

1. Democracy–Evolution and Focus

Worksheet 1

A Fill in the blanks to complete each sentence below:

1. The word 'Democracy' is derived from two Greek words _____ and _____, meaning 'people' and 'role of government'.
2. Feudalism had three factors: _____ [noble], _____ [the person granted land by the noble] and _____ [the landless].
3. The British Parliament consists of the House of _____ and the House of _____.
4. The first country to have a written constitution was _____, which has a _____ Government.
5. The _____ Estate in France formed the _____ and made a constitution that came into force in _____.
6. _____ is a country that follows the system of direct democracy.
7. The organs of government in India are the _____, the _____ and the _____.
8. Dr B.R. Ambedkar is called the _____ of the _____.
9. Every citizen of India is subject to the '_____'.

10. The Constitution of India provides for the _____ and _____ of all people.

B Answer the following questions:

1. How did Abraham Lincoln define democracy?

2. What efforts did Dr B.R. Ambedkar make for people?

3. Why did Dr Martin Luther King Jr. receive the Nobel Peace Prize?

4. What does Article 16 of the Constitution provide?

5. What is the Midday Meal Scheme and how is it helpful?

ANSWERS TO WORKSHEET I



- A. 1. demos; kratos 2. Lord; Vassal; Fief 3. Lords; Commons 4. America; Federal
5. Third; National Assembly; 1791 6. Switzerland 7. Legislature; Executive; Judiciary
8. Father; Constitution 9. Rule of law 10. freedom; equality
- B. 1. Abraham Lincoln defined democracy as government of the people, by the people and for the people.
2. Dr B.R. Ambedkar made efforts to give basic rights to all people under the Constitution.
3. Dr Martin Luther King Jr. received the Nobel Peace Prize for leading the Civil Rights Movement in the USA.
4. Article 16 provides equal opportunities for employment under the states.
5. The Midday Meal Scheme provides an assured meal in elementary schools, thus promoting equality. It has also proved an incentive to students to improve their attendance in schools.

Worksheet 2

A Make a chart in your books showing the development of various forms of government in the following places:

(a) Greece (b) Rome (c) England (d) The USA (e) France

ANSWERS TO WORKSHEET 2



- A. (a) Greece, about 2500 years ago, had small states where people gathered to make laws and rules. This was Direct Democracy.
- (b) Rome combined the monarchical, democratic and aristocratic systems. It developed a political and economic system called feudalism, which became popular all over Europe. It had three factors: Lord [noble], Vassal [person granted land by the noble] and Fief [the landless]. This system ended after the 14th century.
- (c) England saw changes that gave rise to representative democracy and nationalism. In the 16th century, England was defeated by Spain and this led to the growth of the Parliament which became supreme; the king had power but was under the control of the Parliament. By the 17th century, power was transferred to the two houses of Parliament: House of Lords and House of Commons. Initially, the right to vote restricted to the middle class. Later, it extended to the working class and to women.
- (d) America saw democratic changes after the War of Independence [1775-83]. It became the first country with a written constitution that came into force in 1789. It has a Federal Government.
- (e) France brought in democracy with the French Revolution with its slogan of liberty, equality and fraternity. It broke out because people did not have the freedom to express themselves, so they fought against privileges of the nobles and the clergy. The French people were divided into three estates: the first—clergy; the second—nobility; the third—the people. The Third Estate declared themselves the National Assembly in 1789 and began the process of making a constitution which came into force in 1791.