

NCERT Textbook Solutions – Class 9

Social Science

Chapter 6 – Democracy

Book: *Understanding Society: India and Beyond – Grade 9, Part 1*

Below are the **textbook exercise solutions for Chapter 6**, following the questions in the official textbook you provided.

Q1. Read the passage and answer the questions.

a. Which democratic values are reflected in this situation?

The situation reflects several democratic values:

-  **Participation** – Students participate in decision-making.
-  **Equality** – Each member gets an opportunity to express an opinion and vote.
-  **Respect for different opinions** – Different views are considered.
-  **Majority rule** – The decision supported by the majority is accepted.

b. How does voting help resolve differences of opinion?

Voting provides a fair and peaceful way to make a decision when people have different opinions. Each person gets an opportunity to express their choice, and the option receiving majority support is selected.

c. Why is the majority decision important in a democracy?

Majority decision is important because it allows collective decisions to be made while respecting people's participation. It provides a practical way to resolve differences of opinion without force or conflict.

d. Mention responsibilities of elected representatives after a decision is made.

Elected representatives should:

- Respect the decision taken through the democratic process.
 - Remain accountable to the people.
 - Implement the decision fairly.
 - Consider the interests of all citizens, including those who disagreed.
 - Follow the Constitution and the rule of law.
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Q2. How would democracy be affected if citizens stopped following laws and civic responsibilities?

Democracy would become weak if citizens stopped following laws and fulfilling their civic responsibilities.

Laws provide a framework for peaceful and orderly functioning of society. If people regularly ignored laws, public institutions would find it difficult to function properly, and conflicts could increase.

For example, if citizens stopped following traffic rules, roads could become unsafe and accidents could increase. Similarly, failure to respect public property could damage facilities meant for everyone.

Therefore, democracy requires not only democratic institutions but also **responsible citizens who respect laws and civic responsibilities**.



Q3. Which situation best reflects the idea of popular sovereignty and why?



Correct Answer: b. Citizens vote to choose their representatives

Popular sovereignty means that the ultimate source of political power lies with the people.

When citizens vote to choose their representatives, they directly participate in determining who will govern them. Therefore, this situation best reflects popular sovereignty.



Q4. The Rule of Law is violated when:



Correct Answer: c. Powerful individuals are treated above the law

The **Rule of Law** means that everyone is subject to the law and should be treated equally before it.

If powerful individuals are treated as being above the law, the principle of equality before law is violated.

Q5. Why is the Rule of Law essential for protecting democracy?

The Rule of Law is essential because it ensures that **everyone, including government authorities and powerful individuals, is subject to the law.**

It:

-  Protects equality before law.
-  Prevents arbitrary use of power.
-  Protects citizens' rights.
-  Keeps government institutions accountable.
-  Promotes fairness and justice.

Without the Rule of Law, those in power could act without proper legal limits, weakening democracy.

Q6. Is voting alone enough to make a country democratic?

 **No, voting alone is not enough.**

Voting is an important part of democracy because it allows citizens to choose their representatives. However, a democratic country also requires:

-  Rule of Law
-  Democratic institutions
-  Constitutional values
-  Citizen participation
-  Accountability and transparency
-  Freedom to express opinions
-  Protection of citizens' rights

Citizens also contribute to democracy through civic awareness, responsible use of media and participation in community activities.

Therefore, **democracy is much broader than simply holding elections.**



Q7. Social media allows people to express opinions freely.

a. How can this strengthen democracy?

Social media can strengthen democracy by:

-  Giving citizens a platform to express opinions.
-  Spreading information about public issues.
-  Encouraging public participation.
-  Increasing awareness about government policies and social issues.
-  Allowing people to discuss and debate different viewpoints.

b. How can it weaken democracy if used irresponsibly?

If used irresponsibly, social media can:

-  Spread fake news and misinformation.
-  Create hatred and social divisions.
-  Spread rumours quickly.
-  Manipulate public opinion.
-  Encourage abusive or harmful communication.

Therefore, citizens should use social media **responsibly and critically.**



Q8. Write a paragraph on what democracy means to you as a young citizen.

Answer:

Democracy means having the freedom and opportunity to participate in decisions that affect our lives and society. As a young citizen, I understand democracy as a system based on equality, participation, justice and respect for different opinions. I should respect the Constitution, follow laws, use social media responsibly, respect public property and participate in community

activities. I should also stay informed about important issues and respect the rights and opinions of others.

Q9. Conduct a model Parliament session or Gram Sabha in class.

✨ **Suggested Answer / Activity**

Students can organise a **Model Parliament or Gram Sabha** and discuss a local issue such as:

-  Cleanliness
-  School safety
-  Protection of public property

Suggested procedure:

1.  Divide students into different roles.
2.  Present the selected issue.
3.  Allow different members to express their views.
4.  Discuss possible solutions.
5.  Vote on the proposed solutions.
6.  Record the final decision.

This activity demonstrates **participation, discussion, majority decision-making and democratic responsibility**.

Q10. Choose any one democratic institution in India.

Institution: Election Commission of India

a. Its role in democracy

The Election Commission of India conducts and supervises elections. It helps ensure that elections are conducted according to established laws and democratic principles.

b. How does it ensure accountability and participation?

The institution supports citizen participation by conducting elections and providing mechanisms through which citizens can choose their representatives. Free and fair elections also make elected representatives accountable to the people.



Q11. What role does the Constitution play in strengthening democracy in India?

The Constitution provides the fundamental framework for India's democratic system.

It:

- 📜 Establishes democratic institutions.
- ⚖️ Protects citizens' rights.
- 👥 Promotes equality.
- 🏛️ Defines the powers and responsibilities of government institutions.
- 🛡️ Prevents concentration and arbitrary use of power.
- 🗳️ Provides the framework for democratic participation.
- 🤝 Upholds democratic values such as liberty, equality, justice and fraternity.

Thus, the Constitution provides the foundation on which India's democracy functions.



Q12. What challenges do you think democracy in India faces today?

Some important challenges include:

- 📱 Spread of misinformation and fake news.
- ⚖️ Ensuring equal participation and representation.
- 🗣️ Maintaining respectful democratic debate.
- 👥 Ensuring active and informed citizen participation.
- 🛡️ Protecting democratic institutions.
- 🗳️ Promoting responsible use of media and social media.
- 🤝 Ensuring that democratic values are respected in everyday life.

Democracy can become stronger when citizens remain informed, participate responsibly and respect democratic values.

★ Chapter 6 Quick Revision

Democracy = Participation + Equality + Rule of Law + Accountability + Rights + Responsible Citizenship

🔑 Most Important Concepts

📦 **Popular Sovereignty** → Power ultimately belongs to the people.

⚖️ **Rule of Law** → Everyone is subject to the law.

👤 **Citizen Participation** → Citizens actively contribute to democracy.

🏛️ **Democratic Institutions** → Institutions help democracy function effectively.

📜 **Constitution** → Provides the framework and values for democratic governance.

📱 **Responsible Media Use** → Helps citizens stay informed and participate meaningfully.