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Social Science — Class 7

Chapter(s): The Constitution of India - An Introduction

Maximum Marks: 39

Time Allowed: 1 Hour 10 Minutes

Section A — MCQ & Assertion-Reason (1 mark each)

Q1. A State government passes a law that allows the same person to be both the head of the executive agency that implements the law and the judge who decides whether the law was broken. Which constitutional idea is most directly violated? [1 mark]

- A) Separation of powers among legislature, executive and judiciary
- B) Universal adult franchise
- C) Federalism between Centre and States
- D) Fundamental Duties in Part IV-A

Q2. A student's group wants the government to provide a good standard of living for everyone. They want to file a court case demanding this immediately. Based on the chapter, what is the strongest constitutional response? [1 mark]

- A) The court must enforce it because it is a Fundamental Right.
- B) The court cannot be approached because it is a Directive Principle, which works as a guideline.
- C) The court must enforce it because it is a Fundamental Duty.
- D) The President alone can enforce it using an oath.

Q3. Look at the timeline table. Table: Steps in framing the Constitution

1. Constituent Assembly formed

2. Work completed

3. Constitution comes into effect Which option correctly matches each step with the correct date from the chapter? [1 mark]

- A) 1-26 Nov 1949; 2-26 Jan 1950; 3-9 Dec 1946
- B) 1-9 Dec 1946; 2-26 Nov 1949; 3-26 Jan 1950
- C) 1-15 Aug 1947; 2-26 Jan 1950; 3-26 Nov 1949
- D) 1-26 Jan 1950; 2-9 Dec 1946; 3-26 Nov 1949

Q4. A group claims: "Because India is a republic, no external power can dictate India's internal or external decisions." Which correction best separates the two Preamble ideas involved? [1 mark]

- A) Republic means power lies with Parliament; Sovereign means head of state is elected.
- B) Republic means head of state is elected; Sovereign means no external power can dictate India's decisions.
- C) Republic means equal treatment by law; Sovereign means social inequalities must be reduced.
- D) Republic means all religions are equal; Sovereign means citizens have duties to defend the country.

Q5. A school debate argues that adding Part IV-A (Fundamental Duties) proves the Constitution is meant to change over time. Which statement best supports this claim using the chapter? [1 mark]

- A) The Constitution cannot change; only ordinary laws can change.
- B) Amendments can be made, but only by the President without discussion.
- C) Amendments are rigorously debated in Parliament and some also require State assembly debates.
- D) Any citizen can change the Constitution by writing a petition, and it is automatically accepted.

Q6. Assertion (A): The Constitution is called a "living document" because it can be changed through amendments when new needs arise.

Reason (R): Any constitutional change is accepted automatically if demanded by a popular movement. [1 mark]

- A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C) A is true but R is false.
- D) A is false but R is true.

Q7. Assertion (A): If a person is treated unfairly because of who they are, they can approach the court under Fundamental Rights.

Reason (R): Directive Principles are enforceable in court in the same way as Fundamental Rights. [1 mark]

- A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C) A is true but R is false.
- D) A is false but R is true.

Q8. Assertion (A): The Constituent Assembly members were chosen in a way that connected them to the people, even though the Assembly itself did not have direct elections by all adults.

Reason (R): Members of the Constituent Assembly were elected by provincial legislative assemblies whose members had been elected by the people. [1 mark]

- A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C) A is true but R is false.
- D) A is false but R is true.

Q9. Assertion (A): In India's parliamentary form of government, the executive is responsible for implementing the laws.

Reason (R): The legislature makes laws, while the executive headed by the prime minister implements them. [1 mark]

- A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C) A is true but R is false.
- D) A is false but R is true.

Q10. Assertion (A): The Preamble indicates that the Constitution was not handed down by a king or outside power.

Reason (R): The Preamble begins with "WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA", showing it was enacted by the people through their representatives. [1 mark]

- A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C) A is true but R is false.
- D) A is false but R is true.

Section B — Very Short Answer (2 marks each)

Q11. Answer in exactly two sentences: Explain how the chapter distinguishes between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy using the idea of "court enforceability." [2 marks]

Q12. Answer in exactly two sentences: A new local rule bans citizens from hoisting the National Flag at home. Using the chapter's idea of the Constitution as a "rulebook," state two constitutional checks a citizen can use to challenge such a rule. [2 marks]

Q13. Answer in exactly two sentences: Describe the chain of accountability for making the Constitution, starting from the people and ending at the Constituent Assembly members, as given in the chapter. [2 marks]

Section C — Short Answer (3 marks each)
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Q14. Answer in 3 numbered points (about 60-80 words): Explain how the Constitution's design of (i) separation of powers and (ii) checks and balances together supports democracy. Use one concrete illustration involving a law made by the legislature. [3 marks]

Q15. Answer in 3 numbered points (about 60-80 words): Using the chapter's description, explain why the framers included both Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles. Your points must show (a) immediacy, (b) long-term goals, and (c) a consequence for citizens if the government fails to act. [3 marks]

Q16. Answer in 3 numbered points (about 60-80 words): Assess how the composition and selection of the Constituent Assembly supported democratic legitimacy. You must include one point using numbers from the chapter and one point about the election route. [3 marks]

Section D — Long Answer (5 marks each)

Q17. A State government passes a new rule that limits peaceful public meetings in certain areas and also allows officials to detain organisers without giving reasons. A student group argues that this is unfair and wants to challenge it. Explain, in a structured way, how the Constitution acts as a 'rulebook' to prevent misuse of power in such a situation. Your answer must include: (a) the roles of legislature, executive and judiciary, (b) how checks and balances work, and (c) how Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles differ in enforcement. [5 marks]

Q18. The chapter describes the Constitution as a living document shaped by many influences. Explain how India's Constitution was developed and why it can still change over time without losing stability. In your answer, cover: the Constituent Assembly process, representation and debate, influences on the Constitution, and why amendments require rigorous discussion. [5 marks]

Section E — Case Study (4 marks each)
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Q19. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: [4 marks]

A city corporation introduces a new civic policy called "Clean Streets, Safe City". Under this policy, local officers can fine any street vendor immediately if they think the vendor is "causing inconvenience". The written guideline does not define what counts as inconvenience, and different officers apply it differently. Some vendors say they are targeted because of their community identity, while others say they are fined even when they stand in permitted zones. A citizens' group supports cleanliness but worries about unfairness and lack of accountability. They demand three things: (1) clear rules that everyone can understand, (2) a way to challenge fines without fear, and (3) a long-term

plan so that vendors also get better working conditions. During a public meeting, some people argue that since the policy aims at public welfare, it should not be questioned in court. Others reply that welfare goals cannot justify arbitrary power and that constitutional values must guide both policy and enforcement.

(i) Which constitutional principle is most directly violated when the same rule is applied differently by different officers, and why? (1 mark)

(ii) Name the organ of government that can check whether such a policy or its enforcement goes against the Constitution, and state one way it does so. (1 mark)

(iii) The group wants both immediate protection from unfair fines and a long-term improvement in vendors' conditions. Using the chapter's distinction, explain which part connects to Fundamental Rights and which connects to Directive Principles, with reasons. (2 marks)

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Social Science — Class 7
Chapter(s): The Constitution of India - An Introduction

Section A — MCQ & Assertion-Reason (1 mark each)

A1.

Answer:

Correct option: (A)

Separation of powers among legislature, executive and judiciary

Explanation:

The Constitution lays down a framework where the legislature makes laws, the executive implements them, and the judiciary checks whether laws follow the Constitution and decides violations. If one person controls implementation and judging, these roles are no longer separate, so the separation of powers is violated. Hence, option (A) is correct.

A2.

Answer:

Correct option: (B)

The court cannot be approached because it is a Directive Principle, which works as a guideline.

Explanation:

Directive Principles of State Policy are goals the government should try to achieve, such as improving living standards, but they are not enforceable in court if the government does not follow them. Fundamental Rights, in contrast, can be demanded in court. Hence, option (B) is correct.

A3.

Answer:

Correct option: (B)

1-9 Dec 1946; 2-26 Nov 1949; 3-26 Jan 1950

Explanation:

The Constituent Assembly was formed on 9 December 1946, completed its work on 26 November 1949, and the Constitution came into effect on 26 January 1950. This exact

sequence is matched only in option (B). Hence, option (B) is correct.

A4.

Answer:

Correct option: (B)

Republic means head of state is elected; Sovereign means no external power can dictate India's decisions.

Explanation:

The Preamble explains that a republic has an elected head of state, not a hereditary one. It also explains that sovereign means people have supreme right to decide internal and external matters and no external power can dictate India's government. Hence, option (B) is correct.

A5.

Answer:

Correct option: (C)

Amendments are rigorously debated in Parliament and some also require State assembly debates.

Explanation:

The chapter describes the Constitution as a living document and explains that amendments are rigorously debated in Parliament, with some also involving legislative assemblies and public opinions. The addition of Fundamental Duties in 1976 is

Given: as an example of such change. Hence, option (C) is correct.

A6.

Answer:

Correct option: (C)

A is true but R is false.

Explanation:

The chapter explains that the Constitution is a living document because amendments can be made to meet new needs (for example, Fundamental Duties were added in 1976). It also says amendments are rigorously debated in Parliament and sometimes in State assemblies, and public opinion may be sought; they are not accepted automatically. Hence, option (C) is correct.

A7.

Answer:

Correct option: (C)

A is true but R is false.

Explanation:

The chapter clearly states that Fundamental Rights are promises that must be kept and a person can go to court if treated unfairly. It also states that Directive Principles are guidelines and one cannot go to a judge to complain if the government does not follow them. Hence, option (C) is correct.

A8.

Answer:

Correct option: (A)

Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

The chapter says the Constituent Assembly was formed with members elected by the legislative assemblies of the provinces, and those assembly members had been elected by the people. This creates an indirect link between the Constituent Assembly and the people, matching the assertion. Hence, option (A) is correct.

A9.

Answer:

Correct option: (A)

Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

The chapter states that the legislature makes laws and the law is implemented by the executive, which is headed by the prime minister. Therefore, the reason directly explains why the executive's responsibility is implementation. Hence, option (A) is correct.

A10.

Answer:

Correct option: (A)

Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

The chapter explains that "WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA" means the Constitution has been drawn up and enacted by the people through their representatives, not

Given: by a king or outside powers. This directly supports and explains the assertion. Hence, option (A) is correct.

Section B — Very Short Answer (2 marks each)

A11.

Answer:

Fundamental Rights are promises that can be enforced in court, so a person can approach a judge if they are treated unfairly because of who they are. Directive Principles of State Policy are goals or guidelines for the government (like improving living standards) and cannot be demanded in court if the government does not follow them.

This targets the key distinction the chapter makes: rights are immediately claimable and legally enforceable, while Directive Principles guide long-term governance. Many students mix them up because both appear as important constitutional values, but only Fundamental Rights create a direct legal remedy. The enforceability test is therefore a quick way to classify a demand in an exam

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A12.

Answer:

A citizen can challenge the rule in court by linking it to Fundamental Rights, because rights can be demanded when a person is treated unfairly or their lawful freedom is restricted. The judiciary can then check whether the rule is in accordance with the Constitution and can strike it down if it violates constitutional provisions.

The chapter explains that the Constitution is the basic law and that judges promise to follow its provisions, with the judiciary ensuring laws and rules match the Constitution. It also explains that Fundamental Rights are enforceable, giving citizens a direct remedy in court. These two checks together show how unconstitutional restrictions can be corrected in a democracy.

A13.

Answer:

The people elected members of the provincial legislative assemblies, and those assemblies then elected the members of the Constituent Assembly. This indirect election connected the Constitution-making process to the people through their representatives.

The chapter gives this selection route to show democratic legitimacy even before the Constitution came into effect. Writing "elected by the provinces" alone is incomplete; the scoring

must show the two-step link that begins with the people. This also helps explain why the Preamble says "We, the People of India."

Section C — Short Answer (3 marks each)
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A14.

Answer:

- 1) Separation of powers: The legislature makes laws, the executive implements them, and the judiciary interprets them; this prevents one office from controlling every step of governance.
- 2) Checks and balances: Each organ can limit the others to ensure fairness and accountability, so power is not used arbitrarily.
- 3) Illustration: If the legislature passes a law, the executive must follow the constitutional limits while implementing it, and the judiciary can test whether that law is in accordance with the Constitution.

A15.

Answer:

- 1) Immediate protection: Fundamental Rights are promises that must be kept, so citizens can demand them right away.
- 2) Long-term direction: Directive Principles set bigger goals (like better living standards) that may take time as the country progresses.
- 3) Consequence for citizens: If Fundamental Rights are violated, a person can go to court; if Directive Principles are not followed, one cannot complain to a judge because they act as guidelines, not strict rules.

A16.

Answer:

- 1) Broad representation: The Assembly initially had 389 members (later 299 after Partition) with members from diverse regions, professions and social groups, showing an attempt at inclusive constitution-making.
- 2) Women's presence: The chapter notes 15 women members, indicating inclusion of women's voices, though in limited numbers.
- 3) Election route: Members were elected by provincial legislative assemblies, whose members had been elected by the people, creating an indirect but real link to citizens.

Section D — Long Answer (5 marks each)

A17.

Answer:

A Constitution is the supreme rulebook that limits government power and protects citizens when new rules threaten fairness.

- 1) Framework of organs: The legislature makes laws, but it is not above the Constitution. The executive implements laws, yet it must follow legal procedures and cannot act on personal will.
- 2) Separation of powers: Each organ has its own role so that no single authority controls everything. This separation reduces chances of arbitrary detention or blanket restrictions on meetings.
- 3) Checks and balances: The executive's actions can be questioned in the legislature and tested in courts. Courts can examine whether the law and its implementation follow constitutional limits.
- 4) Fundamental Rights as enforceable promises: If the rule leads to unfair treatment or violates equality before law, citizens can approach the court. Fundamental Rights are meant to be protected immediately and the judge can provide remedies.
- 5) Directive Principles as guiding goals: The government should aim for better living standards and welfare, but failure to follow these cannot directly be complained about in court. They guide policy-making, while rights provide direct protection in conflicts.

Conclusion: The Constitution restrains law-making and law-enforcement through separated powers, judicial review and enforceable rights, ensuring that democracy functions with fairness and accountability.

A18.

Answer:

India's Constitution was created through an organised, representative process and is designed to evolve carefully as society changes.

- 1) Constituent Assembly and purpose: A Constituent Assembly was formed in 1946 to decide how independent India would be governed. It worked for nearly three years to draft a democratic Constitution.
- 2) Representation and legitimacy: Members were elected indirectly through provincial legislative assemblies that were chosen by people. The Assembly had wide representation of regions, professions and social groups, including women, which strengthened acceptance.
- 3) Debate and drafting: Decisions were not instant; ideas were discussed and refined in committees and in the Assembly. Dr. Rajendra Prasad chaired the Assembly and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar led the Drafting Committee, helping convert debates into clear provisions.
- 4) Multiple influences: Ideals of the freedom movement shaped commitments like adult franchise, separation of powers and protection of rights. India's civilisational heritage contributed values such as duties, respect for learning and harmony; useful features from other constitutions were also studied.

5) Living document through amendments: New needs arise, so amendments are allowed, but only after rigorous debate in Parliament and sometimes in State legislatures, often with public opinions considered. This makes change possible while preventing hasty or partisan rewriting.

Conclusion: The Constitution balances continuity and reform by combining broad-based drafting with a strict, debate-driven amendment process.

Section E — Case Study (4 marks each)
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A19.

(i) Which constitutional principle is most directly violated when the same rule is applied differently by different officers, and why?

Answer:

Equality before law is violated because citizens must be treated in the same manner under the same law, not according to an officer's personal choice.

(ii) Name the organ of government that can check whether such a policy or its enforcement goes against the Constitution, and state one way it does so.

Answer:

The judiciary can check it by hearing petitions and deciding whether the policy and its implementation conform to constitutional provisions, and then giving remedies if they do not.

(iii) The group wants both immediate protection from unfair fines and a long-term improvement in vendors' conditions. Using the chapter's distinction, explain which part connects to Fundamental Rights and which connects to Directive Principles, with reasons.

Answer:

Immediate protection from arbitrary fines connects to Fundamental Rights because rights are enforceable promises and a person can approach a court for relief against unfair treatment. Long-term improvement in vendors' conditions connects to Directive Principles because they are welfare goals and guidelines that the government should work towards over time, but they are not directly enforceable in court.