



Social Studies

Class 9th
(Civics)

Chapter 1: Constitutional Designs



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Exercise

Que 1: Here are some false statements. Identify the mistake in each case and rewrite these correctly based on what you have read in this chapter.

(a) Leaders of the freedom movement had an open mind about whether the country should be democratic or not after independence.

Ans: **Mistake:-** Leaders of the freedom movement had an open mind about whether the country should be democratic **or not** after independence.

Correct Statement:- Leaders of the freedom movement had an open mind about whether the country should be democratic after independence.

(b) Members of the Constituent Assembly of India held the same views on all provisions of the Constitution.

Ans: **Mistake:-** Members of the Constituent Assembly of India held the **same views** on all provisions of the Constitution.

Correct Statement:- Members of the Constituent Assembly of India held different views on all provisions of the Constitution.

(c) A country that has a constitution must be a democracy.

Ans: **Mistake:-** A country that has a constitution **must be a democracy**.

Correct Statement:- A country that has a constitution is not necessary that it must be a democracy.

(d) Constitution cannot be amended because it is the supreme law of a country.

Ans: **Mistake:-** Constitution **cannot** be amended because it is the supreme law of a country.

Correct Statement:- Constitution can be amended because it is the supreme law of a country.

Que 2: Which of these was the most salient underlying conflict in the making of a democratic constitution in South Africa?

- (a) Between South Africa and its neighbours
- (b) Between men and women
- (c) Between the white majority and the black minority
- (d) Between the coloured minority and the black majority

Ans: (d) Between the coloured minority and the black majority

Que 3: Which of these is a provision that a democratic constitution does not have?

- (a) Powers of the head of the state
- (b) Name of the head of the state
- (c) Powers of the legislature
- (d) Name of the country

Ans: (b) Name of the head of the state

Que 4: Match the following leaders with their roles in the making of the Constitution:

Column I	Column II
(a) Motilal Nehru	1. President of the Constituent Assembly
(b) B R Ambedkar	2. Member of the Constituent Assembly
(c) Rajendra Prasad	3. Chairman of the Drafting Committee
(d) Sarojini Naidu	4. Prepared a Constitution for India in 1928

Ans:

Column I	Column II
(a) Motilal Nehru	4. Prepared a Constitution for India in 1928
(b) B R Ambedkar	3. Chairman of the Drafting Committee
(c) Rajendra Prasad	1. President of the Constituent Assembly
(d) Sarojini Naidu	2. Member of the Constituent Assembly

Que 5: Read again the extracts from Nehru’s speech ‘Tryst with Destiny’ and answer the following:

(a) Why did Nehru use the expression “not wholly or in full measure” in the first sentence?

Ans: Nehru used this expression because nation building is a huge task which cannot be completed in one's lifetime.

(b) What pledge did he want the makers of the Indian Constitution to take?

Ans: He wanted them to take a pledge to build a nation in which no person had tears in their eyes..

(c) “The ambition of the greatest man of our generation has been to wipe every tear from every eye”. Who was he referring to?

Ans: He was referring to Mahatma Gandhi.

Que 6: Here are some of the guiding values of the Constitution and their meaning. Rewrite them by matching them correctly.

Column I	Column II
(a) Sovereign	1. Government will not favour any religion
(b) Republic	2. People have the supreme right to make decisions.
(c) Fraternity	3. Head of the state is an elected person.
(d) Secular	4. People should live like brothers and sisters.

Ans:

Column I	Column II
(a) Sovereign	2. People have the supreme right to make decisions.
(b) Republic	3. Head of the state is an elected person.
(c) Fraternity	4. People should live like brothers and sisters.
(d) Secular	1. Government will not favour any religion

Que 7: A friend from Nepal has written you a letter describing the political exercises situation there. Many political parties are opposing the rule of the king. Some of them say that the existing constitution given by the monarch can be amended to allow more powers to elected representatives. Others are demanding a new Constituent Assembly to write a republican constitution. Reply to your friend giving your opinions on the subject.

Ans:

Dear friend,

We received your letter. I am safe here. I hope you are also doing well. In the letter you wrote about the political situation in Nepal. My point in this regard is that this is a good step in the politics of Nepal. Nepal should make a republican constitution. Hope soon the democratic system will be implemented there. Hello!

your friend,

Que 8: Here are different opinions about what made India a democracy. How much importance would you give to each of these factors?

- (a) Democracy in India is a gift of the British rulers. We received training to work with representative legislative institutions under the British rule.**
- (b) Freedom Struggle challenged the colonial exploitation and denial of different freedoms to Indians. Free India could not be anything but democratic.**
- (c) We were lucky to have leaders who had democratic convictions. The denial of democracy in several other newly independent countries shows the important role of these leaders.**

Ans:

(a) This will be considered an important reason for the democratic system in India. It is true that we got training to work in a democratic system through the provincial assemblies formed during the British rule.

(b) This statement can be considered as an important reason for the democratic system in India. Because our leader opposed exploitation and it is necessary to oppose exploitation in a democratic system.

(c) Certainly our nationalist leaders played an important role in the establishment of democracy. Our leaders had faith in democracy, so after independence, democratic system was implemented in the country.

Que 9: Read the following extract from a conduct book for 'married women', published in 1912. 'God has made the female species delicate and fragile both physically and emotionally, pitifully incapable of self-defence. They are destined thus by God to remain in male protection – of father, husband and son – all their lives. Women should, therefore, not despair, but feel obliged that they can dedicate themselves to the service of men'. Do you think the values expressed in this para reflected the values underlying our constitution? Or does this go against the constitutional values?

Ans: This paragraph does not reflect the underlying value in our constitution. Women and men have equal rights in the constitution. Women are free to do every work.

Que 10: Read the following statements about a constitution. Give reasons why each of these is true or not true.

- (a) The authority of the rules of the constitution is the same as that of any other law.**
- (b) Constitution lays down how different organs of the government will be formed.**
- (c) Rights of citizens and limits on the power of the government are laid down in the constitution.**
- (d) A constitution is about institutions, not about values.**

Ans:

(a) This statement is not true. The status of the rules of the constitution is much higher than other laws. Parliament can change other laws by simple majority. While there is a special process to change the rules of the constitution. A two-thirds majority is required to change these rules.

(b) This statement is true. The rules related to the formation of various organs of governance are described in the constitution.

(c) This statement is true. The third part of the constitution describes the fundamental rights of the citizens. Governments can work only according to the constitution.

(d) This statement is not true. The values are mentioned in the preamble of the constitution itself. In this, emphasis has been laid on the values of liberty, equality, fraternity, justice, glory of the individual, unity and integrity of the nation.