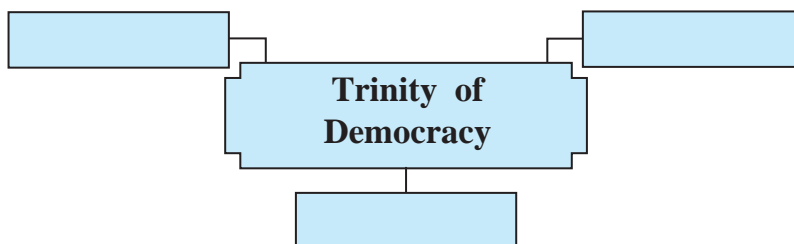


## 1.4 Pillars of Democracy

### ICE BREAKERS

- (i) **Discuss with your partner and choose the correct alternative.**  
 ‘Government of the people, by the people and for the people, shall not perish from the earth’. This famous statement is made by -  
 (a) Mahatma Gandhi (b) Nelson Mandela  
 (c) Abraham Lincoln (d) Dalai Lama
- (ii) **A system where the government is elected and ruled by people is called-**  
 (a) Bureaucracy (b) Aristocracy (c) Democracy (d) Autocracy
- (iii) **A democratic country is governed by its-**  
 (a) Military (b) Police (c) Politicians (d) Constitution
- (i) **The trinity of democracy comprises three principles. Complete the web to show the trinity of democracy.**



(ii) **Match the following.**

Sr. No	A	B	
1.	Constitution	a	It is the freedom to go where you want, do what you want etc.
2.	Liberty	b	It is the state of being equal, especially in status, rights or opportunities.
3.	Equality	c	It is the sense of common brotherhood.
4.	Fraternity	d	It is an aggregate of fundamental principles or established precedents that constitute the legal basis of a polity, organization or other type of entity and commonly determine how that entity is to be governed.

(iii) **Pillars form a support for concrete buildings. Metaphorically speaking a strong nation, too, depends on strong pillars. Discuss with your partner and explain the pillars of a democratic nation. Make a list of obstacles that are a threat to the progress of a nation.**

*Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar was born on 14th April 1891 in the town and military cantonment of Mhow (now Dr. Ambedkar nagar) in Madhya Pradesh. He got his degree from Elphinston College, Mumbai. He subsequently obtained the doctorate from Columbia University, USA and London School of Economics. He was also assigned the big and challenging task of framing the 'Constitution of India' in the capacity of Chairman of the Drafting Committee. He was awarded the 'Bharat Ratna' posthumously for his dedication and commitment for the welfare of our country.*



*Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar has laid emphasis on the values of liberty, equality and fraternity. According to him, these principles will make India a strong nation. He is of the view that hero-worship is a sure road to degradation and to eventual dictatorship and the collapse of a nation.*

## Pillars of Democracy

If we wish to maintain democracy not merely in form, but also in fact, what must we do ? The first thing in my judgement we must do is to hold fast to constitutional methods of achieving our social and economic objectives. When there was no way left for constitutional methods for achieving economic and social objectives, there was a great deal of justification for unconstitutional methods. But where constitutional methods are open, there can be no justification for these unconstitutional methods. These methods are nothing but the **Grammar of Anarchy** and the sooner they are abandoned, the better for us.

The second thing we must do is to observe the caution which John Stuart Mill has given to all who are interested in the maintenance of democracy, namely, not “to lay their liberties at the feet of even a great man, or to trust him with powers which enable him to subvert their institutions.” There is nothing wrong in being grateful to great men who have **rendered** life-long services to the country. But there are limits to gratefulness. As has been well said by

**Grammar of Anarchy :**  
a state of disorder due to the absence of non-recognition of controlling system.

**rendered :** gave

the Irish Patriot Daniel O'Connell, 'No man can be grateful at the cost of his honour, no woman can be grateful at the cost of her **chastity** and no nation can be grateful at the cost of its liberty.' This caution is far more necessary in the case of India than in the case of any other country, for in India, Bhakti or what may be called the path of devotion or **hero-worship**, plays a part in its politics unequalled in magnitude by the part it plays in the politics of any other country in the world. Bhakti in religion may be a road to the salvation of the soul. But in politics, Bhakti or hero-worship is a sure road to **degradation** and to eventual dictatorship. On the 26<sup>th</sup> of January 1950, we are going to enter into a life of contradictions. In politics we will have equality and in social and economic life we will have inequality. In Politics we will be recognizing the principle of 'one man one vote' and 'one vote one value'. In our social and economic life, we shall, by reason of our social and economic structure, continue to deny the principle of one man one value. How long shall we continue to live this life of contradictions ? How long shall we continue to deny equality in our social and economic life ? If we continue to deny it for long, we will do so only by putting our political democracy in **peril**. We must remove this contradiction at the earliest possible moment or else those who suffer from inequality will blow up the structure of political democracy which this Assembly has so laboriously built up.

The second thing we are wanting in is recognition of the principle of fraternity. What does fraternity mean? Fraternity means a sense of common brotherhood of all Indians—if Indians being one people. It is the principle which gives unity and solidarity to social life. It is a difficult thing to achieve. How difficult it is, can be realized from the story related by James Bryce in his volume on American Commonwealth about the United States of America. The story is—I

**chastity:** purity, modesty

**hero-worship:** excessive admiration for somebody

*Discuss hero-workshop by citing some examples.*

**degradation:** changing to a lower state or level

**peril:** danger, risk

*Fraternity leads to the social stability. Explain the statement.*

**triennial:** the 300th anniversary

**liturgy:** rites prescribed for public worship

**laity:** members of a religious community

**delusion :** a mistaken idea or opinion

**anti-national :** the prefix 'anti' in anti-national expresses opposition to something. Find some other words starting with 'anti' like anti-social, ....

propose to recount it in the words of Bryce himself—that—

“Some years ago the American Protestant Episcopal Church was occupied at its **triennial** convention in revising its **liturgy**. It was thought desirable to introduce among the short sentence prayers a prayer for the whole people, and an eminent New England divine proposed the words ‘O Lord, bless our nation.’ Accepted one afternoon on the spur of the moment, the sentence was brought up next day for reconsideration, when so many objections were raised by the **laity** to the word ‘nation’ as importing too definite a recognition of national unity, that it was dropped, and instead there were adopted the words ‘O Lord, bless these United States’.”

There was so little solidarity in the U.S.A. at the time when this incident occurred that the people of America did not think that they were a nation. If the people of the United States could not feel that they were a nation, how difficult it is for Indians to think that they are a nation. I remember the days when politically-minded Indians resented the expression” the people of India. “They preferred the expression The Indian nation.” I am of opinion that in believing that we are a nation, we are cherishing a great **delusion**. How can people divided into several thousands of castes be a nation ? The sooner we realize that we are not as yet a nation in the social and psychological sense of the word, the better for us. For then only we shall realize the necessity of becoming a nation and seriously think of ways and means of realizing the goal. The realization of this goal is going to be very difficult—far more difficult than it has been in the United States. The United States has no caste problem. In India there are castes. The castes are **anti-national**. In the first place because they bring about separation in social life. They are anti-national also because they generate jealousy and antipathy between caste and



creed. But we must overcome all these difficulties if we wish to become a nation in reality. For fraternity can be a fact only when there is a nation. Without fraternity, equality and liberty will be no deeper than coats of paint.

*-Dr. B. R. Ambedkar*

## BRAINSTORMING

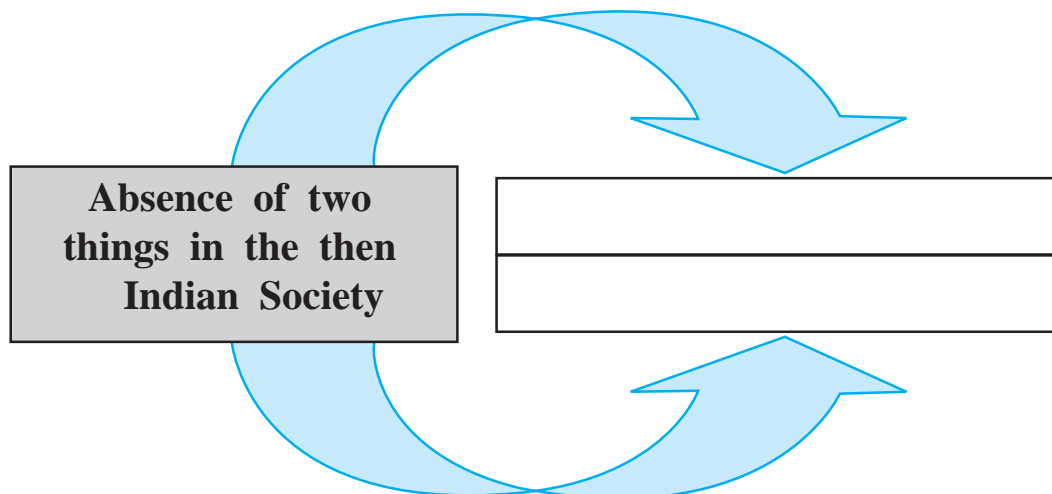
(A1) (i) **Form groups and use the following topics for discussion. Take the help of your college library and your teacher.**

- Need for democracy
- Features of the Constitution of India
- Freedom of speech
- Dictatorship Vs Democracy
- Qualities of an ideal politician
- Equality before law

(ii) **State whether the following statements are true or false. Correct the false statements.**

- (a) There is nothing wrong in being grateful to great men.
- (b) Hero-worship leads to dictatorship.
- (c) Liberty cannot be divorced from equality.
- (d) One man one vote and one vote one value.
- (e) Fraternity means common sense.

(iii) **In his speech, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar has expressed his deep concern over the absence of two things in the then Indian society. Discuss with your partner and complete the web.**



(A2) (i) Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar has cited the quotes by John Stuart Mill and Daniel O’Connell. Go through the lesson and write down 4 to 5 lines for each of them.

(ii) Discuss with your partner and make a list of steps that you feel are essential to unite the people of different castes, race, religions and languages in India.

(iii) Write your views/opinions in brief on the following topics.

(a) We must always cast our vote.

(b) Liberty, equality and fraternity lead to an ideal nation.

(c) Steps to be taken to eradicate inequality

(d) Role of youth in creating social awareness

(A3) (i) Let’s use the Thesaurus.

Along with your partner, go to library or search the internet for a standard Thesaurus to complete the following table. One is done for you.

Sr. No.	Word	Type	Synonym	Antonym
1.	observe	verb	notice, discern, detect, mark	ignore, overlook
2.	abandoned			
3.	grateful			
4.	initiative			
5.	peril			
6.	separation			

(ii) **Homograph** : Homograph is a word spelt and pronounced like another word but with a different meaning.

**For example:** the word ‘fast’ has two meanings. The different meanings are-  
fast- hold firmly

fast- to abstain from food

fast- opposite of slow

Go through the text again and make a list of meanings of all the homographs that are found in the text. Also make a list of such words that you know, have heard or read somewhere.

(A4) (i) Go through the statement taken from the text – ‘The social democracy means a way of life which recognises liberty, equality and fraternity’.

The underlined part of the statement provides us some fact/information about social democracy. The remaining part or the sentence which is not underlined can be converted into a wh-question.

**What does social democracy mean?**

Now go through the underlined part of the statements/sentences given below and change them into questions by using the appropriate Wh-forms.



- (a) In Politics we will be recognizing the principle of 'one man one vote' and 'one vote one value'.
- (b) The politically minded Indians preferred the expression 'the Indian nation'.
- (c) Fraternity means a sense of common brotherhood of all Indians.

### Prepositions:

Prepositions are words governing, and usually preceding, a noun or pronoun and expressing a relation to another word or element. These words express relationships in space and time, as well as other more abstract relationships: cause, purpose, possession, exception and many others.

(Prepositions are difficult to use correctly: a small number of words cover a very wide range of concrete and abstract meanings, and the difference between them are not always very clear or systematic. Also, one language does not always use the 'same' preposition as another to express a particular meaning.)

**Ref :** Oxford English Grammar

#### Let's learn some examples.

- At** – (place and movement)
- It ('at') is often used to talk about 'where' something happens – place, area, spot, site, etc.
  - I met Hemant at the college library.
  - Students decided to gather at the cricket stadium.
- 'at' is often used with words for things people do, or places where they do them.
- We decided to exchange learning material at the Good Luck restaurant.
  - I gave the talk at New English Junior College.
- 'at' is used with the names of small places and not with big places.
- Raju rented a house at Shivajinagar in Pune.
- (Raju rented a house in Pune and not at Pune)
- 'at' to tell the exact time.
- My college starts at 7.30 a.m.
  - The guests will reach the auditorium at 6<sup>0</sup>clock.
- 'at' is used to say 'at Diwali', 'at Christmas', 'at Holi' etc.
- In** – We use 'in' with the names of big cities, weeks, seasons, months, years and centuries, in the morning, afternoon, evening (but at night), inside something.
- I woke up early in the morning.
  - Trekking, mountaineering and adventure camps are always organised in the summer.
  - Sujata kept the keys in her purse.
- On** – It is used to specify days and dates, indicate a device or machine (phone or computer), part of body, state of something and express a surface of something.

- Students of our college wear white uniform on Saturdays.
- Rakesh is always on the phone.
- He hit the ball on his left toe.
- The joker of the circus was wearing a big hat on his head.

Now go through all the texts again and make a list of various prepositions, write their definition and make sentences of your own. Here are some prepositions that will definitely be brainstorming for you.

- in, into, inside
- on, onto, above, over
- beside, besides
- for, from, since
- to, towards
- down, below, under, beneath, underneath
- between, among, amongst (There can be more.)

**(A5) How to prepare a speech.**

Steps to write a speech	Language Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greeting and Salutation (Honourable/ Respected ....., It's a matter of pride for me to share my views..... in front of an august gathering)</li> <li>• Introductory paragraph highlighting – importance, need, purpose etc</li> <li>• Main body- about the topic in detail – its significance / importance of the issue/problem</li> <li>• Suggesting some remedies, solutions</li> <li>• Concluding paragraph - expressing thanks to organizers for giving an opportunity and to audience for patient listening</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use rhetorical questions.</li> <li>• Use famous quotes, poetic lines etc.</li> <li>• Use persuasive language.</li> </ul>

**With the help of the steps given above, write speeches on the following topics.**

- |                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| • Duties of an ideal citizen | • Equality: A blessing |
| • Merits of democracy        | • Freedom of speech    |
| • Advantages of education    | • Unity in Diversity   |

**(A6) There are many career opportunities that a graduate can avail himself/herself of. Discuss and make a list of various opportunities available in the legal field, economics, management, commerce, administration etc.**

**(A7) Project:**

**Visit your college library or search the internet to find at least five speeches of different renowned personalities of the world. Write the speeches in your notebook and submit them to your teacher.**

\*\*\*