




# INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

<b>Class: X</b>	<b>Department: SOCIAL SCIENCE</b>	<b>Subject: Democratic Politics</b>
<b>Chapter 1</b> <b>Question Bank No:1</b>	<b>Topic: POWER SHARING</b>	<b>Year:2025-26</b>

## A) MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS [1 MARK]

<b>Q1</b>	1. Which of the following features are common to Indian and Belgian form of power-sharing arrangements? A. Power is shared among governments at different levels. B. Power is shared among different organs of government. C. Power is shared among different social groups. D. Power is shared among different parties and takes the form of competition. (a) A, B, C, D <b>(b) B, C and D</b> (c) A and C (d) A, C and D
<b>Q2</b>	In dealing with power sharing, which one of the following statements is NOT correct about democracy? (a) People are the source of all political power. (b) In a democracy, people rule themselves through institutions of self-governance. (c) In a democracy, due respect is given to diverse groups and views that exist in a society. <b>(d) In a democracy, if the power to decide is dispersed, it is not possible to take quick decisions and enforce them.</b>
<b>Q3</b>	Which one of the following statements about power-sharing arrangements is correct? (a) Power sharing is necessary only in societies which have religious, linguistic or ethnic divisions. (b) Power sharing is suitable only for big countries that have regional divisions. <b>(c) Every society needs some form of power sharing even if it is small or does not have social divisions.</b> (d) Power-sharing is not necessary at all.
<b>Q4</b>	In Belgium leaders realised that unity of the country is possible by----- <b>(a) Respecting the interests of different communities.</b> (b) Throwing light on the on the national issue. (c) Inviting foreign delegates to sort the problem. (d) Amending the Constitution
<b>Q5</b>	Consider the following statements about the ethnic composition of Sri Lanka: A. Major social groups are the Sinhala- speaking (74%) and Tamil-speaking (18%)? B. Among the Tamils, there are two sub-groups, Sri Lankan Tamils and Indian Tamils. C. There are about 7% Christians, who are both Tamil and Sinhala. D. Most of the Sinhala-speaking are Hindus or Muslims and most of the Tamil-speaking are Buddhists. Which of the above statements are correct? <b>(a) A, B, C</b>

	(b) A, B, D (c) B, C, D (d) A, B, C, D										
<b>Q6</b>	A war-like conflict between two opposite groups in a country is called (a) Cold war <b>(b) Civil war</b> (c) Ethnic war (d) None of these										
<b>Q7</b>	Belgium has worked on the principles of: (a) majoritarianism <b>(b) accommodation</b> (c) both (a) and (b) (d) none of the above										
<b>Q8</b>	Prudential reasons of power sharing stress on the facts that: A. It ensures the stability of political order. B. It reduces the possibility of conflict between social groups. C. It gives a fair share to minority. D. It is the very spirit of democracy. Which of the above statements are correct? (a) A, B (b) A, C and D (c) All are correct <b>(d) A, B &amp; C</b>										
<b>Q9</b>	A system of 'checks and balances' is another name for which one of the following power-sharing arrangements: (a) Power sharing among different social groups. (b) Vertical division of power or power shared among different levels of government. <b>(c) Horizontal division of power or power shared among different organs of the government.</b> (d) Power sharing in the form of political parties, pressure groups and governments.										
<b>Q10</b>	Match list I with list II and select the correct answer using the codes below in the lists <table border="1" data-bbox="212 1240 1481 1489"> <thead> <tr> <th>Column I</th><th>Column II</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.Sri Lanka as an Independent nation</td><td>A.1970-1993</td></tr> <tr> <td>2.Belgium constitution amended</td><td>B.1956</td></tr> <tr> <td>3.Tension between Dutch speaking and French speaking communities</td><td>C.1948</td></tr> <tr> <td>4. Sinhala as the only official language</td><td>D.1950s and 1960s</td></tr> </tbody> </table> (a) 1.b,2.a,3.d,4.c <b>(b) 1.c,2.a,3.d,4.b</b> (c) 1.a,2.b,3.c,d.4 (d) 1.c,2.d,3.a,4.b	Column I	Column II	1.Sri Lanka as an Independent nation	A.1970-1993	2.Belgium constitution amended	B.1956	3.Tension between Dutch speaking and French speaking communities	C.1948	4. Sinhala as the only official language	D.1950s and 1960s
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<b>Q11</b>	Identify the two leaders from the image given. 										

	<b>(a) George bush of USA and Vladamir Putin of Russia</b> (b) Charles of UK and Jawaharlal Nehru of India (c) Clinton of USA and Churchill of UK (d) Gorbachev of Russia and Joe Biden of USA
<b>Q12</b>	<b>Why was Brussels chosen as the headquarters for the European Union when many European countries came together to form it?</b> (a) Due to its historical significance <b>(b) Because of its linguistic diversity</b> (c) It was a neutral location (d) No specific reason

### Assertion/Reason :

In the following questions, a statement of assertion(A) is followed by a statement of reason(R). Mark the correct choice:

1.	<b>Assertion (A):</b> Power sharing is desirable. <b>Reason (R):</b> Power sharing is good because it helps to reduce the possibility of conflicts <b>(a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A</b> (b) Both A and R are true and R is not the correct explanation of A (c) A is true, but R is false (d) A is false, but A is true
2.	<b>Assertion (A):</b> One basic principle of democracy is that people are the source of all political power. <b>Reason (R):</b> In a good democratic government, people must rule on the basis of majoritarianism to bring peace and harmony. (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A (b) Both A and R are true and R is not the correct explanation of A <b>(c) A is true, but R is false</b> (d) A is false, but A is true

### B) DESCRIPTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1	<b>What is the ethnic composition of Belgium?</b> <b>Or</b> <b>Describe the ethnic composition of Belgium.</b> <b>Ans:</b> The ethnics composition of Belgium, a small country is very complex. a) Of the country's total population, 59 per cent live in the Flemish region and speak Dutch language. b) Another 40 per cent people live in the Wallonia region and speak French. Remaining 1 per cent of the Belgians speak German. c) In the capital city, Brussels, about 80 per cent people speak French while 20 per cent are Dutch-speaking.
02	<b>Describe the tension that existed between the Dutch and the French speaking people in Belgium.</b> <b>Or</b> <b>What were the two main causes of resentment in Belgium in 1960? How was the conflict solved?</b> <b>Ans:</b> a) The economic inequality between the Dutch speaking and French-speaking was the basic cause of tension. b) The French-speaking community who was in minority was relatively rich and

	<p>powerful whereas the Dutch-speaking community who was in majority was poor.</p> <p>c) This was resented by the Dutch-speaking community who for the benefit of economic development and education much later.</p> <p>d) The tension between the two communities was more acute in Brussels. Brussels presented a special problem : the Dutch speaking people constituted a majority in the country, but a minority in the capital.</p> <p>e) Between 1970 and 1993, the Belgium government amended their constitution four times so as to work out an arrangement that would enable everyone to live together within the same country. ‘</p>
Q3	<p><b>What is the ethnic composition of Sri Lanka?</b></p> <p><b>Ans:</b></p> <p>Sri Lanka has a diverse population.</p> <p>a) The Sinhalese community forms the majority of the population (74%) with Tamils (18%) who are mostly concentrated in the north and east of the island, forming the largest ethnic minority.</p> <p>b) Other communities include the Muslims. Among Tamils, there are two sub-groups. The Tamil natives of the country are called ‘Sri Lankan Tamils’ (13 %). The Tamils, who were brought as indentured labourers from India by British colonists to work on estate plantations are called the ‘Indian Origin Tamils’ (5%).</p> <p>c) Most of the Sinhala-speaking people are Buddhists, while most of the Tamils are Hindus or Muslims. There are about 7 per cent Christians, who are both Tamil and Sinhalese.</p>
Q4	<p><b>Why did civil war break out in Sri Lanka? What were the results of the war?</b></p> <p><b>Ans:</b></p> <p>The distrust between Tamil speaking and the Sinhalese over the Majoritarianism issue resulted in a widespread conflict which soon turned into a civil war.</p> <p>The results of the civil war were as follows:</p> <p>a) Thousands of people of both the communities were killed.</p> <p>b) Many families were forced to leave the country and many lost their livelihood</p> <p>c) Sri Lanka, in general suffered from an economic crisis.</p>
Q5	<p><b>How were the ethnic problems solved in Belgium? Mention any four steps which were taken by the government to solve the problems?</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Or</b></p> <p><b>How is the political system in Belgium innovative and different from the other countries of the world? Explain any three points.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Or</b></p> <p><b>Highlight any three measures adopted by the Belgian government to accommodate regional and cultural diversities.</b></p> <p><b>Ans:</b></p> <p>a) <b>Equal number of ministers for both the groups:</b> The Belgian Constitution prescribes that the number of Dutch and French speaking ministers shall be equal in the central government. Some special laws require the support of majority of members from each linguistic group. Thus, no single community can take decisions unilaterally.</p> <p>b) <b>More powers to state governments:</b> Under the proper power sharing arrangement, many powers of the central government were given to state governments for the two regions of the country. The state governments were not subordinate to the central government.</p> <p>c) <b>Equal representation at the state and the central level:</b> A separate government has been set up at Brussels in which both the communities have equal representation.</p> <p>d) <b>Formation of community government :</b> Apart from the central and the state</p>

	<p>government, there is a third kind of government, i.e., 'community government'. This 'community government' is elected by the people belonging to one language community – Dutch, French and German speaking no matter where they live. This government has the powers regarding cultural, educational and language related issues.</p>
Q6	<p><b>Why is Power sharing desirable?</b>  <b>Or</b>  <b>Why is power sharing necessary in democracy? Explain.</b>  <b>Ans:</b>  <b>1. Prudential reasons:</b>            (i) Prudential reasons help to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups.            (ii) Prudential reasons are good way to ensure political stability.            (iii) Imposing the will of majority community over the minority may look like an attractive option in the short run, but in the long run, it undermines the unity of the nation. Tyranny of the majority is not just oppressive for the minority; it often brings ruin to the majority as well.  <b>2. Moral reasons:</b>            (i) Power sharing is the basic spirit of democracy. A democratic rule involves the sharing of power with those affected by its exercise, and those who have to live with its effects.            (ii) A democratic government is chosen by the people. So, they have the right to be consulted on how they are to be governed. A legitimate government is one where groups, through participation, acquire a stake in the system.            (iii) Decentralisation of power, i.e., formation of state governments, local governments is an example of moral reason.</p>
Q7	<p><b>Explain the major forms of power sharing in modern democracies.</b>  <b>Or</b>  <b>Explain four forms of participation in government under modern democratic system.</b>  <b>Ans:</b>  <b>a) Power sharing among the different organs of government (Horizontal power sharing).</b> In a democracy, power is shared among the different organs of the government such as the legislature, executive and the judiciary. This is called the <b>horizontal distribution</b> of power because it allows different organs of the government placed at the same level to exercise different powers. Under this kind of power sharing arrangement, one can exercise unlimited powers. Each organ has its own powers, and it can also <b>check the powers of</b> other. So, this results in a <b>balance</b> of power among the various institutions.  <b>b) Power sharing among governments at different levels:</b> Under this, people choose separate governments at separate levels, for example, a general local government for the entire country and local governments at the provincial, sub-national or regional levels. Such a general government for the entire country is usually called a Federal government and also called <b>vertical distribution of powers</b>  <b>c) Power sharing among different social groups:</b> In a democracy, especially, in a multi-ethnic society, power is also shared among social groups such as the religious and linguistic groups. 'Community government' in Belgium is a good example of this arrangement. In some countries, there are constitutional and legal arrangements whereby socially weaker sections and women are represented in the legislatures and the administration.  <b>d) Power sharing among political parties, pressure groups and movements:</b> In a democracy, power is also shared among different political parties, pressure groups and movements. Democracy provides the citizens a choice to choose their rulers. This choice</p>

	is provided by the various political parties, who contest elections to win them. Such competition ensures that power does not remain in one hand
Q8	<p><b>Differentiate between Horizontal and Vertical forms of Power sharing in modern democracies.</b></p> <p><b>Horizontal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Power shared among different organs of government such as the legislature, executive and judiciary</li> <li>b) There is a concept of separation of powers</li> <li>c) It specifies the concept of checks and balances in order to check the exercises of unlimited powers of the organs</li> <li>d) It ensures the concept of the expansion of democracy</li> </ul> <p><b>Vertical</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Power shared among governments at different levels like union, state and local level</li> <li>b) Constitution clearly lays down the powers of different levels of government.</li> <li>c) No such concept of checks and balance because powers are clearly given by the constitution from the higher level to lower level</li> <li>d) It promotes the concept of deepening of democracy</li> </ul>
Q9	<p><b>Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:</b></p> <p>Majoritarianism is a concept which signifies a belief that the majority community should be able to rule a country in whichever way it wants, by disregarding the wishes and needs of the minority. When Sri Lanka became independent in 1948, the leaders of the Sinhala community established dominance over government by virtue of their majority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Which country adopted majoritarianism? <b>Ans:</b> Srilanka</li> <li>2. Which act was passed in Srilanka to dominate the minority? <b>Ans:</b> Act of 1956</li> <li>3. Why did the relation between the Sinhala and Tamil communities become strained? <b>Ans.</b> The relation between the Sinhala and Tamil communities became strained because the Tamil community felt themselves alienated.</li> </ul>