



Class 9 Social Science – Chapter 6

Important Questions – Democracy

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

Session: 2026–27

These questions are based on **Chapter 6 – Democracy** from the official textbook. The chapter covers the meaning and evolution of democracy, democratic values, institutions, the Constitution, citizen participation, accountability, social media and challenges to Indian democracy.



Very Short Answer Questions

1. What is democracy?
 2. What is meant by **popular sovereignty**?
 3. What is the **Rule of Law**?
 4. What is meant by equality in a democracy?
 5. What is the role of elections in a democracy?
 6. What are Fundamental Rights?
 7. What is accountability?
 8. What is transparency?
 9. What is a multi-party system?
 10. What is citizen participation?
 11. What is civic responsibility?
 12. What is meant by majority rule?
 13. What is the role of the Constitution in a democracy?
 14. When was the Constitution of India adopted?
 15. When did the Constitution of India come into force?
 16. Name any two democratic institutions in India.
 17. What is the role of the Election Commission?
 18. What is a Gram Sabha?
 19. How can social media strengthen democracy?
 20. Name two challenges faced by Indian democracy.
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Short Answer Questions

1. What is democracy? Explain its main features.

Democracy is a form of government in which **power and authority ultimately lie with citizens**, who choose their representatives through free and fair elections. It is based on freedom, equality, justice, rights and duties.

2. Explain the importance of popular sovereignty.

3. What is the Rule of Law? Why is it important?

4. Why is equality essential for democracy?

5. Why are free and fair elections important?

6. Why is voting alone not enough to make a country democratic?

The textbook specifically asks students to explain why democracy involves more than simply voting.

7. What is accountability? How does it strengthen democracy?

8. What is transparency? Why is it important in government?

9. Explain the importance of citizen participation in democracy.

10. What are the responsibilities of citizens in a democracy?

11. How does social media strengthen democracy?

12. How can irresponsible use of social media weaken democracy?

The textbook specifically asks students to examine both the positive and negative effects of social media on democracy.

13. What is the role of the Constitution in strengthening democracy?

14. Why is the Constitution important for protecting citizens' rights?

15. What are some major challenges faced by Indian democracy?

The textbook identifies challenges including **illiteracy, misinformation, inequality, poverty, regionalism and gender inequality**, along with concerns surrounding misinformation and fake news.



Long Answer Questions

1. Explain the essential features of democracy.

Include:

-  Free and fair elections
-  Popular sovereignty
-  Rule of Law
-  Equality
-  Freedom
-  Fundamental Rights
-  Separation of powers
-  Accountability
-  Transparency
-  Citizen participation

The textbook presents these as important features of democratic functioning, extending beyond government institutions into everyday civic life.

2. Explain why democracy is more than just elections.

Discuss:

-  Elections
- 
-  Rule of Law
- 
-  Rights and freedoms
- 
-  Citizen participation
- 
-  Accountability



 Responsible public discussion



 Civic responsibility

The chapter stresses that democracy is reflected in **everyday behaviour, decision-making and civic responsibility**, not only elections.

3. Explain the importance of the Rule of Law in a democracy.

Discuss:

- Laws apply equally to everyone.
- No individual is above the law.
- Government actions can be reviewed.
- Citizens can seek legal remedies.
- It protects rights and prevents arbitrary use of power.

The textbook specifically asks why the Rule of Law is essential for protecting democracy.

4. Explain the role of the Constitution in strengthening Indian democracy.

Include:

-  Fundamental Rights
-  Equality
-  Democratic institutions
-  Elections
-  Citizen participation
-  Limits on government power
-  Accountability

The textbook notes that the Constitution was adopted on **26 November 1949** and came into force on **26 January 1950**, and that it protects the Fundamental Rights of citizens.

5. Explain the role of democratic institutions in India.

Discuss institutions such as:

-  Parliament
-  Election Commission
-  Judiciary
-  Panchayats

The textbook asks students to choose one such institution and explain its role in democracy and how it ensures accountability and participation.

6. Explain the role of citizens in strengthening democracy.

Citizens should:

-  Vote responsibly
-  Express opinions peacefully
-  Stay informed
-  Use social media responsibly
-  Respect laws
-  Respect others' rights
-  Participate in community activities
-  Fulfil civic responsibilities

The textbook stresses informed and responsible citizens as essential to a strong democracy.



HOTS / Analytical Questions

- 1. Why can democracy not survive if citizens stop following laws?**
- 2. Why is majority rule important, but not sufficient, in a democracy?**
- 3. Why must the rights of minorities also be protected in a democracy?**
- 4. How can an informed citizen strengthen democracy?**
- 5. Why can misinformation be dangerous for democratic decision-making?**
- 6. How can social media be both a strength and a challenge for democracy?**

7. Why is accountability important for elected representatives?
 8. Why should citizens participate in local government?
 9. How does the Rule of Law prevent misuse of political power?
 10. Can a country have elections without being truly democratic? Explain.
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Social Media-Based Questions

1. How can social media strengthen democracy?

Possible points:

-  Gives citizens a platform
-  Encourages discussion
-  Spreads information
-  Connects communities
-  Helps raise public issues

2. How can irresponsible social media use weaken democracy?

Possible points:

-  Fake news
-  Misinformation
-  Manipulation of public opinion
-  Confusion
-  Social conflict

The textbook specifically highlights misinformation and fake news as concerns that can influence public opinion and sometimes lead to conflict.



Institution-Based Questions

1. Explain the role of Parliament in a democracy.

2. Explain the role of the Election Commission.
 3. Explain the role of the Judiciary.
 4. Explain the importance of Panchayats in grassroots democracy.
 5. How do democratic institutions ensure accountability?
 6. How do democratic institutions encourage citizen participation?
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Comparison Questions

1. Differentiate between democracy and non-democratic government.
2. Differentiate between majority rule and popular sovereignty.
3. Differentiate between accountability and transparency.
4. Differentiate between rights and duties.
5. Compare responsible and irresponsible use of social media.

Responsible Use



Verify information

Respect others

Encourage discussion

Protect privacy

Promote awareness

Irresponsible Use ⚠️

Share unverified information

Spread hate or misinformation

Create confusion

Misuse personal information

Manipulate opinions



Assertion–Reason Questions

1. Assertion:

Democracy requires free and fair elections.

Reason: Citizens choose their representatives through elections.

2. Assertion:

The Rule of Law is essential for democracy.

Reason: Powerful individuals should not be treated as being above the law.

3. Assertion:

Voting alone is not sufficient for a healthy democracy.

Reason: Democracy also requires citizen participation, rights, accountability and civic responsibility.

4. Assertion:

Social media can strengthen democracy.

Reason: It allows citizens to express opinions and participate in public discussions.

5. Assertion:

Misinformation can weaken democracy.

Reason: False information can influence public opinion and create confusion or conflict.

6. Assertion:

Citizens have responsibilities in a democracy.

Reason: Democracy depends not only on institutions but also on informed and responsible citizens.

Case-Based Questions

Case Study 1 – School Cabinet

A school cabinet is planning a Republic Day celebration. Members have different opinions. After discussion, they vote and choose the activities supported by the majority.

Questions:

- a. Which democratic values are shown here?
- b. How does voting resolve differences?
- c. Why is majority decision important?
- d. What responsibilities do elected representatives have after a decision?

This situation is directly based on the textbook's first end-of-chapter activity.

Case Study 2 – Social Media

A student receives a message on social media containing information about an important public issue. The message has no reliable source.

Questions:

- a. Should the student immediately share it?
 - b. What should the student do first?
 - c. How can misinformation affect democracy?
 - d. Why is access to authentic information important?
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Top 10 Questions for Exam Revision

If students have limited time, prepare these first:

1. ★ What is democracy? Explain its **essential features**.
2. ★ Why is **voting alone not enough** to make a country democratic?
3. ★ Explain the importance of the **Rule of Law**.
4. ★ Explain the role of the **Constitution** in strengthening Indian democracy.
5. ★ Explain the importance of **citizen participation**.
6. ★ Explain **accountability and transparency** in democracy.
7. ★ How can social media **strengthen or weaken democracy**?
8. ★ Explain the role of **democratic institutions** in India.
9. ★ What are the major **challenges faced by Indian democracy**?
10. ★ Explain the **responsibilities of citizens** in a democracy.

These correspond closely to the chapter's own end-of-chapter questions.

Quick Revision Chart

DEMOCRACY

Citizens



Free & Fair Elections



Elected Representatives



Constitution & Rights



Rule of Law



Accountability + Transparency



Citizen Participation



Strong Democracy

CHALLENGES

Illiteracy + Inequality + Poverty + Misinformation + Fake News + Regionalism + Gender Inequality



 Informed Citizens + Responsible Participation + Respect for Democratic Values

The chapter concludes that the strength of democracy depends not only on institutions and laws but also on **informed and responsible citizens who actively participate in shaping society**.