

CBSE Test Paper - 03
Chapter - 22 Outcomes of Democracy

1. Economic development depends on what factor(s)? **(1)**
 - a. All of the given
 - b. Size of the population of the country
 - c. Economic priorities adopted by the country
 - d. Global scenario
2. Democracy improves the quality of _____. **(1)**
 - a. Education
 - b. Governance
 - c. Decision-making
 - d. Food
3. Our interest in and fascination for democracy often pushes us into taking a position that democracy can address what kind of problems? **(1)**
 - a. Linguistic and ethnic
 - b. Socio-economic and political
 - c. Cultural and ethnic
 - d. Financial and political
4. Under ____ equality all individuals have equal weight in electing representative. **(1)**
 - a. Economic
 - b. Communal
 - c. Social
 - d. Political
5. _____ has successfully negotiated differences among ethnic populations. **(1)**
 - a. Belgium
 - b. France

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- c. Srilanka
 - d. Nepal

6. How democracy can enhance dignity and freedom of an individual? **(1)**
7. What is regarded as a definite plus point of democratic regimes? **(1)**
8. In which area does the democracy fail to achieve in contrary to other forms of government? **(1)**
9. Which form of government is better-democratic or non-democratic? **(1)**
10. What are the two conditions to accommodate social diversities in a democracy? Mention any one exception to this. **(3)**
11. Explain the condition under which dignity and freedom of the citizens can be promoted. **(3)**
12. How far is it correct to say that democracies have not been able to reduce poverty? **(3)**
13. 'It may be reasonable to expect from a democracy a government that is attentive to the needs and demands of the people and is largely free of corruption/ Explain this statement in three points. **(3)**
14. Why is democracy not considered simply a rule of majority? **(5)**
15. On the basis of which values will it be a fair expectation that democracy should produce a harmonious social life? Explain. **(5)**

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Answers

1. a. All of the given
Explanation: economic development depends on several factors: country's population size, global situation, cooperation from other countries, economic priorities adopted by the country, etc
2. c. Decision-making
Explanation: Democracy improves the quality of decision-making
3. b. Socio-economic and political
Explanation: Our interest in and fascination for democracy often pushes us into taking a position that democracy can address all socio-economic and political problems.
4. d. Political
Explanation: Democracies are based on political equality. All individuals have equal weight in electing representatives.
5. a. Belgium
Explanation: Democracies usually develop a procedure to conduct their competition. This reduces the possibility of these tensions becoming explosive or violent.
6. Democracy enhances dignity and freedom of an individual by giving equal rights to its citizens.
7. The plus point of democratic regimes is the ability to handle social differences, divisions and conflict.
8. Democracy fails to achieve higher economic development.
9. Democratic government is better as it is answerable to the people.
10. Ability to handle social differences, divisions and conflicts is a definite plus point of democratic regimes. But democracy must fulfill two conditions in order to achieve this outcome.
 - i. It is necessary to understand that democracy is not simply ruled by majority The

majority always needs to work with minority so that governments function to represent the general view. Majority and minority opinions are not permanent.

- ii. It is also necessary that rule by the majority does not become rule by majority community in terms of religion or race or linguistic group. The exception is Sri Lanka where majoritarianism is followed.

- 11. The passion for respect and freedom are the basis of democracy. For societies which have been built for long on the basis of subordination and domination, it is not a simple matter to recognise that all individuals are equal.

The conditions are as follows:

- i. To promote the dignity and freedom of the citizens, all individuals should be treated as equal. Once this principle is recognised, it becomes easier for individuals to wage a struggle against what is not acceptable legally and morally.
 - ii. Claims of the disadvantaged and discriminated for equal status and equal opportunity should be strengthened. Inequalities and atrocities lack moral and legal foundations.
- 12. The ability of democracy to achieve higher developments worries us. Democracies do not appear to be very successful in reducing economic inequalities. Although the majority of voters constitute the poverty-ridden group, yet democratically elected government do not appear to be as keen to address the question of poverty as we would expect them to. The situation is much worse in some other countries. People in several poor countries are now dependent on rich countries even for food.
 - 13. Democracy is a form of government in which people elect their representatives. So it is very natural for the citizens to expect their representatives to be free from corruption.

Corruption of government:

- i. Democracies often frustrate the needs of people and often ignore the demands of the majority.
- ii. The routine tales of corruption are enough to convince us that democracy is not free from this evil.
- iii. But a democratic government is people's own government and pays heed to their demands.
- iv. People have believed that democracy will be attentive and make policies that will free the country from corruption.

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14. Democracy is not considered simply a rule of the majority due to the following reasons:
- i. In an ideal democratic set-up, the majority always needs to work together with the minority, so that governments represent the general view of all the citizens on an equal footing.
 - ii. Majority and minority opinions are not deemed to be permanent.
 - iii. The rule by the majority does not necessarily become the rule by the majority community in terms of race, religion, linguistic groups, etc.
 - iv. Rule by majority means that different persons and groups may and can form a majority. in case of every decision and election.
 - v. Democracy remains the ideal democracy only when every citizen of a country has a chance of being the majority at some point in time.
 - vi. If someone is barred from being in majority on the basis of birth, i.e. on the basis of caste and religion then the democratic rules are not applicable for that person or group.
15. i. Democracies usually develop a procedure to conduct their competitions. This reduces the possibility of some tensions becoming explosive or violent.
- ii. A democratic country looks into the needs and aspirations of every section of society. It is also able to handle social conflicts, divisions and differences.
 - iii. The government of Belgium was able to negotiate differences between two linguist communities after framing policies which accommodated the major ethnic communities in the country.
 - iv. Accommodating the demands of minority communities reduces the possibility of problems becoming explosive or violent. In a democratic government, the majority should work in close cooperation with the minority.
 - v. No society can fully or permanently resolve conflicts among different groups. But mechanisms can be evolved to negotiate the differences.
 - vi. Ability to handle social differences, divisions and conflicts is a definite plus point of a democracy.
 - vii. The rule of the majority community should not be taken in the religious or linguistic sense alone. Thus, on the basis of social accommodation and respecting each other's cultures and freedom - a major feature of democracy, it is a fair expectation that a democratic country should produce a harmonious social life.