**CLASS 9TH**

**SUBJECT CIVICS**

**SESSION :2019-2020**

**UNIT -2ND**

**LESSON NO: - 02.**

**CHAPTER: - WHAT IS DEMOCRACY? WHY DEMOCRACY?**

Q1:- Give the modern meaning of democracy?

Ans: - The term democracy is derived from the Greek words- demos which means “the people” and crates which means” government.” Democracy thus means “the government of the people,” or rule of the people. Democracy means that the government of the state is to be run by the people. People will have share in the administration of the state. According to Abrahim Lincoln “Democracy is a government of the people, by the people and for the people.” Today, democracy is not only the form of government but also a way of life. It is applied even in economic and social life.

Q2:- What are the features of Democracy?

Ans: - Democracy as a system of government has five key features:

1. Free and Fair Periodic Elections: People choose representatives by free and fair periodic elections. Power flows from the people to the leaders of government. Elections have to occur at regular intervals, as prescribed by law.
2. The Role of Citizen in a Democracy: Citizen has to participate in public life. They have to become informed about public issue, to watch their political leaders and to express their opinions.
3. The Right of Citizen in a Democracy: Every citizen has certain basic rights that the states cannot take away from them. These rights are guaranteed by the constitutions. These rights are called Fundamental Rights.
4. The Rule of Law: Democracy is a system of rule of laws, not by individuals. Rule of law protects rights of citizens, maintain order, and limits the power of government.
5. Consensus and tolerance as the limits and requirements for democracy: In democracy, citizen must not only participate and exercise their rights but must also observe certain principles and rules of democratic conduct. They must respect the law and reject violence. Democracy requires compromise. It is impossible for everyone to achieve everything they want.

Q3:- List few arguments against Democracy.

Ans:- Some of the arguments are:-

1. Leaders keep on changing in a democracy. This leads to instability.
2. Democracy is all about political competition and power play. There is no scope for morality.
3. So many people have to be consulted in a democracy that leads to delay in the formation of laws.
4. Elected leaders do not know the best interest of the people. It leads to bad decision.
5. Democracy leads to corruption for it is based on electoral competition.
6. Ordinary people don’t know what is good for them; they should not decide everything.

Q4:- Consider the following facts about a country and decide if you would call it a democracy. Give reasons.

Ans:- For parts refer to book.

1. The country is a democratic, there are periodic elections and there is a flow of power from people to leaders in government.
2. The country is not a democratic and it does not have sovereignty.
3. The country is not a democratic because people are deprived to practice its culture.
4. It’s not a democratic country as people are stopped to express their opinions.
5. Not a democratic country, right to information is not provided to the people

**Short Answer Type Questions**

Q1:- Why is Democracy important?

Ans:- Democracy is important, as it protects the interest and demands of people especially of minority groups. It is also an important factor of controlling government power and prevents the people who hold power for using it for their own gain rather than for the people.

Q2:- What do you mean by free and fair periodic elections?

Ans:-People choose their representatives by free and fair elections. Elections occur at regular intervals. All political parties are treated equally. They have the right to campaign freely. Voters must be able to vote in secret, free of intimidation and fraud.

Q3:- What is the role of citizens in democracy?

Ans:- The key role of citizens in a democracy is to participate in public life. Voting in elections is another important civic duty of all citizens. Citizens should watch carefully their representatives and express their opinion and interests.

Q4:- Give two strong arguments in favour of Democracy?

Ans:-

1. Democratic government is a better government because it is a more accountable form of government.
2. Democracy enhances the dignity of citizens.

**Very Short Answer Type Questions.**

Q1:- What is representative Democracy?

Ans:- Representative Democracy is the indirect form of democracy, where all the people do not rule. A majority is allowed to take decisions on behalf of all the people.

Q2:-What is meant by consensus?

Ans:- Consensus means when a group (here government) make decision by seeking the consent of all participants (people representatives in government).

Q3:- What is meant by Rule of Law?

Ans:- Rule of law means to run government not on will but by fixed laws. No one is above the law, not even a king, or an elected president.

**Objective Type Questions**

1. The word democracy has been derived from Greek word.
2. Democracy in Ancient times was direct.
3. Every government in contemporary world wants to be called Democratic.