

CBSE CLASS-X Social Science
Important Questions
Political Science Chapter-7
Outcomes of Democracy

3 marks Questions

1. List the various aspects and qualifications which help in giving a clear definition of democracy.

Ans. 1. The rulers elected by the people must take all the major decisions

2. Elections must offer a choice and fair opportunity to the people to change the existing rulers.

3. Choice and opportunity should be available to all the people on an equal basis

4. Besides political rights, some social and economical rights are offered to the citizens by the democracy.

5. Power sharing is the spirit of democracy and is necessary between government and social groups in a democracy.

2. “Democratic governments are better than its alternatives”. Explain the statement?

Ans. 1. Democratic government is a legitimate government

2. It may be slow, less efficient, not always very responsive or clean. But it is the people's own govt.

3. There is overwhelming support for the idea of democracy all over the world ; in countries with democratic regimes as well as countries without democratic regimes.

3. How democracy accommodates social diversity?

Ans. 1. It is necessary to understand that democracy is not simply rule by majority opinion. The majority always needs to work with the minority so that governments function to represent the general view.

2. It is also necessary that rule by majority does not become rule by majority community. In terms of religion, or race or linguistics groups. Rule by majority means that in case of every

decision or in case of every election, different persons or groups may and can form a majority.

3. Democracy remains a democracy only as long as every citizen has a choice of living in majority, at some point of time.

4. How can we measure democracy on the basis of its expected outcome?

Ans. To measure a democracy on the basis of its expected outcomes we have to observe the following practices and institutions like

1. In a democracy free and fair elections should be there.
 2. Open criticism and debate on major policies and legislations.
 3. Citizens right to information about the functioning of government.
 4. Whether the democracies are providing a fair chance to everyone, to participate in elections and decision making process.
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5. What is meant by an accountable, responsive and legitimate government? Explain.

Ans. Accountable: A democratic government develops mechanism for citizens to take part in decision-making process. For this free and fair elections, open debate on major policies, legislation, Right to information- such rights are given to the citizens.

Responsive: Democracy is a responsive government. It is responsive towards the needs and expectations of the citizens. It takes care and makes policies for the welfare of the citizens.

Legitimate: A democratic government is a legitimate government. It is elected by the people and people wish to be ruled by the representatives elected by them.

6. “Any imperfection in the government functions is blamed on democracy”. Is it right?

Ans. Every individual expects a lot from democracy. Democracy is expected to solve all the socio-economic, political and economic problems of the country. Democracy is expected to give equality of status to every citizen. It is expected that there would not be any type of discrimination on ground of gender, race, religion or region. The reality is that everything is expected out of democracy. Any imperfection in any such area is termed as undemocratic. It

should be realized that democracy is a form of government that creates conditions which will ensure equality of citizens before the law of the country. But the citizens have to know their rights and freedom and they should try to enforce them. A democratic set up does not ensure all the right policies. Individuals have to take advantage of the good conditions created by democracy and make good policies. Thus it is not right that any information in any area is thrown on democracy.

7. Why we felt that democracy is a better form of Government? Give reasons

- Ans.** 1. It promotes equality among citizens.
2. It enhances the dignity of the individuals.
3. It improves the quality of decision making
4. It provides a method to resolve conflict.
5. It allows room to correct mistake.
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8. What outcomes can one reasonably expect of democracy?

- Ans.** 1. In the political sphere- Right to vote, Right to contest elections.
2. In the economic sphere-Minimized Economic inequalities.
3. In the Social sphere-Equal protection to women, SCs, STs, OBCs.
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9. Are democracies based on political and economic equalities? Explain.

- Ans.** 1. All citizens have equal role in electing representatives.
2. Parallel to the process of bringing individuals into the political arena, we find growing economic inequalities.
3. Democracy does not appear to be very successful in reducing economic inequalities.
4. The ultra-rich enjoy a highly disproportionate share of wealth and income.
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10. How is democratic government known as responsive government? Explain.

- Ans.** 1. It produces a government that is accountable to the citizens, and responsive to the needs of and expectations of the citizens.
2. Democracy is based on the idea of deliberations and negotiations.
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3. Democratic government is attentive to the needs and demands of the people.
 4. A government which is able to respond to grievance faster is able to avoid confrontation and provide good governance.
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11. Why is democratic government known as legitimate government?

- Ans.** 1. A democratic government is called legitimate government because it is people's own government.
2. There is an overwhelmingly support for the idea of democracy all over the world.
 3. People wish to be ruled by representatives elected by them.
 4. Democratic government is attentive to the needs and demands of the people.
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12. How does democracy accommodate social diversities?

- Ans.** 1. It reduced the possibility of tension.
2. It evolves mechanism to negotiate the differences.
 3. It expands democratic rights to minority and weaker section of society.
 4. It ensures the dignity and equal rights to all its citizens.
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13. How democracies are based on political and economic equalities?

- Ans.** 1. All citizens have equal role in electing representatives.
2. Parallel to the process of bringing individuals into political arena, we find growing economic inequalities.
 3. Democracy does not appear to be very successful in reducing economic inequalities.
 4. The ultra rich enjoy a highly disproportionate share of wealth and income.
 5. At the bottom of the society, the people have very little to depend on. It is very difficult to meet their basic needs of life, such as food, clothing, house, education and health.
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14. How far it is correct to say that democracies have not been able to reduce poverty?

- Ans.** 1. The ability of democracy to achieve higher developments worries us.
2. Democracies do not appear to be very successful in reducing economic inequalities.
- Although majority of voters constitute the poverty ridden group, yet democratically elected
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government do not appear to be as keen to address the question of poverty as we would expect them to.

3. The situation is much worse in some other countries .People in several poor countries are now dependent on rich countries even for food.

15. List any three reasons in support of the statement that democratic government is better than its alternatives.

Ans. 1. A democratic government is people’s own government. That is why it receives overwhelming support from all over the world.

2. People wish to be ruled by representatives elected by them.

3. Democratic government is legitimate government.

4. Democracy’s ability to generate its own support is itself an outcome that cannot ignored.

16. “Transparency is the most important feature of democracy.” Analyze.

Ans. 1. Democracy ensures that decision-making will be based on norms and procedures.

2. So, citizens who want to know if a decision was taken through correct procedures can find this out.

3.The people have the right and the means to examine the process of decision-making. This is all what transparency is meant for.

17. Why is it said that democracies are not free from evils? Explain.

Ans. 1. Most democracies fall short of elections that provide a fair chance to everyone and in subjecting every decision to public debates.

2. Democratic governments do not have a very good record when it comes to sharing information with citizens.

3. Democracies often frustrate the needs of the people and often ignore the demands of a majority of it population.

18. ‘Democracies always respond to the needs of people’. Analyze the statement..

Ans. 1. In a democracy the government is known a responsive government as it responds to

the needs of the people.

2. A non democratic government may and can respond to the people's needs, but it all depends on the wishes of the people who rule.
 3. A democracy requires that the rulers have to attend to the needs of people. A democratic government is a better government because it is a more accountable form of government.
 4. In a democracy there is always a space for public discussion and a room for correction.
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19. Do you agree with the outcome of democracy that it proves to be a better government regarding economic growth of a country? Explain.

- Ans.**
1. It is true that during last 50 years dictatorship have shown slightly higher rate of economic growth in comparison to many democracies.
 2. But we all know that there are many other factors that determine that economic growth of a country like- population size, global situation, cooperation from other countries, economic priorities adopted by the country etc.
 3. So even when there is nominal difference in the rate of economic growth between countries under dictatorship and democracy, it is better to prefer democracy as it has several other positive outcomes like dignity and freedom of citizens.
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20. Why is a democratic government considered less efficient? Give any three reasons.

- Ans.**
1. Deliberations and discussions in the legislature consume lot of time.
 2. The fear of majority and public opinion is a big obstacle in the efficient working of the government.
 3. Deliberations and negotiations cause delay in taking decisions or getting the plans executed. This also adversely affects efficiency.
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21. Has democracy led to the development, security and dignity of the people?

Ans. Democracy stands much superior to any other form of government. Democracy promotes dignity and freedom of the individuals. The passion for respect and freedom are the basis of democracy. This has been achieved in various degrees in various democracies. We can take the case of dignity of women. Most societies across the world were historically male dominated societies. Long struggles by women have created some sensitivity today. On

the other hand, in non-democracies, individual freedom would not have legal and moral support. Democracies in India have also strengthened the claims of the disadvantaged and discriminated castes for equal status and equal opportunities. Perhaps it is the recognition that makes ordinary citizens value their democratic rights.

22. 'It is said that democracy is a rule of the majority. The poor are in majority. So democracy must be a rule of the poor'. Justify the answer with suitable arguments.

Ans. No it is not justified, because the rule of majority does not mean the rule of people who are in majority in number. If the number of poor people in India is more it does not mean that the rule should be of poor. The majority means that the rule of majority government. The political party who won maximum number of seats can form government if political party is able to prove its majority in the house.

23. What do you mean by civil liberties?

Ans. 1. Freedom of speech and expression.
2. Freedom of religion and thought.
3. Freedom to form association and freedom to move.
4. Legal liberty or freedom to a fair trial.

24. Why do people prefer democracy? Explain with four reasons.

Ans. 1. Democracy promotes equality among citizens.
2. Democracy enhances dignity of individuals.
3. Quality involves in decision making.
4. Democracy provides acceptable method to resolve conflict.

25. How does democracy leads to peaceful and harmonious life among citizens in political sphere?

Ans. 1. Democracy provides a conducive political environment to citizens for their popular participation in politics
2. Every adult citizen has the right to vote and right to contest.

3. Every citizen can form political party.

26. How does democracy leads to peaceful and harmonious life among citizens in economic sphere?

Ans. 1. Democracy stands for equal economic status to all citizens.

2. In democracy every citizen has right to do any profession.

3. In democracy government undertakes extensive social welfare schemes and achieve universal economic growth rate.

4. Democracy government took so many welfare schemes to remove poverty.

27. How does democracy leads to peaceful and harmonious life among citizens in social sphere?

Ans. 1. Democratic government tries to resolve differences, respect differences and try mechanism which can negotiate differences.

2. It is also a form of society as well as a social order which promotes dignity and freedom of the individual.

28. Explain the characteristics of Democracy?

Ans. 1. Elected representatives

2. Elections

3. Civil liberties

4. Rules of law

5. Independent judiciary

6. Organized opposition parties

7. Freedom of religion of culture

29. Describe the features of dictatorship?

Ans. Following features can be explained-

1. Monopoly of powers.

2. One party

3. Faith in force
 4. Emphasis on duty and discipline
 5. Belief in racial superiority
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30. “Democracy is better than any other form of government.” Give arguments in favors of this statement Or Explain the merits of democracy.

Ans. Democracy is considered to be the best form of government and most of the countries in the world have adopted it. Following are the merits of democracy-

1. It safeguards the interest of the people
2. Based on the principle of equality
3. Possibility in administration
4. Political education to the people
5. Little chance of revolution
6. Based on public opinion
7. Helps people to become good citizens
8. Accommodate all diversities and differences.