

CIVICS

Chapter 4: Key Elements of a Democratic Government



Important Questions

➤ Multiple Choice Questions:

Question 1. Apartheid is discrimination on the ground of:

- (a) Race
- (b) Wealth
- (c) Religion

Question 2. King is related to:

- (a) Democratic
- (b) Monarch
- (c) Both (a) and (b)

Question 3. Which is the official language of South Africa?

- (a) Zulu
- (b) English
- (c) Sanskrit

Question 4. Which of the following party fought against the system of apartheid?

- (a) The African Party
- (b) The African National Congress
- (c) Both (a) and (b)

Question 5. Dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu is related to:

- (a) Distribution of Mines
- (b) Distribution of water
- (c) Distribution of land

Question 6. The Indian _____ lays down the basic rules that have to be followed by everyone:

- (a) Constitution
- (b) Parliament
- (c) Court
- (d) Law

Question 7. It is condition in which all citizens are guaranteed descent standard of life:

- (a) Social justice
- (b) Economic justice

(c) Technological justice

(d) Political justice

Question 8. Conflicts occur when people of _____ cultures, religions, regions or economic backgrounds do not get along with each other:

(a) Two

(b) Different

(c) Same

(d) Three

Question 9. If government wants to be continued in power:

(a) Court have to pass a special resolution

(b) They have to be re-elected by the people

(c) They have to pass a bill in the court

(d) Court have to pass a ordinary resolution

Question 10. The jurisdiction covering the Andaman and Nicobar islands falls under the supervision of _____:

(a) A circuit bench of the Bombay High Court at Port Blair

(b) A circuit bench of the Madras High Court at Port Blair

(c) A circuit bench of the Kolkata High Court at Port Blair

(d) A circuit bench of Supreme Court of India at Port Blair

Question 11. Mettur and Krishna Sagar dam is situated on which river:

(a) Kaveri

(b) Tungabhadra

(c) Godavari

(d) Krishna

Question 12. The government is a system which governs the organization of the:

(a) Society

(b) State

(c) Country

(d) Minorities

Question 13. Nelson Mandela was the leader of:

(a) African National Congress

- (b) Asian National Congress
- (c) Australian National Congress
- (d) American National Congress

Question 14. The right to vote enables people to elect their:

- (a) Law
- (b) Parliament
- (c) Constitution
- (d) Representatives

Question 15. Which dam is used by Karnataka for irrigation?

- (a) Krishna Sagar Dam
- (b) Hirakud Dam
- (c) Bhakra Nangal Dam
- (d) Mottur Dam

➤ **Fill in the blanks :**

1. African people were divided into white, _____, Indian and coloured races.
2. Apartheid means separation on the basis of _____.
3. Non-whites were not allowed to _____.
4. _____ led the struggle against apartheid.
5. Through _____ in elections people elect leaders to represent them.
6. Elected representatives take decisions on behalf of the _____.
7. The earlier practice of untouchability is now banned by _____.

➤ **Write true (T) or false (F) :**

1. Nelson Mandela fought the apartheid system for several years.
2. Religious processions and celebrations can sometimes lead to conflicts.
3. In 1984 South Africa became a democratic country.
4. In our society there is a general tendency to value and care for the girl child more than the boy child.
5. The key idea of a democratic government is its commitment to equality and justice.

➤ **Very Short Questions :**

1. Name the river on which Krishnasagar dam and Mettur dam are situated.
2. Who was the well-known leader of The African National Congress?

3. What is “Zulu”?
4. Name the person who fought against untouchability.
5. What ‘Apartheid’ means?
6. Where Hector lived?
7. Who was Hector and what did he want?
8. Who is responsible for helping to resolve conflicts?
9. When South Africa became a democratic country?
10. List the various races that live in South Africa.

➤ Short Questions :

1. In Dr Ambedkar’s story did the practice of untouchability support the idea that people are equal?
2. How do people express their views and make governments understand what actions they should take?
3. Why conflicts occur?
4. What is the responsibility of police when there is fear that violence may erupt?
5. Do you think it is important for all persons to be treated equally? Why?

➤ Long Questions :

1. List five ways in which the non-whites were discriminated against.
2. “People participate by taking an interest in the working of the government and by criticising it when required.” Explain the statement with help of an example.
3. “Rivers too can become a source of conflict between states.” Comment.
4. What actions does the government take to ensure that all people are treated equally?
5. What are the various ways in which people participate in the process of government?

ANSWER KEY –

➤ Multiple Choice Answer :

1. (a) Race
2. (b) Monarch
3. (a) Zulu
4. (b) The African National Congress
5. (b) Distribution of water
6. (a) Constitution

7. (b) Economic justice
8. (b) Different
9. (b) They have to be re-elected by the people
10. (c) A circuit bench of the Kolkata High Court at Port Blair
11. (a) Kaveri
12. (c) Country
13. (a) African National Congress
14. (d) Representatives
15. (a) Krishna Sagar Dam

➤ **Fill in the blanks :**

1. black
2. race
3. vote
4. The African National Congress
5. voting
6. people
7. law

➤ **Write true (T) or false (F) :**

1. True
2. True
3. False
4. False
5. True

➤ **Very Short Answer :**

1. Cauvery River
2. Nelson Mandela
3. Zulu is Afrikaans language.
4. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
5. Apartheid means separation on the basis of race.
6. Hector lived in South Western Township also called Soweto.



7. He was non-white and wanted to learn his own language, Zulu.
8. The government is responsible for helping to resolve conflicts.
9. In 1994 South Africa became a democratic country.
10. There are black people who belong to South Africa, whites who came there to settle, and Indians who came as labourers and traders.

➤ Short Answer :

1. No, practice of untouchability did not support the idea that people are equal because these groups of people were denied education, transport or medical facilities and even the chance to offer prayers.
2. There are many ways in which people express their views and make governments understand what actions they should take. These include dharnas, rallies, strikes, signature campaigns etc.
3. Conflicts occur when people of different cultures, religions, regions or economic backgrounds do not get along with each other, or when some among them feel they are being discriminated against.
4. At times there is fear that violence may erupt, with people throwing stones or trying to disrupt the procession. The police is responsible for ensuring that violence does not take place.
5. Yes, it is important for all persons to be treated equally. Everybody has human rights and should be treated equally and with dignity. If anybody is tortured or treated in an inhuman or degrading way, it will create an atmosphere of revolt.

➤ Long Answer :

1. **Five ways in which the non-whites were discriminated against:**
 - Hospitals were separate and so were ambulances.
 - An ambulance meant for white people would always be well equipped while one meant for black people was not.
 - There were separate trains and buses. Even the bus stops were different for black and white people.
 - Non-whites were not allowed to vote.
 - The best land in the country was reserved for the white people, and nonwhites had to live on the worst available land.
2. People participate by taking an interest in the working of the government and by criticising it when required.

In August 2005, when a particular government increased the money people had to pay

for electricity, people expressed their disapproval very sharply. They took out rallies and also organised a signature campaign. The government tried to explain and defend its decision but finally listened to the people's opinion and withdrew the increase. The government had to change its decision because it is responsible to the people.

3. Rivers too can become a source of conflict between states. A river may begin in one place, flow through another and end in a third. The sharing of river water between different places that the river goes through is becoming an issue of conflict.

For example: Cauvery water dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. The water stored in Krishnasagar dam in Karnataka is used for irrigating a number of districts and for meeting the needs of the city of Bangalore. The water stored in Mettur dam in Tamil Nadu is used for crops grown in the delta region of that state. A conflict arises because both dams are on the same river. The downstream dam in Tamil Nadu can only be filled up if water is released from the upstream one located in Karnataka. Therefore, both states can't get as much water as they need for people in their states. This leads to conflict. The central government has to step in and see that a fair distribution is worked out for both states.

4. **Steps to be taken by government:**

- The government should ensure that the constitutional provisions are implied in the country.
- It should make provisions to provide equal facilities to all classes of people and for promotion of education among girls and economically backwards.
- People from backward sections of the society should be given reservation in government jobs and educational institutions to help them improve their social status.
- Any act of discrimination against the untouchables should be considered as a punishable offence.

5. **There are various ways in which people participate in the process of government:**

- Through voting in elections people elect leaders to represent them.
- By taking an interest in the working of the government and by criticising it when required.
- People express their views through several ways such as dharnas, rallies, strikes, signature campaigns, etc.
- Newspapers, magazines and TV also play a role in discussing government issues and responsibilities.
- By organizing themselves into social movements that seek to challenge the government and its functioning. Members of the minority community dalits, adivasis, women and others are often able to participate in this manner.