

CIVICS

1

FORMS OF GOVERNMENT AND DEMOCRACY

I. CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

1. **A system of government in which one person reigns supreme, usually a king or queen, is called**
a) autocracy b) Monarchy c) Democracy d) Republic **Ans: (b)**
2. **A system of government with absolute power is**
a) Aristocracy b) Theocracy c) Democracy d) Autocracy **Ans: (d)**
3. **Former Soviet Union is an example for**
a) Aristocracy b) Theocracy c) Oligarchy d) Republic **Ans: (c)**
4. **Select the odd one**
a) India b) USA c) France d) Vatican **Ans: (d)**
5. **Abraham Lincoln was the President of the**
a) USA b) UK c) USSR d) India **Ans: (a)**
6. **Kudavolai system was followed by**
a) Cheras b) Pandyas c) Cholas d) Kalabhras **Ans: (c)**
7. **Direct Democracy in olden times existed**
a) In the republics of ancient India b) Among the USA
c) In the city-state of ancient Athens d) Among the UK **Ans: (c)**
8. **From which language was the term "Democracy" derived?**
a) Greek b) Latin c) Persian d) Arabic **Ans: (a)**
9. **In democracy, the final authority rests with**
a) The Parliament b) The People
c) The council of Ministers d) The President **Ans: (b)**
10. **Which one of the country has Presidential form of government?**
a) India b) Britain c) Canada d) USA **Ans: (d)**
11. **The largest democratic country in the world is**
a) Canada b) India c) USA d) China **Ans: (b)**
12. **Assertion (A) : Direct democracy is practised in Switzerland.**
Reason (R) : People directly participate in decision making.
a) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) explains (A)
b) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) does not explain (A)

- c) (A) is correct and (R) is false
d) (A) is false and (R) is true

Ans: (a)

**13. Assertion (A) : India has parliamentary form of democracy.
Reason (R) : Indian parliament comprises two houses.**

- a) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) explains (A)
b) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) does not explain (A)
c) (A) is correct and (R) is false
d) (A) is false and (R) is true

Ans: (b)

14. The meaning of Franchise is

- a) Right to elect
b) Right to vote for the poor
c) Right to vote
d) Right to vote for the rich

Ans: (c)

15. The grant of universal franchise creates

- a) Social equality
b) Economic equality
c) Political equality
d) Legal equality

Ans: (c)

16. Prime Minister of India is appointed by

- a) Lok Sabha
b) Rajya Sabha
c) Speaker
d) President

Ans: (d)

17. The President of India can nominate

- a) 12 members to Lok Sabha
b) 2 members of Rajya Sabha
c) 12 members to Rajya Sabha
d) 14 members of Rajya Sabha

Ans: (c)

18. The First general elections after independence in India were held in

- a) 1948 – 49
b) 1951 – 52
c) 1957 – 58
d) 1947 – 48

Ans: (b)

ADDITIONAL

19. When a country is governed by a few privileged, the form of government is called

- a) Oligarchy
b) Parliamentary
c) Democracy
d) Republic

Ans: (a)

20. In which country has democracy originated?

- a) India
b) Switzerland
c) USA
d) Athens

Ans: (d)

21. The term 'republic' was first coined in 500 BCE in

- a) India
b) Rome
c) Greece
d) England

Ans: (b)

22. Arthashastra written by tells us autonomous village committee was the basic unit of local government.

- a) Megasthenese
b) Chankaya
c) Alexander
d) Ashoka

Ans: (b)

23. In India, elections are held once in years.

- a) Three
b) Four
c) Five
d) Six

Ans: (c)

24. is the dominant form of government in the contemporary world.

- a) Monarchy
b) Republic
c) Democracy
d) Dictatorship

Ans: (c)



25. Two members can be nominated by the President of India to the Lok Sabha.

- a) Sports b) Foreign c) Scientist d) Anglo-Indian **Ans: (d)**

II. FILL IN THE BLANKS:

1. The Constitution of India was finally adopted on **Ans: 26th January 1950**

2. The two types of democracy are and

Ans: Direct democracy and Indirect democracy

3. An example for direct democracy is

Ans: Switzerland

4. India has a form of democracy.

Ans: Parliamentary

5. was the first Prime Minister of independent India. **Ans: Jawaharlal Nehru**

6. The first general elections were held in British India in the year **Ans: 1920**

7. The Parliament House in India was designed by and

Ans: Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Baker

ADDITIONAL

8. Democracy is a form of government that allows to choose their ruler.

Ans: People

9. India became an independent country on

Ans: 15th August 1947

10. The first President of India is

Ans: Dr. Rajendra Prasad

11. In India, the general elections are conducted by the

Ans: Election Commission

12. The Upper House of the Indian Parliament is

Ans: Rajya Sabha

III. MATCH THE FOLLOWING.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Autocracy | - a) 18 |
| 2. Right to vote | - b) Arthashastra |
| 3. Chanakya | - c) Vatican |
| 4. Theocracy | - d) North Korea |

Ans: 1-d 2-a 3-b 4-c

ADDITIONAL

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 5. House of People | - a) President of America |
| 6. Council of State | - b) Lok Sabha |
| 7. Abraham Lincoln | - c) The power of the people |
| 8. Democracy | - d) Bhutan |
| 9. Monarchy | - e) Rajya Sabha |

Ans: 5-b 6-e 7-a 8-c 9-d

IV. GIVE SHORT ANSWERS.

1. Give Abraham Lincoln's definition for democracy.

Abraham Lincoln, one of the President of USA, defined democracy as 'The government of the people by the people and for the people.'

2. Mention the forms of democracy.

- Direct democracy
- Indirect democracy

3. Distinguish between direct and indirect democracy.

S.No	Direct democracy	Indirect democracy
1.	In this democracy, people themselves directly express their will on public affairs.	In this democracy, the people express their will on public affairs through their elected representatives.
2.	It is also known as Pure democracy	It is also called as Representative democracy.
3.	Eg : Ancient Greek City states	Eg : India, USA

ADDITIONAL**4. Write the salient features of Democracy.**

- Elected representatives of people and final decision making power to the representatives.
- Free and fair elections
- Universal adult franchise with each vote having equal value.
- Fundamental rights and protection of individual freedom.

5. What is the meaning of Democracy?

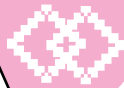
- Democracy is a system of government in which the supreme power is vested in the people.
- People elected their representatives either directly or indirectly through fair and free elections which are usually held periodically.

6. Write the definition of Gandhiji about Democracy.

According to Gandhiji, "True democracy cannot be worked by twenty men sitting at the centre. It has to be worked from below by the people of every village".

V. ANSWER IN DETAIL.**1. What are the challenges to democracy? Explain.**

- Illiteracy
- Poverty
- Gender discrimination
- Regionalism
- Castes and communalism
- Religious fundamentalisms
- Corruption
- Criminalisation of politics
- Political violence

**2. Explain the conditions necessary for the success of democracy in India.**

- Empowerment of the poor and illiterates to enjoy the goodness of democracy.
- Willingness among the elected people not to misuse their power and public wealth.
- Eradication of social evils and dangers from which democracy suffers.
- An impartial and efficient press to form public opinion.
- Presence of strong public opinion.
- Feeling of tolerance and communal harmony among the people.
- Awareness among the people of the fundamental rights that they are entitled to enjoy.
- Conscious check and vigilance on the working of the elected representatives.
- Powerful and responsible opposition.

3. What is your opinion about democracy in India?

- Indian democracy can be successful and vibrant only when its citizens imbibe and reflect in their behaviour like equality, freedom, social justice, accountability and respect for all.
- Their mindset, thinking and behaviour are expected to be in tune with the essential conditions of democracy.
- They have to appreciate the opportunities for their desired roles like participation, making the system accountable, fulfilling obligations to actualize the goals of democracy.

ADDITIONAL**4. What are the merits and demerits of democracy?**

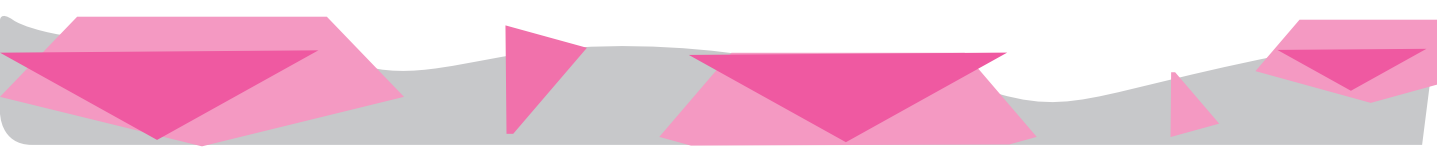
Democracy is popular form government in the modern world. Most of the countries follow democracy including India. It also has merits and demerits. They are –

Merits of Democracy:

- Responsible and accountable government
- Equality and fraternity
- Sense of responsibility among the people
- Local self-government
- Development and prosperity for all
- Popular sovereignty
- Sense of cooperation and fraternal feeling

Demerit:

- Indirect or representative nature of democracy
- Lack of interest in democratic process. So, lower turnout in elections.
- Instability in governance due to fractured mandate
- Delay in decision making process.



5. What are forms of Government? Explain.

The governance of nations differs based on who has the power. There are different forms of government in the world such as –

- Aristocracy
- Monarchy
- Autocracy
- Oligarchy
- Theocracy
- Democracy and
- Republic

Aristocracy:

- A form of government in which power is held by nobility
- Example - United Kingdom (England) and Spain

Monarchy:

- A system of government in which one person reigns supreme power usually king or queen.
- Example – Bhutan and Qatar

Autocracy:

- A system of government by one person with absolute power.
- Example – North Korea and Saudi Arabia

Oligarchy:

- A small group of people having control of a country or organisation.
- Example – Former Soviet Union and China

Theocracy:

- A system of government in which religious doctrines form the basis of government headed by a priest who rules in the name of God or proclaims himself as a God.
- Example – Vatican

Democracy:

- A system of government in which people vote and elect their ruler or representatives. The leader or the party who obtained majority form the government.
- Example – India and France

Republic:

- A state in which supreme power is held by the people and their elected representative. It has an elected or nominated President rather than a monarch.
- Example – India and Australia.

VI. PROJECT AND ACTIVITY.

1. Discuss in the class what is universal adult franchise? Why is it important?

India has a parliamentary form of democracy. The Indian Parliament comprises the elected representative of the people. They make laws for the country. They are elected by the process of Universal Adult Franchise.

Every person who is citizen of India and who is not less than 18 years of age can exercise their right to vote in India. This is known as Universal adult franchise. There is no discrimination based on caste, creed, religion, region, gender and education when it comes to providing the right to vote.

Importance of Universal adult franchise:

- It is based on the principle of equality.
- It means that all adult (those who are 18 and above) citizens have the equal right to vote.
- It do not discriminate on the basis of social or economic backgrounds.
- It is an important aspect of democratic societies

2. "Democracy is the power of majority which respects minority." Discuss.

- Discovering and filing the paperwork you need to submit to run
- Selecting candidates
- Organizing caucuses
- Creating a campaign
- Writing speeches
- Designing campaign posters
- Creating polling booths
- Making ballots
- Voting
- Declaring the result.

3. Conduct a mock election in your class.

A mock election is a simulated election process which is designed to give students a deeper understanding of the election process. In this popular exercise, students participate in every aspect of a national campaign and then participate in the voting process in order to get a complete understanding of the democratic process.

4. A group discussion on the merits and demerits of democracy of India in the classroom.

The students of IX Standard can be divided into two groups. Each group can be a topic – merits or demerits of Democracy. A student from each group can present their points to strengthen their side. The subject teacher can act as a jury. At the end, he/she can consolidate and give the final touch on the topic.

Merits of Democracy:

- Responsible and accountable government
- Equality and fraternity
- Sense of responsibility among the people
- Local self-government
- Development and prosperity for all

- Popular sovereignty
- Sense of cooperation and fraternal feeling
- Guaranteed the rights of the people
- No place for rebellion and revolutions.

Demerit:

- Indirect or representative nature of democracy
- Lack of interest in democratic process. So, lower turnout in elections.
- Instability in governance due to fractured mandate.
- Delay in decision making process.
- Expensive form of government.
- Corruptions and malpractices are common.

VII. HOTS.

1. Will you have the right to equality under dictatorship? What would be the attitude regarding public opinion in such a country?

We have no right to equality under dictatorship. For example, Hitler, the Dictator of Germany at the time of Second World War denied the fundamental rights of the Germans.

Initially, the people will be quiet because of fear. Slowly, they join together and start to protest the dictator. They won't bother about the punishment of the government. Later, they form their own army and fight against the leader known as Civil War. At last, Dictator will be defeated and the administration come under the control of the people.

2. How does democracy lead to a peaceful and a harmonious life among the citizens? Explain.

In today's fast running life everyone is so much involved in their lives that they want to live peacefully. They have so many tension that they want to live peacefully and they expect it from their surroundings. But somewhere when things don't go right person frustrates and this frustration needs to come out.

If things around us become smooth then they don't have to do so much to get their things done and life will be much smoother. But due to corruption, and so many other things starting from rush in the bus while going office, getting stuck in the traffic, over asking rates of auto, parking issue, policeman asking for bribe etc. So many things are there. If one comes out of his house one morning and he finds a seat in the bus, smoothly going without any traffic, no horns, then available parking space, auto person going on meter rates in its own, policemen instead of asking for bribe go by the rules and advice. Some different feeling will come inside you. This is what will not frustrate you and you will lead a peaceful and harmonious life.

Now the point is, what all nice things we have imagined are not being done. It is not like these are not being thought or no one has cared enough for these things. But actually some people or officers and politicians who gets elected by using their malign tactics and create a scene of disharmony between people which results into riots etc. If in a democracy people are treated

as the one whom we need to serve as we are their representative then atmosphere will be harmonious. But for personal interest and profits these democratic people do all that which could not at all maintain peace and harmony. So 'Good Governance that is democracy can lead to this'.

VIII. LIFE SKILLS.

Select a group of countries. Research each country and tell what type of government it has.

Aristocracy, Monarchy, Autocracy, Oligarchy, Theocracy, Democracy, Republic. Then, provide characteristics of this country that helped you determine the type of government.

S.No	Country Name	Type of government	Characteristics of the country's government
1.	United Kingdom	Aristocracy	Powers are held by nobility
2.	Oman	Monarchy	King is the head of administration
3.	North Korea	Autocracy	One person with absolute power
4.	China	Oligarchy	A small group of people control the country
5.	Nepal	Republic	Administration is controlled by the President
6.	India	Democracy	Ruled by the elected representatives of the people.
7.	Australia	Republic	Administration is controlled by the President
8.	South Africa	Republic	Administration is controlled by the President
9.	Srilanka	Republic	Administration is controlled by the President
10.	Egypt	Republic	Administration is controlled by the President
11.	New Zealand	Democracy	Ruled by the elected representatives of the people.

