

LESSON – 5

OUR CONSTITUTION

Additional questions:

1. The draft constitution was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26 November 1949.
2. The committee took almost three years to create a draft of the constitution.
3. The day when constitution of India came into force is celebrated as Republic day.
4. The constitution of India is the longest written constitution in the world.
5. The Preamble may be considered as the heart and soul of our constitution.

E. Answer the following:

1. What is a Constitution? What is the responsibility of the Constituent

Assembly of India?

- A constitution is a body of fundamental principles according to which a country, state or other organization is governed.
- The Constituent Assembly is responsible for drafting a constitution for India.

2. Explain the preamble to our constitution.

- The Preamble is a brief introduction to the constitution of India. It lists down the guiding principles of our constitution.
- It also clearly mentions that the constitution of India derives its authority from the people of India.

3. What are the Fundamental Rights? Name the Fundamental Rights mentioned in the constitution of India.

The constitution of India guarantees the citizens of the country some basic rights that can't be taken away from them. These rights are called the Fundamental Rights.

- Right to equality.
- Right to freedom.
- Right against exploitation
- Right to freedom of religion
- Cultural and educational rights
- Right to constitutional remedies

4. List down four Fundamental Duties as listed in the constitution of India.

- To abide by the constitution.
- To respect the national flag and national anthem.
- To follow the noble ideals of our freedom fighters.
- To protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of our country.

5. What are the Directive Principles as mentioned in the constitution of India?

- The government should work to promote the welfare of the people.
- The state should work to remove the inequalities from society.

- The people of India should have adequate means of livelihood.
- Every child should go to school.
- The government should provide equal pay for equal work.

Extra Questions:

1. What are some of the important features of the Constitution?

Some of the important features of the constitution are the Preamble, Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles.

2. Mention the ideals of the Constitution.

The four ideals of the Indian Constitution include Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.

3. Why are the Directive Principles significant for the government?

The Directive Principles are significant for the government as it ensures that the ideals of the Preamble are kept in mind while making laws, the constitution of India lists some guidelines for the government.

Chapter 6 – Elections in India

Additional questions:

1. India has a parliamentary system of government.
2. The voting right in India is based on the principle of universal adult suffrage
3. The electoral roll is revised every year.
4. EVM completely replaced Ballot papers since 2004.
5. Maximum number of votes to a polling station shall not exceed 1500 voters.
6. Each polling station is open for at least 8 hours on the day of the election
7. Elections for the Lok Sabha usually takes place every five years.

8. The commission implements the moral code of conduct in order to ensure a free and fair election.
9. To be a member of Lok Sabha or state legislative assembly, a citizen should be over 25 years of age.
10. National parties have fixed symbols.
11. State parties have symbols for that state only.
12. Leaders elected are answerable to the voters.

E. Answer the following:

1. Write three-four sentences about the Election Commission of India.

The Election Commission of India is responsible for conducting elections in India. The elections are held according to the constitutional provisions and laws made by the parliament.

2. What is the meaning of the direct election? Name some of the elections in India where the representatives are elected through direct election.

The direct election is where Indian citizens directly cast votes and choose their representatives. The representatives chosen through direct elections are

- Members of the Lok Sabha
- Members of the State Assemblies
- Members of local bodies such as municipal corporations, gram panchayats, block panchayats, and zila panchayats.

3. What is the importance of elections in a democracy?

The nature of democracy is that elected officials are accountable to the people, and they must return to the voters at prescribed intervals to seek their mandate to continue in office. For that reason most democratic constitutions provide that elections are held at fixed regular intervals.

4. What is the model code of conduct?

The Model Code of Conduct (MCC) is set of guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India for conduct of political parties & candidates during elections.

5. Who can contest an election in India?

Anyone who can be a voter can also become a candidate in elections. The candidate should be a minimum of 25 years age. Every person who wishes to contest an election has to fill out a 'nomination form' and give some money as 'security deposit'.

CHAPTER 7 - DEMOCRACY AND US

Additional questions:

1. The parliament has two houses – the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.
2. The Lok Sabha is called the lower house of the parliament.
3. The Rajya Sabha is called the upper house of the parliament.
4. Each state in India has a legislative assembly or Vidhan Sabha
5. The members of Vidhan Sabha are called MLAs
6. Some state assemblies have two houses – Vidhan Sabha and Vidhan Parishad.
7. The union territories are ruled directly by the Union government.
8. The members of the Rajya Sabha have a term of six years.
9. In the Indian Parliamentary system, the executive is accountable to the legislature.
10. The President is the head of the government.
11. The Prime Minister is the real head of the government.
12. The Governor is the head of a state.
13. The governor is appointed by the President of India.
14. Each district of our country has a district court.

E. Answer the following:

- 1. What do you understand by the term democratic form of government?**

The representatives in the parliament are elected by the people of India. The government in India makes the laws and ensures that people follow those laws.

2. Why did the Indian constitution divide the subjects of law under different lists?

For the purpose of smooth governance, the subjects of law are divided into three lists. They are:

Union lists: it contains subjects that are of national importance such as defence, foreign affairs and currency.

State lists: A state government can make laws on which are valid in the respective state only. They are law and order, trade, commerce and agriculture.

Concurrent lists: both the centre as well as the state governments can make laws on the subjects like education and forests.

3. Explain how the legislative branch of the government functions in India.

The legislature is responsible for making the laws of the land.

It prepares the annual financial statement or the budget every year, which is the summary of revenue and expenditure.

The legislature also keeps control over the functioning of the executive branch.

4. What is the role of the judiciary in our governance?

The main function of the judiciary is to protect the rights of an individual. It also resolves any dispute, keeping the law in mind. The judiciary in India is also responsible for interpreting the constitution.

5. Why is the Supreme Court of India important?

□ The Supreme Court of India is important because it is the highest court of India who solves all the disputes. It is guardian of our constitution. It also protects the Fundamental Rights of the citizens.

Extra Questions:

1. What is the function of the executive?

The executive branch is responsible for executing the laws passed by the legislature.

2. Name the two houses of the parliament.

The two houses of the parliament are the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha

3. Name the two houses of the state legislative.

The two houses of the state legislative are Vidhan Sabha and Vidhan Parishad.

CHAPTER 8 - LOCATING PLACES ON EARTH

Additional questions:

1. The latitudes run parallel to each other.
2. The longest latitude is the Equator.
3. The length of latitude decrease towards the poles.
4. The equator is also known as the Great Circle.
5. There are 360 meridians in total.
6. All meridians are of equal length.
7. The latitudes are of different length.

E. Answer the following:

1. Define latitude. What is the equator?

A set of imaginary lines which runs in east west direction are called latitudes. Equator is the longest latitude which runs in the middle of the earth dividing the earth into two equal halves.

2. Define longitude. What is the Prime Meridian?

The semi-circular imaginary lines that connect the North Pole and the South Pole are called longitudes or meridians.

The Prime Meridian is the meridian that passes through Greenwich in London. It is marked as 0° .

3. Point out two differences between latitudes and longitudes.

Latitudes: They are parallel to each other. They vary in length. They decrease as they move towards the poles. They run from east to west direction.

Longitudes: They are semi-circular lines. They are of equal length. They run in north south direction.

4. What is a grid? How it is useful for us?

The longitudes and latitudes form a network or grid on a globe or map. The grid is accurate in locating places of the earth on any map and globe.

5. How do we locate a place on a map?

We can locate a place on a map if we know that exact latitude and longitude. The latitude and longitude of Delhi are 28.7°N and 77.1°E with the help of this information we can find its position on a map or a globe. Delhi would be located exactly at the point where these two lines cross each other.

CHAPTER 9 - WEATHER AND CLIMATE

Additional questions:

1. The study on weather is called meteorology.
2. The study on climate is called climatology.
3. The level of humidity in the atmosphere depends on direction from the sea and the direction of winds.
4. Onshore wind/ sea breeze brings rain to the coastal areas.
5. People experience colder climate in polar regions.
6. The temperature of a place decreases as the altitude increases.

E. Answer the following:

1. Write three main factors that affect the climate of a place.

- The factors that affect the climate of a place are latitude, distance from the sea, altitude, wind and precipitation.

2. Write two major differences between weather and climate.

Weather

- The changes in the atmosphere at a place over a short period of time is called the weather.
- The weather of a place keeps changing from time to time.

Climate

- Climate is the average weather condition of a place or region measured over a long period of time.
- The climate of region includes patterns of precipitation, temperature, humidity, sunshine, wind velocity, and other weather activities.

3. Why do the regions near the equator receive more heat?

Places closer to the equator receive vertical sunrays spread over a small area. They experience hot climates.

4. How does the altitude or a region affect its climate?

The climate of a place is also affected by its altitude. Hilly areas experience colder climates. Most of the hill stations in India like Shimla, Manali and Leh have pleasant weather even during summers. In winters, these places witness snowfall.

5. How does the sea breeze affect the climate of the coastal areas?

An onshore wind, also known as a sea breeze, blows from the sea to the land and carries moisture. Such a breeze brings rain to the coastal areas.