



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

CLASS: IX	DEPARTMENT: SOCIAL SCIENCE	SUB: DEMOCRATIC POLITICS
CHAPTER: 1 Q.B. NO: 1	TOPIC: WHAT IS DEMOCRACY? WHY DEMOCRACY?	YEAR: 2025 -2026

1.	<p>Define ‘Democracy’. Write down the features of democracy.</p> <p>Ans: Democracy is a form of government in which rulers are elected by the people through free and fair election.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ In a democracy, the final decision-making power is rest with those elected by the people.➤ Democracy must be based on a free and fair election where those currently in power have a fair chance of losing.➤ In democracy, each adult citizen must have one vote and each vote must have one value.➤ A democratic government rules within the limits set by constitutional law and citizen’s law.
2.	<p>What were the dirty tricks used by the PRI to win the elections in Mexico.</p> <p>Ans. Since its independence in 1930, Mexico holds elections after every six years to elect its President. Until 2000 every election was won by a party called PRI (Institutional Revolutionary Party). Opposition parties never managed to win because PRI uses many dirty tricks to win elections. They were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ All those who were employed in government offices had to attend its party meetings.➤ Teachers of government schools used to force parents to vote for the PRI.➤ Media largely ignored the activities of opposition political parties except to criticize them.➤ Sometimes the polling booths were shifted from one place to another in the last minute, which made it difficult for people to cast their votes.➤ The PRI spent a large sum of money in the campaign for its candidates.
3.	<p>Why are the following countries Non- democratic – Saudi Arabia, Estonia, Fiji. Explain with example.</p> <p>Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ In Saudi Arabia, women did not have the right to vote till 2015.➤ Estonia has made its citizenship rules in such a way that people belonging to Russian minority find it difficult to get the right to vote.➤ In Fiji, the electoral system is such that the vote of an indigenous Fiji has more value than that of an Indian –Fijian.➤ Democracy is based on a fundamental principle that each adult citizen has one vote and each vote must have one value. This condition of democracy is not fulfilled by these countries.

4.	<p>How can popular governments be Non-Democratic? Explain with an example. OR Give a brief account of Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe. Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Robert Mugabe, the leader of ZANU-PF has been ruling the country since independence in 1980. Elections have been held regularly and always won by ZANU-PF. ➤ President Mugabe uses unfair practices in elections. Over the years his government has changed the constitution several times to increase the powers of the President and make him less accountable. ➤ Opposition party workers are harassed and their meeting disrupted. Public protests and demonstrations against the government are declared illegal. There is a law that limits the right to criticize the President. ➤ Television and radio are controlled by the government and give only the ruling party's version. There are independent newspapers but the government harasses those journalists who go against it. ➤ The government has ignored some court judgements that went against it and has pressurized the judges.
5.	<p>What are the merits of democracy? Or “Democracy is considered as a better form of government.” Why? Ans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A democratic government is a better government because it is a more accountable form of government. ➤ Democracy improves the quality of decision making. ➤ Democracy provides a method to deal with differences and conflicts. ➤ Democracy enhances the dignity of citizens. ➤ Democracy is better than other forms of government because it allows us to correct its own mistakes.
6.	<p>Discuss the arguments against democracy. OR Write major hindrances in the successful working of Democracy? Ans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Leaders keep changing in a democracy. This leads to instability. ➤ Democracy is all about political competition and power play. There is no scope for morality. ➤ So many people have to be consulted in a democracy that it leads to delays. ➤ Elected leaders do not know the best interest of the people. It leads to bad decisions. ➤ Ordinary people don't know what is good for them; they should not decide anything. ➤ Democracy leads to corruption for it is based on electoral competition.

7.	<p>“Democracy improves the quality of decision-making.” Explain.</p> <p>Ans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Democracy is based on consultation and discussion. A democratic decision always involves many persons, discussions and meetings. When a number of people put their heads together, they are able to point out possible mistakes in any decision. ➤ As most of the decisions are taken by discussions, this reduces the chances of rash or irresponsible decisions. ➤ If the decision is not according to the wishes of the people, they have the right to protest, and can even force the government to withdraw it.
8.	<p>“Democracy provides a method to deal with differences and conflicts.” Explain.</p> <p>Ans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In any society people are bound to have differences of opinions and interests. ➤ The conflicts can be solved by brutal power. Whichever group is more powerful will dictate its terms and others have to accept that. But that would lead to resentment and unhappiness. ➤ Democracy provides the only peaceful solution to this problem. Different groups can live with one another peacefully.
9.	<p>“Democracy enhances the dignity of citizens.” How?</p> <p>Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Democracy is based on the principle of political equality. The poorest and the least educated have the same status as the rich and the educated. ➤ People are not the subjects of a ruler; they are the rulers themselves. When they make mistakes, they are responsible for their conduct.
10.	<p>“Democracy is better than other forms of government because it allows us to correct its own mistakes.”</p> <p>Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There is no guarantee that mistakes cannot be made in a democracy. The advantage in democracy is that such mistakes cannot be hidden for long. ➤ There is room for correction in a democracy. Either the rulers have to change their decisions or the rulers can be changed. This cannot happen in non-democracy.
11.	<p>Differentiate between Democratic and Non- Democratic Government?</p> <p>Ans.</p> <p><u>Democratic Government:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ It is a form of Government in which the rulers are elected by the people. ✓ People have a share in the decision making of the Government ✓ There are fundamental rights in a democratic government. ✓ There is dignity of the individual in democracy. <p><u>Non- Democratic Government:</u></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ It is a form of government in which rulers are not elected by the people & have no role in the formation of the government. ✓ People have no role in the decision-making process of the government. ✓ People don't have any right to enjoy. ✓ The status of an individual is that of a mere subject.
12.	<p>Name two kinds of Democracies. Which one is the most prevalent in the contemporary world? Why?</p> <p>Ans.</p> <p>Direct Democracy and Indirect Democracy or Representative Democracy: Elected representatives run the government and take important decisions on behalf of the people.</p> <p>Representative Democracy becomes necessary because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Modern democracies involve such a large number of people that it is physically impossible for them to sit together and take a collective decision. ➤ Even if they could, the citizen does not have the time, the desire or the skills to take part in all the decisions.