

GE3791 - HUMAN VALUES AND ETHICS

Final Year - 2021 Regulation

Important 2 Mark/ Short Questions with Answer **and** **Important Long Questions**

UNIT 1: Democratic Values

Two Marks Questions with Answers

1. Define democratic values.

Answer: Democratic values refer to principles and beliefs that underpin democratic governance and society. These values are fundamental to the functioning of democratic systems and are considered essential for ensuring the rights, freedoms and well-being of individuals within a society.

2. What are the key aspects of democratic values?

Answer:

- Equality
- Liberty
- Fraternity
- Freedom
- Justice
- Pluralism
- Tolerance
- Freedom of expression
- Respect for all
- Citizen participation in governance

3. What is meant by fraternity?

Answer: Fraternity, sometimes referred to as solidarity, emphasizes the importance of mutual respect, cooperation and concern for the well-being of others within society.

4. Define the term world democracy.

Answer: A world democracy refers to a political system in which the citizens hold the power to rule directly or through elected representatives.

5. State the rule of law.

Answer: Democracies uphold the rule of law, meaning that laws apply equally to all individuals, including government officials. Legal frameworks provide for the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms and independent judiciaries ensure that laws are interpreted and applied impartially.

6. Why Separation of powers is important in world democracy?

Answer: World democracies typically have a separation of powers between the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government. This separation prevents any one branch from becoming too powerful and serves as a system of checks and balances to safeguard against abuses of power.

7. Which is the foundational concept of world democracies? Why it is called so?

Answer: Individual liberty is the foundational concept of "World Democracies," where governments are expected to respect and protect the rights and freedoms of their citizens.

8. Which became potent symbols of India's struggle for freedom and unity?

Answer: The Indian national flag, with its tricolor of saffron, white and green and the singing of patriotic songs such as "Vande Mataram" became potent symbols of India's struggle for freedom and unity.

9. What is meant by economic freedom?

Answer: Economic freedom refers to the ability of individuals to engage in economic activities without undue government intervention, such as the freedom to start a business, choose employment and enter into contracts.

10. Define tolerance.

Answer: Tolerance involves the acceptance and respect of differences, even when one may disagree with or disapprove of them. In democratic societies, tolerance is essential for peaceful coexistence and constructive dialogue among individuals and groups with divergent beliefs, backgrounds and identities.

Long Answered Questions

1. How can we ensure equality and justice for all citizens in a democracy?
2. What are the limits of individual liberty in a democratic society?
3. How can we balance the needs of the majority with the rights of minorities?
4. What role does freedom of expression play in a healthy democracy?
5. How can citizens effectively participate in shaping their government?
6. How do historical events like revolutions and independence movements contribute to the development of democratic values?

UNIT 2: Secular Values

Two Marks Questions with Answers

1. Define secular values.

Answer: Secular values refer to principles and ethics that are not based on religious beliefs or doctrines. Instead, they are grounded in humanism, rationality and the promotion of individual freedoms and rights.

2. Write the benefits of secular values.

Answer:

- Peaceful coexistence : By separating religion and state, secularism allows diverse communities to live together peacefully, respecting each other's beliefs.
- Progress and innovation: When reason and evidence guide decisions, it fosters scientific advancement, technological innovation and progress in solving real-world problems.
- Individual liberty: Secular values promote individual freedom of thought, expression and action, within the framework of respecting other's rights.

3. Define religious neutrality.

Answer: A key aspect of disassociation is the principle of religious neutrality, where the state does not favor or promote any particular religion over others.

4. State the degrees of disassociation.

Answer:

- Strict separation: This model (like France) maintains a strong wall between religion and state. Religious symbols might be restricted in public spaces.
- Accommodation: Some states (like the US) allow some accommodation of religious practices in public life, like school prayer or religious displays during holidays.

5. State zero-tolerance policies.

Answer: Organizations can demonstrate their commitment to non-discriminatory practices by implementing zero-tolerance policies against discrimination and harassment. These policies should clearly outline the consequences of discriminatory behavior and provide mechanisms for reporting and addressing incidents of discrimination.

6. What are the challenges of secular values?

Answer:

- Defining morality: Some argue that without religion, there is no objective moral compass. However, secular ethics focus on human well-being and minimizing harm.

- Accommodation vs Integration: Balancing religious freedom with maintaining a secular state can be tricky. Debates arise about religious symbols in public spaces, for example.

7. What are the benefits of disassociation?

Answer:

- Religious freedom: Everyone has the right to practice their faith or not, without government interference.
- Peaceful coexistence: By not favoring any religion, the state avoids discrimination and promotes tolerance between diverse communities.
- Focus on the common good: The state prioritizes laws and policies based on reason, logic and the well-being of all citizens, not religious doctrines.

8. Why encouraging non-discriminatory practices is important?

Answer: Encouraging non-discriminatory practices is a fundamental aspect of fostering equality, justice and inclusivity within society. It involves promoting attitudes, policies and behaviors that respect and value the dignity, rights and differences of all individuals, regardless of their race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or any other characteristic.

9. Define freedom of religion.

Answer: Freedom of religion: Acceptance of all faiths upholds the fundamental right to freedom of religion for all individuals. It recognizes that everyone has the liberty to practice, propagate and profess their religion or belief system without fear of discrimination or persecution.

10. Write the principle of sarva dharma sambhava.

Answer: Indian secularism is often associated with the principle of "sarva dharma sambhava," which translates to "equal respect for all religions." This principle underscores the importance of religious tolerance, coexistence and mutual respect among different religious communities.

Long Answered Questions

1. What are the key principles of secular values? Discuss in detail.
2. Explain in detail about disassociation of state from religion.
3. How is secularism understood and applied in India?
4. What can be done to promote fair treatment of all people?
5. How can we encourage acceptance of all religions?