



1. How would Maya's life be different in South Africa today?

Ans: Maya's life would be different in South Africa today in terms of equal status in society. She would get a school where children from all classes, rich or poor, high or low, black or white study together. The same hospital would treat her which treats for all sorts of people. There would be no ambulance to be used separately for any white or ruling class. She would get the equal voting right. She would use language of her choice. She would lead a free life.

2. What are the various ways in which people participate in the process of government?

Ans: There are various ways in which people participate in the process of government:

- Through voting in elections people elect leaders of their choice to represent them. These representatives take decisions on behalf of the people.
- People participate in the process of government by taking an interest in the working of the government and by criticising it when required.
- People express their views through several ways and make governments understand what actions they should take. They stage dharnas, hold rallies, strikes, signature campaigns, etc.
- Another way for people to participate is by organising themselves into social movements that seek to challenge the government and its functioning. Members of the minority community can participate in this manner.

3. Why do you think we need the government to find solutions to many disputes or conflicts?

Ans: Government is a constitutional body that maintains law and order. It consists of the representatives of all classes from all parts of the country. Problems or conflicts arise in states, between two or more states and sometimes between two nations. The government represents the country and also the head of the constitutional system. So, it can resolve conflicts in the interest of the people at large. A system without a government may face crisis and lawlessness. Hence, government is necessary.

4. What actions does the government take to ensure that all people are treated equally?

Ans: The government ensures that the constitutional provisions are implied in the country. It makes laws and enforces them to abolish all sorts of discriminations. It makes provisions to provide equal facilities to all classes of people, promotion of education among girls and economically backwards. These are some of the actions that the government takes to ensure equality among people.

5. Read through the chapter and discuss some of the key ideas of a democratic government. Make a list. For example, all people are equal.

Ans:

- All people are equal.
- Justice to all.
- Opportunities for equal education to all.

- Abolition of discriminations.
- Equal status to all religions.
- Abolition of untouchability.

#### I. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Choose the correct option to complete the statements given below:

(i) Hector and his classmates wanted to learn their own language.  
What was their language?

- (a) Afrikaans
- (b) Zulu
- (c) English
- (d) Malayalam.

(ii) The leader of the African National Congress was .....

- (a) Nelson Mandela
- (b) Vinni Mandela
- (c) Yasar Arafat
- (d) Kofi Annan.

(iii) In India, the government is elected for the period of.....

- (a) Two years
- (b) Three years
- (c) Five years
- (d) Six years.

(iv) The two states involved in the Cauvery water dispute are .....

- (a) Karnataka and Tamil Nadu
- (b) Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Kerala and Tamil Nadu
- (d) Orissa and Kolkata.

(v) South Africa became a democratic country in the year.....

- (a) 1950
- (b) 1970
- (c) 1984
- (d) 1994

Ans. (i)—(b), (ii)—(a), (iii)—(c), (iv)—(a), (v)—(d).

#### II. FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in the blanks with appropriate words to complete each sentence:

(i) In South Africa, there live black people, ..... and Indians.

(ii) Blacks and coloured people were not considered to be .....  
to whites.

(iii) The African National Congress led the struggle against .....

(iv) Through ..... in elections people elect leaders to represent them.

(v) Religious processions and celebrations can sometimes lead to .....

Ans.

- (i) whites
- (ii) equal
- (iii) apartheid
- (iv) voting
- (v) conflicts.

#### III. TRUE/FALSE

State whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F).

(i) Non-whites could vote in South Africa before 1994.

(ii) It was the effort of Nelson Mandela that made South Africa a democratic country.

(iii) Conflicts and differences are resolved by the laws laid by our Constitution, (iv) Apartheid system in South Africa was abolished in

the year 1990.

(iv) In our society boys and girls are valued equally.

Ans. (i)—F, (ii)—T, (iii)—T, (iv)—F, (v)—F.

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