment and occupation. Not one family should be rendered homeless and without means of occupation.

Question 10:

Draw a web interconnecting different rights discussed in this chapter. For example right to freedom of movement is connected to the freedom of occupation. One reason for this is that freedom of movement enables a person to go to place of work within one's village or city or to another village, city or state. Similarly this right can be used for pilgrimage, connected with freedom to follow one's religion. Draw a circle for each right and mark arrows that show connection between or among different rights. For each arrow, give an example that shows the linkage.

Answer 10:

It is student's activity, so students are advised to do yourself.