

Outcomes of Democracy

Practice Questions

Q. 1. Name any two basis constituents of democracy.

Answer: The constituents of democracy are :-

1. Political Equality - Every citizen of the country enjoy same rights including right to vote, right to speak and so on.
2. Rule of Law - Law must be equal for all the citizens.
3. Human Dignity - Protecting and upholding dignity of each and every individual by the citizens.
4. Being informed and getting involved- Citizens must be informed about every issue and participate individually or collectively in them which shapes the community, nation and world in a whole.
5. Political freedoms - Every citizen is entitled to the freedom of speech, action, vote and so on.
6. Respect and personal freedom- Every citizen have the personal freedom to choose the religion or expressions and these should be respected by others as well.
7. Having formal constitutions, holding elections, multiple political parties.

In whole, democracy brings equality among the citizens and enhances dignity among individuals.

Q. 2. What is the dilemma regarding the practical aspect of democracy?

Answer: Democracy is expected to bring about certain benefits which includes:-

1. Promoting equality among citizens
2. Providing a method to resolve conflicts
3. Improvisation of the quality of decision making
4. Enhancement of dignity of individuals
5. Allowing room for the correction of mistakes

But it was seen that many a times democracy didn't realise these expectations and hence it looked good in principle and not in practice. The dilemma with democracy lies in its consistency and time consumption. Many countries all over the world have accepted the concept of democracy with all the basic features while the results of it varies across the countries depending on their social situations, economic achievements and culture.

Q. 3. List the countries which strongly believe in democracy and people's rule. Which country has least belief in the strength of people's vote?

Answer: Many countries all over the world have accepted the concept of democracy with all the basic features while the results of it varies across the countries depending on their social situations, economic achievements and culture. Some of the countries which strongly believe in democracy and people's rule are :-

1. India
2. Bangladesh
3. South Asia
4. Nepal
5. Sri Lanka

The country which has least belief in the strength of people's vote is Pakistan .

Q. 4. "There is an overwhelming support for the idea of democracy all over the world." Support the statement.

Answer: Democracy is expected to bring about certain benefits which includes:-

1. Promoting equality among citizens.
2. Providing a method to resolve conflicts.
3. Improvisation of the quality of decision making.
4. Enhancement of dignity of individuals.
5. Allowing room for the correction of mistakes.

Many countries all over the world have accepted the concept of democracy with all the basic features while the results of it varies across the countries depending on their social situations, economic achievements and culture.

1. The democratic government has several drawbacks including corruption, ignorance of demands of majority population, less efficient, very slow and so on.
2. But one reason which has made the idea of democracy receive an overwhelming support all over world is that democratic government is a legitimate government.
3. It is said to be the people's Government where people elect their own representatives by whom the wish to be ruled.

Hence, many countries like South Asia, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and so on strongly support democratic government.

Q. 5. Explain any three characteristics of democracy.

Answer: Democratic government is a legitimate government. It is said to be the people's Government where people elect their own representatives by whom the wish to be ruled. The three characteristics of democracy are :-

1. Reduction of inequality and poverty - Democracies are composed of political equality where every individual has equal rights to vote and elect their own representatives. As seen, there are fewer number of people who fall below the poverty line. Therefore these poverty stricken form a minority community and a vote bank for the political parties. So the parties try to work for these people to get their votes resulting to reduction of poverty as well.
2. Fundamental rights and duties - Each and every individual has enjoys equal fundamental rights including right to speech, right to vote, right to information and so on. With rights, there also comes duties such as respecting the national flag, anthem and so on.
3. Rule of law - There is equality before law. Each and every citizen is equal by law and has to abide by them irrespective of caste, colour, creed, race,, economic background and so on.

Democracy in some ways has benefited a number of countries and gained their support whereas some countries still are not too convinced by the idea of democracy.

Q. 6. Explain the role of democratic government in reducing economic disparities.

Answer: Democratic government is a legitimate government. It is said to be the people's Government where people elect their own representatives by whom the wish to be ruled. The role played by democratic government in reducing economic disparities are:-

1. Implementation of social welfare schemes for reduction of poverty.

2. Providing equal opportunities in all spheres irrespective of any kind of discrimination.
3. Ensuring that the wealth is distributed in such a way that all citizens of the country will have a share of it.

These are some of the steps taken by the democratic government to reduce the gap between rich and poor.

Q. 7. “Some people think that democracy produces a less effective government”. Analyse the statement.

Answer: Many countries all over the world have accepted the concept of democracy with all the basic features while the results of it varies across the countries depending on their social situations, economic achievements and culture. The democratic government has several drawbacks including corruption, ignorance of demands of majority population, less efficient, very slow and so on. The reasons because of which some people feel that democracy produces less effective government are :-

1. The needs of people are often frustrated by the Democracies and demands of the majority population are ignored many a times.
2. Decisions are delayed by prolonged deliberations and debates.
3. There are many stories of corruption which strongly proves that democracy is not uncorrupted.

Hence, these are some of the reasons for lesser efficiency of democratic governments as thought by some people.

Q. 8. “Democracies are not appearing to be very successful in reading economic inequalities.” Analyse the statement.

Answer: Many countries all over the world have accepted the concept of democracy with all the basic features while the results of it varies across the countries depending on their social situations, economic achievements and culture. The democratic government has several drawbacks including corruption, ignorance of demands of majority population, less efficient, very slow and so on. In case of reading economic inequalities, the failure of democracies can be seen as well.

1. Basic needs of life including food, clothing, shelter are difficult to make.
2. Economic inequalities are quite prevalent.
3. Due to overpopulation, the pace of economic growth and development has been slower.

4. Unjust distribution of goods and opportunities.
5. Poverty is still another big issue and quite a number of people still fall below the poverty line.
6. New resources are allocated in few hands.

Even though democratic government is said to be the people's government, still it has been unsuccessful in bringing about change in economic dynamics of various countries.

Q. 9. “A public expression of dissatisfaction with democracy shows the success of democratic project.” Justify the statement.

Answer: Democracy is expected to bring about certain benefits which includes:-

1. Promoting equality among citizens.
2. Providing a method to resolve conflicts.
3. Improvisation of the quality of decision making.
4. Enhancement of dignity of individuals.
5. Allowing room for the correction of mistakes.

But when democracy fails to meet the public expectations, there is dissatisfaction among the citizens. A public expression of dissatisfaction with democracy shows the success of democratic project by:-

1. Development of awareness among people and their ability to expect is highlighted by it.
2. People express their problems and lodge their complaints.
3. The power holders are criticised by the citizens and there is a want for making a better democracy.
4. The people understand the value of their rights and how to exercise them.

Q. 10. “Democracy is seen to be good in principle but felt to be so good in practice.” Justify the statement.

Answer: Democracy is expected to bring about certain benefits which includes:-

1. Promoting equality among citizens.

2. Providing a method to resolve conflicts.
3. Improvisation of the quality of decision making.
4. Enhancement of dignity of individuals.
5. Allowing room for the correction of mistakes.

But it was seen that many a times democracy didn't realise these expectations and hence it looked good in principle and not in practice. The dilemma with democracy lies in its consistency and time consumption. Many countries all over the world have accepted the concept of democracy with all the basic features while the results of it varies across the countries depending on their social situations, economic achievements and culture.

- a) The needs of people are often frustrated by the Democracies and demands of the majority population are ignored many a times.
- b) Decisions are delayed by prolonged deliberations and debates.
- c) There are many stories of corruption which strongly proves that democracy is not uncorrupted.

Therefore, democracy is seen to be good in principle but not felt good in practice.

Q. 11. Is having democracy enough? Why? Give value points related to democracy.

Answer: Many countries all over the world have accepted the concept of democracy with all the basic features while the results of it varies across the countries depending on their social situations, economic achievements and culture.

But there are certain countries which can only be ruled dictatorially because of their large size or other reasons.

1. Democracy is a very slow time taking process.
2. The needs of people are often frustrated by the Democracies and demands of the majority population are ignored many a times.
3. Decisions are delayed by prolonged deliberations and debates.
4. There are many stories of corruption which strongly proves that democracy is not uncorrupted.
5. Some people feel that democracy is quite inefficient.

Therefore, democracy is not enough.