

Civics Long Questions

(Question 1)

Definition :

The word CIVICS has been derived from two Latin words CIVITAS & CIVIS, which means citizens or citizenship. CIVICS is a branch of Social Studies which studies the human character, habits, traditions, political organization, mutual relations of state and citizens and the structure and working of local, provincial and federal governments. Briefly speaking, it encircles all aspects of human social life explaining the Society where a man lives and works for its welfare.

Scope of civics :

In the present age of Sciences and Technology, the man has made progress in every walk of life. Due to extra ordinary advancement in the means of transport and communication in almost all parts of the world, people of the world have become a family. But the development has increased human duties and responsibilities, as an individual, now a days, is not only a citizen of his own homeland but also a member of global community. This has widened the meanings and the scope of Civics.

There are many scope of civics like:

- General aspect
- Historical aspect
- Geographical aspect

General aspect:

This includes 1) social 2) cultural 3) economic and 4) political aspects, society reflects as a collective approach of individual and citizen and better the mutual understanding and cooperation between individual, better will be strength and the impact of society. The **social aspect** of CIVICS reflects family, tribe, village. city, state, various associations and organization. All these institutions or organizations are involved, directly or indirectly, in the welfare of the man. Infact a clean and peaceful social environment is a blessing not only for an individual but also for the state itself, with all the possibilities of happy and prosperous life.

CIVICS, for studying **economic aspect** of life, involves any of prevalent economic systems such as, Imperialist, Mixed or Islamic Economic system. However, all are strong economic system, irrespective of the type, is the basic need of a dependable and sustained progress of country.

CIVICS, for studying **political aspect** of life, A man's political attitude plays an important role in prosperity and welfare of a society. To meet this need, CIVICS studies various aspects of human liberty and scientific system of his rights and duties. Additionally, it also studies types and theories of the system of Government.

Historical aspect:

Under this aspect, the critical study of the historical past of the social development is studied. While studying past, it is must to consider the historical background of man, society and state, with special reference to the environment and helm of affairs through which the individual and the state had to pass before reaching to days situation. This study helps in better future planning and, hence, the future strategy, can be designed basing on the past experience.

Geographical Aspect:

To this day almost 193 states have acquired the membership of the United Nations. This community of Nations, not only, plans for the betterment of human society but also brings the same in practice. This purpose is served through the system of local governments, which is also a subtopic of CIVICS. As the federal government has unlimited powers, so, naturally, general public is more interested in the formation of this government and they want constructive relationship with it. Citizen of a state, today, is also a citizen of a global society. Consequently, directly affected by international affairs and incidents. Same is the case with the foreign policies of various states. It also includes the study of United Nations and other global Organization.

Utility of Civics

There are many utilities of civics that include:

1. Awareness about social issues
2. Awareness about rights and duties
3. Awareness about national politics
4. Awareness about international affairs
5. Awareness about economic affairs
6. Development of healthy habits
7. Social welfare

Awareness about social issues:

Many of the social issues have direct impact on human life. So the knowledge of various other social issues complete the study of CIVICS to much extent.

Awareness about rights & duties:

CIVICS emphasizes and exclusive study of human rights and duties . None can get any benefit out of his rights unless he is well versed with the knowledge of a sound distribution of rights and duties. After this awareness an individual can execute his citizenship effectively.

Awareness about national politics:

People are involved in decision making about national politics and system of government. This is the demand of this age of democracy. This is the study of CIVICS, which equips them with the required knowledge as it encircles voting system, system of government, types of elections (direct or indirect) and the responsibilities of elected government.

Awareness about international affairs:

The present scientific and technological advancement has much increased the mutual relations of the citizens of different states. A global community has been developed and its significance is increasing everyday. This concept of global citizenship helps an individual in getting rid of regional and local prejudices and makes him an effective member of global society. The knowledge of the international affairs, issues and institutions required for this purpose come from a sound study of CIVICS.

Awareness about economic affairs:

CIVICS enables a person to know about economic issues of his own country along with those of other nations. This discipline provides a person with the basic information about the economic affairs. This helps a man in learning about dignity of labor the just means of earning livelihood.

Development of healthy habits:

The study of CIVICS enables a person to believe in brotherhood, virtues and unity. In this way this subject includes good habits among individual highlighting his good characteristics and, develops him into a healthy personality.

Social welfare:

The study of CIVICS develops feelings in the individual about social welfare and consequently the man gets prepares to cooperate with the government in related activities. This further leads towards development of a healthy society

Importance of Civics

Political training:

Civics leads a man towards the basic knowledge about Political process such as voting, elections system & responsibilities of government. This also helps man about the detailed knowledge of rights and duties of individuals within a society.

Development of good society:

An individual and a society are inter-dependent. Civics explains the linkages between individual and various social institutions. A good society, ultimately, depends upon good individuals, and this is CIVICS, which modifies collective approach and attitudes.

Moral Training:

Good and Bad both forces are present in a man's person, stronger of which forces him to be inclined to a particular character. Additionally, his environment also influences his behavior.

Success of Democratic System:

Democracy has a special significance among various political systems. It is required for the success of democratic process to teach this subject to the individuals of the society so that they can develop into good citizens through enlightenment about the system of the rights and duties.

Civics and the Power of Public Involvement:

Government cannot solve many of the problems without public cooperation. Health and cleanliness, promotion of education, eliminating unemployment and support of needy people are the best examples of such problems, because these directly influence collective life and hence, hinder national progress. CIVICS helps man in solving such problems

Civics in a Globally Connected World:

Scientific advancement has brought people of various corners of the globe closer to each other. Now, they are in better position to help each other in country progress. The citizens of the day are also unable to keep their affairs to be limited to their selves. He rather wants to be updated with the global matters. This is CIVICS, which enables him to contribute in maintaining world peace through the development of healthy relation with international communities.

(Question 2)

Citizen

According to the dictionary meanings, a citizen is a person living in a city-state, but in civics all those individuals are citizens who live in a state. They have all civil, political and economic rights. , who have a right to participate in political and social activities of the state

Nationals

Nationals are the people inhabitants of the state but those are not given full rights of citizens. For example, they do not have the right to vote and to participate in elections. This difference widely exists in France, where minors are not considered to be citizens, as they do not have a right to vote

Aliens

Some of the people do live in a state with governments permissions and enjoy some of the social rights but not political. They are called aliens. They are citizens of those countries where they basically and permanently live because in that country, he enjoys all types of rights. When he lives, temporarily, in another country for a job or trade, then, he is simply a foreigner or an alien

Citizenship

A citizenship is a state of affairs, according to which, individuals enjoy all political, social and economic rights and they are obliged also to certain duties and responsibilities imposed by the state. For example, when we say, such and such person has been granted American citizenship, it means he has been given all social, civil, political and economic rights

Four dimensions of citizenship

- Political dimension
- Social dimension
- Cultural dimension
- Economic dimension

Political dimension

The political dimension of citizenship refers to political rights and responsibilities. The development of this dimension should come through knowledge of the political system and the promotion of democratic attitudes and participatory Skills.

Social dimension

The social dimension of citizenship has to do with the behavior between individuals in a society and requires some measure of loyalty and solidarity. Social skills and the knowledge of social relations in society are necessary for the development of this dimension.

Cultural dimension

The cultural dimension of citizenship refers to the consciousness of a common cultural heritage. This cultural dimension should be developed through the knowledge of cultural heritage, and of history and basic skills.

Economic dimension

The economic side of citizenship is about the connection between a person and their work. It includes the right to have a job and earn enough to meet basic needs. To support this, people should learn economic skills and get vocational training for different jobs and activities.

Qualities of a good citizen

In the days of present scientific and technological advancement. the strength of a nation or a state depends upon its citizens. If a citizen possesses good qualities of citizenship, he can play role in the prosperity, strength and honor of his state. Hence three major qualities of a good citizen are.

Wisdom:

According to Lord Bryce wisdom is that quality through which the citizens must be able to think and understand the affairs related to their country. This helps them in having proper understanding about the needs of their homeland and can properly use their right of voting to elect honest and capable people, who can shoulder the political responsibility. Their wisdom helps them in proper selection of the representatives to the legislative.

Self Discipline:

Self-discipline is the second most important quality of a good citizen. An individual (citizen) has to prove to be self-disciplined in many ways at many occasions. For example, abiding by the state regulations, preferring national interests over personal ones, using legal process to win public opinion

Broadmindedness:

According to Lord Bryce, broadmindedness is one of the three basic characteristics required by a good citizen. Broadminded citizens pay all their national duties with a high sense of responsibility, honesty. A good human being only, can be good citizen and the broadmindedness is the most basic characteristic of a good human being. These are basic characteristics of a good citizen and make him a sensible, dutiful and respectable individual.

Hindrances of a good citizen

Moral Deterioration:

When a society's moral values decline, its people cannot become good citizens. Qualities like patriotism, honesty, hard work, practicality, and open-mindedness come only when individuals respect moral values and are willing to improve their behavior. People with low moral standards often avoid national responsibilities and may even harm the country's interests for personal gain.

Knowledge and Ignorance:

Knowledge is light which gives people vision and wisdom. A person equipped with knowledge and awareness about rights and duties, can equip himself with the qualities of a good citizen, while person having no clear idea about rights and duties, and knowing nothing about his national issues is just a burden on the country. Hence ignorance and illiteracy are the biggest hurdles in becoming good citizens.

Passiveness:

Many educated people show little interest in national issues because they focus more on personal gain. This is often due to laziness and lack of awareness. In Pakistan, education is mostly about passing exams and getting jobs, not about understanding national problems. As a result, many people with degrees don't know how to use their vote or take part in national matters.

Poverty:

People who struggle to meet basic needs are often too focused on their economic problems to think about national issues. It is basic requirement for development of political sense in the citizens, that the government must develop such a balanced economic system in which this basic need of citizens are fulfilled so that they can spare sometimes, at least, for national issues.

Selfishness:

No individual can become a good citizen unless he can sacrifice his personal interests on those of the nation. Selfishness is the most crucial requirement for being good citizens.

Methods Of Acquiring Citizenship

Usually there are two methods of acquiring citizenship of a state.

1- By Birth

2- By Naturalizations

By Birth:

There are two basic principles of having citizenship by birth. 1-On the basis of Father's/Forefathers birth 2-On the basis of Residence. This principle expresses that a child born anywhere in the world can have citizenship of the country where his parents live. This citizenship is awarded on the basis of "Blood Relationship". This principle exists in Pakistan, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, Australia Italy etc. The child born to foreigners living in this country cannot get citizenship of their parents.

Double Citizenship:

The question of double citizenship arises when a child born in any other country gets its citizenship automatically. For example, a child born with Pakistani parents in UK, will become citizen of Pakistan by Blood Relationship while he gets citizenship of UK by the principle of "Place of Birth". When such children get mature, they have a choice to opt the citizenship of any of the two countries.

By Naturalization:

Foreigners can be made citizen of any country by granting them special rights. The person, who gets citizenship by this method, is called Natural Citizen. Some condition's imposed by newly opted country, are to be accepted for getting its citizenship.

- **LONG STAY:** A person living in a country since long, can, on the basic of his stay, apply for the citizenship of the country he is living in. For example, in case of living in UK for five years continuously, makes an individual eligible of applying for UK citizenship.
- **MARRIAGE:** If a man gets married to some foreigner lady, the woman is granted the citizenship of the country of his husband. For example, a German woman gets married to a UK citizen, automatically gets citizenship of UK and vice versa.
- **AN ADAPTED CHILD:** If a man adapts a foreigner child, the latter gets citizenships of his new parents.
- **PURCHASING PROPERTY:** In some of Latin American states, if a foreigner purchases some promptly, gets the right of citizenship of that state.
- **Conquered Or Amexed Territory:** If some state conquers some other state completely the people of conquered state become citizen of conqueror state, automatically. For example, when in 1948, India conquered the state of Hyderabad Dakkan, the people of Hyderabad got the citizenship of India automatically.

Methods of Losing Citizenship

A citizen of a state can lose its citizenship due to any of the following reasons.

GETTING CITIZENSHIP OF SOME OTHER STATE:

When a grown-up man gets citizenship of another state, he has to lose the citizenship of previous one, because he can be loyal to one state at a time.

LONG ABSENCE FROM A STATE:

In some of the states there is a prescribed law that on the basis of long absence from that state without any defined reason, the individual loses automatically the right of the citizenship of the state.

MARRIAGE:

A woman married to a foreigner, getting the rights of the citizenship of her husband's country loses, automatically, the rights of the citizenship of the previous state.

COMMITTING A CAPITAL OFFENCE:

If a person is granted sentence of exile on the basis of some Capital offence, he automatically loses the citizenship of the state. Such capital offences include murder, conspiracy or a treachery.

ACCEPTING MILITARY OR CIVIL JOB IN SOME OTHER COUNTRY:

If someone accepts military or civil job of some other country without a permission granted by his original country, he loses citizenship automatically.

FLIGHT FROM MILITARY SERVICE:

If some individual flees from military job, he loses his citizenship automatically.