



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: IX	Department: Social Science	Sub: Democratic Politics
Chapter-2 Question Bank:2	Topic: Constitutional Design	Year: 2022-2023

1	<p>Explain the term Apartheid. What were its implications? Apartheid was a system of racial discrimination practiced in South Africa. Implications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• White Europeans imposed this system on South Africa.• White rulers treated non-whites as inferiors.• Non-whites did not have right to vote. They were not allowed to live in white areas. They were allowed to work there only with permit.• Trains, buses, hospitals, schools, cinemas, public places and public toilets were all separate for the whites and blacks.
2	<p>What problems existed in the making of the South African constitution? What compromises were made? Problems existed because both the black majority and the white minority had their own fears and anxieties. The black majority wanted their constitution to be based on the democratic principle of majority rule. They also wanted substantial, social and economic rights.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The white minority, on the other hand, wanted to protect its privileges and property.• Ultimately both agreed to compromise. The whites agreed to the principle of majority rule and that of one person, one vote.
3	<p>Why do we need a constitution? Give any four points. [2010] Every country has diverse groups of people. People have differences. Hence the need to have a set of rules. To maintain a trust it is best to write down these rules. Thus the constitution of a country is a set of written rules that are accepted by all. A constitution.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. generates trust and coordination.2. specifies how government will be constituted.3. lays down limits on the powers of the government.4. expresses the aspirations of the people.
4.	<p>Give a description of the composition of the Constituent Assembly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Constituent Assembly was elected mainly by the members of the existing Provincial Legislatures.• This ensured a fair geographical share of members from all the regions of the country.• Congress, which was the dominant party in the Assembly, itself included a variety of political groups and opinions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It represented members from different languages, castes, religions, classes and occupations.
5	<p>Explain the Constitution made by the Constituent Assembly to form the Indian Constitution.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It worked in a systematic, open and consensual manner. • Basic principles were decided. Drafting Committee prepared a draft. • Discussions of several rounds occurred clause by clause. • They worked for 114 days and spread over three years. • Every document was recorded and preserved to form twelve bulky volumes of Constituent Assembly debates.
6	<p>“Indian Constitution adopted many institutional details and procedures from different countries.” Justify by giving examples.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India adopted the principle of liberty, freedom and justice from the French Constitution. • We have adopted bill of Rights from the United States of America. • The practice of Parliamentary democracy has been adopted from Great Britain.
7	<p>“The manner in which the Constituent Assembly worked gives sanctity to the constitution.” Justify.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> First some basic principles were decided and agreed upon. Then a Drafting Committee chaired by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar prepared a draft constitution for discussion. Several rounds of thorough discussion took place on the Draft Constitution, clause by clause. The above-mentioned points prove that the Constituent Assembly maintained a democratic attitude.
8	<p>“Indian Constitution is both rigid and flexible.” Explain. The Indian Constitution is neither wholly rigid nor wholly flexible.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> This is called rigid because some ideals in the constitution like equality, secularism, democracy, sovereignty etc. cannot be changed. This is because the rulers could not misuse their powers. On the other hand, it is also called flexible because there is a provision for amendments. Some of the articles can be changed if the people demand so. That is, there are some rules that can be amended by a simple majority while some need two-third majority. So, it is, called partly rigid and partly flexible.
9	<p>Describe the main features of the Indian Constitution. OR How has the Indian Constitution embodied the basic values into its institutional arrangements? Explain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Indian Constitution is a detailed document. It needs to be amended to keep it updated. It has provisions to incorporate changes from time-to-time. These changes are called constitutional amendments. • It lays down the procedure for choosing persons to govern the country. • It defines “who will have how much power to take a particular decision’s. • It also limits the powers of the government by providing some rights to the citizens which cannot be violated.

10	<p>India is a “Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic.” Justify.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Describe the main features of the Preamble of the Indian Constitution.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Write any five guiding values of the Indian Constitution.</p> <p>The Constitution of India lays down certain Basic Features or the Basic Structure, which cannot be amended, altered or modified by any legitimate authority in India.</p> <p>The Constitution declares India to be a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic, Republic. India is Sovereign, as it is independent of any foreign control.</p> <p>It is Socialist, as it aims at social and economic equality. It is Secular, as there is no State religion in India.</p> <p>It is Democratic, as the government is elected by the people directly after every five years.</p> <p>It is a Republic, because the Head of the State in India, namely, the President, is elected for five years by the members of the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and the State Legislative Assemblies</p>
11	<p>What do you mean by Constitutional amendments? What is its importance? State their significance in a democratic country like India.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Or</p> <p>What provision has been made to incorporate changes in the Constitution and why?</p> <p>Ans: A change in the Constitution made by the supreme legislative body in the country is known as Constitutional amendment. In India, it is called the Parliament or “Sansad”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitution can be changed according to needs and aspirations of the people. • Major shortcomings of the constitution can be removed. <p>Significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India is a major democratic country and has a long and detailed Constitution. • Therefore, it needs to be amended quite regularly to keep it updated, • The makers of the Indian Constitution did not see it as sacred, static and unalterable law. <p>As a ‘Living Document’, it has to be in accordance with people’s aspirations and changes in society.</p>
12	<p>Describe the basic ideas that were accepted by almost everyone in India even before the Constitution Assembly met to frame the Constitution?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>“Some basic values were accepted by all leaders much before the Constituent Assembly met to deliberate on the Constitution.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In India although there were sharp differences of opinion within the freedom struggle about the path India should take after independence yet some ideas had to be accepted by almost everyone: • In 1928 Motilal Nehru and 8 Congress leaders drafted a constitution that is known as Nehru Report. • Again in 1931 the resolution in the Karachi Session dealt with the future constitution of Independent India. <p>These two documents-Nehru Report and Resolution at the Karachi session included Universal adult franchise, right to freedom and equality and protecting the rights of the minorities.</p>
13	<p>What is a ‘Preamble’? Why is it known as the “soul of the Indian Constitution”?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The constitution begins with a short statement of its basic values. This is called the Preamble to the constitution.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking inspiration from American model most countries begin their constitution with a Preamble. • It contains the philosophy on which the entire Constitution has been built. It provides a standard to examine and evaluate any law and action of government, to find out whether it is good or bad. It is the soul of the Indian Constitution.
14	<p>“The apartheid system was particularly oppressive for the blacks.” Justify your answer by giving three reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They were forbidden from living in white areas. They could work in white areas only if they had a permit. • Trains, buses, taxis, hotels, hospitals, schools and colleges, libraries, cinema halls, theatres, beaches, swimming pools, public toilets, were all separate for the whites and blacks. This was called segregation. • They could not even visit the churches where the whites worshipped. Blacks could not form associations or protest against the terrible treatment.
15	<p>What was Mahatma Gandhi’s contribution to the Constitution of Indian?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although Mahatma Gandhi was not a member of the Constituent Assembly, there were many members who followed his vision. • According to his magazine, Young India in 1931, he wanted to release India from all thralldom and patronage. • He emphasized on political equality. • He thought India as a country where the people of all communities would live in perfect harmony. • He wanted India where there could be no room for the curse of untouchability. Women would enjoy the same rights as men.
16	<p>On what terms did the blacks agreed upon while making a Constitution for South Africa?</p> <p>After two years of discussion and debate, they came out with one of the finest constitutions the world has ever had.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This constitution gave to its citizens the most extensive rights available in any country. ➤ Together, they decided that in the search for a solution to the problems, nobody should be excluded, no one should be treated as a demon. ➤ They agreed that everybody should become part of the solution, whatever they might have done or represented in the past.
17	<p>What was the reaction of the government towards the protest movement against the apartheid in South Africa?</p> <p>In South Africa, the white racist government continued to rule by detaining, torturing and killing thousands of black and coloured people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As protests and struggles against apartheid had increased, the government realized that they could no longer keep the blacks under their rule through repression.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The white regime changed its policies. Discriminatory laws were repealed. Ban on political parties and restrictions on the media were lifted. After 28 years of imprisonment, • Nelson Mandela walked out of the jail as a free man.
18	<p>What compromises did the blacks and white make?</p> <p>It was not an easy task for the two divergent people of South Africa—the White oppressors and the Black Oppressed one—to draw up a common Constitution for the country when it became free in 1994. After long negotiations both parties agreed to a compromises.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The whites agreed to the principle of majority rule that of one person one vote. • They also agreed to some basic rights for the poor and the workers. • The blacks agreed that majority rule would not be absolute. • They also agreed that the majority would not take away the property of the white minority.
19	<p>What is meant by political equality?</p> <p>Every citizen is entitled to all the constitutional rights and freedom without making distinction of any kind like gender, race, status, religion etc. Equal voting right to all adult citizens of country, be it rich or poor with no discrimination comes under political equality.</p>
20	<p>Why should we accept the Constitution made by the Constituent Assembly more than 60 years ago?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Constituent Assembly represented the people of India. There was no universal adult franchise at that time, so it was elected mainly by the members of the existing Provincial Legislatures. This ensured a fair geographical share of members from all the regions of the country. The Assembly was dominated by the Indian National Congress, but with leaders having different opinions. In social terms too, the Assembly represented members from different language groups, castes, classes, religions and occupations. • Elected Members: The drafting of the document called the Constitution was done by an assembly of elected representatives called the Constituent Assembly. • Working Pattern of the Assembly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Constituent Assembly worked in a systematic, open and consensual manner. • First some basic principles were decided, and agreed upon. • Then a Drafting Committee chaired by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar prepared a Draft Constitution for discussion. • Several rounds of thorough discussions took place on the Draft Constitution clause by clause. • Every country in the world is having Constitution which was questioned by either an individual or a group of people. • But so far, In India, individual or any social Groups had questioned the validity of the Indian Constitution