

UNIT: 1 DEMOCRACY

CLASS: VI

SUBJECT: SOCIAL (CIVICS)

I. Choose the correct answer.

1. Early man settled near and practiced agriculture.
a. plains **b. bank of rivers** c. mountains d. hills
2. The birth place of democracy is _____
a. China b. America **c. Greece** d. Rome
3. _____ is celebrated as the International Democracy Day.
a. September 15 b. October 15 c. November 15 d. December 15
4. Who has the right to work in a direct Democracy?
a. Men b. Women c. Representatives **d. All eligible voters**

II. Fill in the blanks.

1. Direct Democracy is practised in Switzerland.
2. The definition of democracy is defined by Abraham Lincoln.
3. People choose their representatives by giving their Votes.
4. In our country Representative democracy is in practice.

III. Answer the following.

1. What is Democracy?

The citizens of a country select their representatives through elections. Thus they take part in the direct governance of a country. This is termed democracy.

2. What are the types of democracy?

Direct democracy and Representative democracy

3. Define: Direct Democracy.

In a direct democracy, only the citizens can make laws. All changes have to be approved by the citizens. The politicians only rule over parliamentary procedure. Eg. Switzerland.

4. Define: Representative Democracy.

Representative democracy is a type of democracy founded on the principle of elected officials representing a group of people.

5. What are the salient features of our constitution that you have understood?

Constitution of India guides the Indians in all aspects and maintains law and order.

- ❖ It ensures freedom, equality and justice to everyone.

- ❖ It defines the political principles, the structure of government, the powers and responsibilities.
- ❖ It fixes the Rights and Duties and Directive Principles of the Citizens.
- ❖ It is the longest written constitution in the world.

IV. HOTs

1. Compare and contrast direct democracy and representative democracy.

(i) A direct democracy or pure democracy is a form of government wherein the citizens have a direct say in the formation of laws and issues that affect them. In a representative democracy form of government, the citizens vote for or elect a representative to represent them in Congress or Senate.

(ii) In a direct democracy the decisions are always upheld. In a representative democracy, the representative may or may not consider their decisions and act on his own.

(iii) Direct democracy is suitable for small communities or countries while most countries with large populations opt for a representative government.

(iv) In a direct democracy, citizens are more actively involved in their government. The citizens of a representative democracy often let their Representatives decide on issues for them.

V. Activity.

1. Discuss about the merits and demerits of democracy.

The merits of democracy are:

A democratic government is a better form of government because it is more accountable form of government.

1. Democracy improves the quality of decision making,
2. Democracy enhances the dignity of citizens.
3. Poor and least educated has the same status as the rich and educated.
4. Democracy allows us to correct our own mistakes.

Demerits:

1. Leaders keep on changing leading to instability.
2. Democracy is all about political competition and power play and there is no scope for mortality.
3. So many people have to be consulted in a democracy that it leads to delays.
4. Democracy leads to corruption for it is based on electoral competition.
5. Ordinary people do not know what is good for them, they should not decide anything.