



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: IX	Department: SOCIAL SCIENCE (DEMOCRATIC POLITICS)	DATE OF SUBMISSION
QUESTION BANK	Chapter 2: What is Democracy? Why democracy?	Year:2020-20

Q1.	<p>Explain the features of democracy. CBSE 2013/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The rulers elected by the people take all the major decisions. The final decision making power must rest with those elected by people.• Democracy must be based on free and fare elections. Those in power have a fair chance of losing the elections.• Each adult must citizen must have a right to vote and each vote must have equal value. There should be political equality.• A democratic government is limited by basic rules of constitution and citizen's rights.
Q2.	<p>Write down the demerits or disadvantages of democracy. CBSE 2011/2014/2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leaders keep changing in a democracy. This leads to instability.• Democracy is all about competitions and power play. There is no scope for morality.• Elected do not know the best interest of the people. It leads to bad decisions.• Democracy leads to corruptions as it is based on competition• Ordinary people do not know what is best for them. So they take wrong decision.

Q3.	<p>“A democratic government is a more accountable form of government.” Justify.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democracy is better than other form of government in responding to the needs of the people. • A non-democratic government may and can respond to the people’s needs but it all depends on the wishes of the people who are in power. • A democracy requires that the rulers have to attend to the needs of the people.
Q4.	<p>“Democracy improves the quality of decision making.” How? CBSE 2011/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democracy is based on consultations and decisions. • Democratic decisions always involve many people’s discussions and meetings. • When a number of people put their heads together, they are to be point out possible mistakes in any decision. • This reduces the chances of rash and irresponsible decisions, thus democracy improves the quality of decision making
Q5.	<p>“Democracy provides a method to deal with differences and conflicts.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In any society people are bound to have differences of opinions and interests. • The conflicts can be solved by brutal power. Whichever group is more powerful will dictate its terms and others have to accept that. • But that would lead to resentment and unhappiness. • Democracy provides the only peaceful solution to this problem. Different groups can live with one another peacefully.
Q6.	<p>“Democracy enhances the dignity of citizens.” Explain the statement. CBSE 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democracy is based on the principle of political equality. • On recognizing that, the poorest and the least educated have the same status as the rich and the educated. • People are not the subjects of a ruler, they are rulers themselves. • When they make mistakes, they are responsible for their conduct.
Q7.	<p>What is representative democracy? Why do we need it?</p> <p>A majority is allowed to take decisions on behalf of all the people. The majority does not rule directly, they rule through their elected representatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern democracies involve such large no of people that it is physically impossible for them to sit together and take a decision. • The citizen does not have the time, desire or skill to take part in the government.
Q8	<p>Explain the broader meaning of Democracy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democracy is the best available form of government. • However in broader sense it is not only the institution but it is a way of life. • It is rooted in our day to day life functioning where decisions are made that involves consultation with consent of all those who are affected by the decision. • This apply to a family , a community or even a government. • Thus it enables us to judge the present situation and its weaknesses and encourages marching towards betterment.

Q9	<p>Will change of leader strengthen democracy? Give reason in support of your answer NOTE: If your answer is yes, then you have to write the merits and if your answer is no, then you have to write the demerits.</p>
Q10	<p>Differentiate between Democratic and Non-Democratic Government.</p> <p>Democratic Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a democracy people choose their own representatives. • People have fundamental rights. • Major decisions are taken by the elected leaders. • A democracy is based on a free and fair election. • In a democracy each adult citizen must have one vote and each vote must have one value. • A democratic government rules within limits set by constitutional law. <p>Non-Democratic Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People cannot choose their own representatives. • People do not have any decision making power. • People do not have any rights. • There is no dignity of the individuals.
Q11	<p>What are the merits of democracy? OR Democracy is better than any other form of government. Comment. CBSE 2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A democratic government is a better form of government as it is a more accountable government. • Democracy improves the quality of decision making. • Democracy provides the methods to deal with differences and conflicts. • Democracy enhances the dignity of the individuals • Democracy is better than any other form of government because it allows to correct its own mistakes

CARTOON EXPLANATION

Cartoons in the chapter and their explanation



Syria is a small west Asian country. The ruling Baath Party and some of its small allies are the only parties allowed in that country. Do you think this cartoon could apply to China or Mexico?

Ans. Again the cartoon suggests that there is no true democracy in Syria. Yes, it would suit China and Mexico also where no opposition parties are allowed to contest election. It is a symbol of victory. In Greece the reward to the winner was this crown. Here the crown suggests that 'democracy' has won and demands justice, but the one party rule is denying this right to the people of Syria.



This cartoon was titled 'Building democracy' and was first published in a Latin American publication. What do moneybags signify here? Could this cartoon be applied to India?

This cartoon suggests that 'democracy' is in the hand of the rich. They control the country. No, there are laws which see to it that the rich do not get the upper hand.



This cartoon was drawn when elections were held in Iraq with the presence of US and foreign powers. What do you think this cartoon is saying? Why is 'democracy' written in the way it is?

Democracy — where fear and fair elections must be held — is being forced on Iraq by the US and its allies. There are no “free” and “fair” elections. The capital M suggests mockery.



This cartoon is from Brazil, a country that has long experience of dictatorship. It is entitled “The Hidden Side of Dictatorship.” Which hidden sides does this cartoon depict?

Hidden side of dictatorship is massacre or opposes the policies of a dictator is killed. Since the dictators control the media, the public never comes to know the number of people killed.



This cartoon by R.K. Laxman comments on the celebrations of the fifty years of independence. The cartoon reflect the opinion of the general public. Still after 50 years

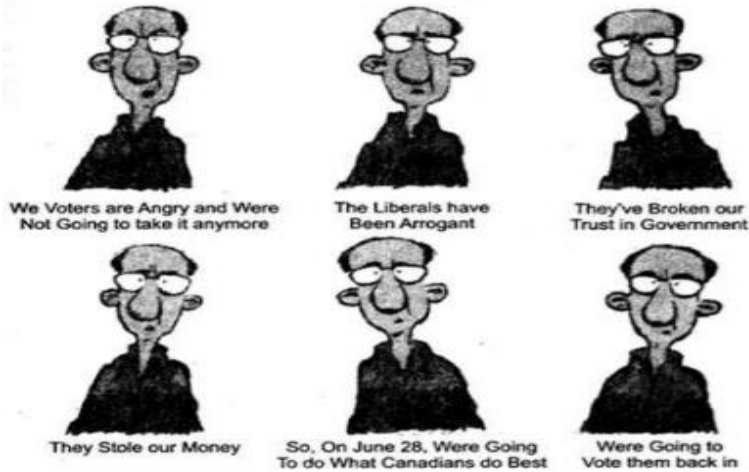
- basic facilities are denied to the common man
- poverty is not eradicated, there is shortage of water, power, shelter, schools, the basic necessities of life.

The common man is bored by promises which are never fulfilled, actions do not match the promises.



This cartoon was drawn in the context of Latin America. Do you think it applies to the Pakistani situation as well? Think of other countries where this could apply. Does this happen sometimes in our country as well?

This cartoon shows the booth capturing with the gun. This can be applicable in Pakistan, Iraq and Myanmar where people are forced to vote. Booth capturing by the people standing in elections happens sometimes in our country also.



This cartoon was published in Canada just before its parliamentary elections of 2005. Everyone, including the cartoonist, expected the Liberal Party to win once again. When the results came, the Liberal Party lost the elections. Is this cartoon an argument against democracy or for democracy?

This cartoon is definitely in favor of democracy. In an indirect way it is telling the public not to be fooled and exercise their voting rights wisely, which they did by ousting the Liberals in the elections.



This cartoon is about the Iraqi election held after Saddam Husain's regime was overthrown. He is shown behind the bars. What is the cartoonist saying here? Compare the message of this cartoon with the first cartoon in this chapter.

The cartoon shows the end of dictatorship in Iraq where Saddam ruled unchecked. People rejoice at elections being held. But the first cartoon shows that people do not have a real choice. They are forced to vote, by the powerful US and its allies.



Chinese government blocked free flow of information on the internet by placing restrictions on popular sites 'Google' and 'Yahoo'. The image of tanks and an unarmed student reminds the reader of another major event in recent Chinese history.

The cartoon reminds us about the Massacre in Liananmen square in 1989. In April 1989, triggered by the death of Hu Yaobang, a liberal reformer mass gathering and protests took place in and around Tiananmen Square in Beijing. It was largely a student run demonstration which called for economic reform and press freedom. The Chinese Government brutally suppressed the movement for which it was internationally condemned.