

*** Multiple choice questions.****[15]**

1. What does 'Universal Adult Franchise' mean?

- (A) Right to vote for educated people
- (B) Right to vote for all adults regardless of caste, religion or gender
- (C) Right to vote for men above 18 years
- (D) Right to vote only during national election

Ans. : (B) Right to vote for all adults regardless of caste, religion or gender

2. At what age can Indian citizens vote?

- (A) 21 years and above
- (B) 25 years and above
- (C) 18 years and above
- (D) 30 years and above

Ans. : (C) 18 years and above

3. Who conducts elections in India?

- (A) Parliament
- (B) Supreme Court
- (C) President of India
- (D) Election Commission of India

Ans. : (D) Election Commission of India

4. What does NOT disqualify a person from voting in India?

- (A) Being under 18 years of age
- (B) Being of unsound mind
- (C) Being a citizen of another country
- (D) Being a member of a political party

Ans. : (D) Being a member of a political party

5. What does the term 'electorate' refer to?

- (A) Group of candidates contesting elections
- (B) The Election Commission team
- (C) All eligible voters in a country
- (D) Members of Parliament

Ans. : (C) All eligible voters in a country

6. Which system is followed in Indian elections for choosing candidates?

- (A) A person securing more than 50% votes
- (B) First-Past-The-Post
- (C) Preferential voting
- (D) Direct selection



Ans. : (B) First-Past-The-Post

7. What is the role of the Election Commission?

- (A) Create laws for elections (B) Choose political candidates
(C) Conduct free and fair elections (D) Represent India in UN elections

Ans. : (C) Conduct free and fair elections

8. How many seats are there in the Lok Sabha?

- (A) 543 (B) 534 (C) 435 (D) 453

Ans.: (A) 543

9. How many Lok Sabha constituencies are reserved for persons from Scheduled Castes?

- (A) 48 (B) 64 (C) 72 (D) 84

Ans. : (D) 84

10. How many Lok Sabha constituencies are reserved for persons from Scheduled Tribes?

- (A) 74 (B) 67 (C) 47 (D) 52

Ans. : (C) 47

11. What does not fall under the electoral process?

- (A) Voting (B) Counting of votes
(C) Filing returns (D) Declaring results

Ans. : (C) Filing returns

12. What helps prevent unfair practices during elections?

- (A) Political rallies (B) Newspaper advertisement
(C) Model Code of Conduct (D) Party manifestos

Ans. : (D) Party manifestos

13. Which body decides the schedule of elections in India?

- (A) Survey of India
(B) Comptroller and Auditor General of India
(C) The Election Commission of India
(D) Statistical Society of India

Ans. : (C) The Election Commission of India

14. Elections of Urban Local Bodies and Panchayats are conducted by whom?

- (A) The Election Commission of India
(B) The State Election Commission
(C) The State Legislative Assembly



(D) The Governor of the State

Ans. : (B) The State Election Commission

15. What is the term of a Rajya Sabha member?

- (A) 2 years (B) 4 years (C) 5 years (D) 6 years

Ans. : (D) 6 years

* In the question given below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and chose the correct option: [5]

16. **Assertion (A):** India follows the principle of universal adult franchise.

Reason (R): Only literate citizens in India are allowed to vote.

Codes:

- (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.

Ans. : (C) (A) is true but (R) is false.

Explanation: India allows all citizens aged 18 years and above to vote regardless of literacy. The reason is incorrect and contradicts the assertion.

17. **Assertion (A):** The Election Commission of India is an independent constitutional body.

Reason (R): It ensures free and fair conduct of elections in India.

Codes:

- (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.

Ans. : (A) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

Explanation: The ECI is independent and is specifically tasked with conducting impartial elections, making the reason a correct explanation.

18. **Assertion (A):** The Rajya Sabha is called a permanent house.

Reason (R): One-third of its members retire every two years.

Codes:

- (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.

Ans. : (A) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

Explanation: The Rajya Sabha is never dissolved because only one-third of its members retire every two years, ensuring continuity.

19. **Assertion (A):** NOTA (None of the above) gives voters the option to reject all candidates.

Reason (R): NOTA votes are counted and can change the result of an election.

Codes:

(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.

Ans. : (C) (A) is true, but (R) is false.

20. **Assertion (A):** Elections in India are conducted using Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs).

Reason (R): EVMs reduce paper usage and speed up counting.

Codes:

(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.

Ans.: (A) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

*** State Whether The Sentences Are True Or False.[1 Marks Each]**

[15]

21. Only citizen aged 21 years and above is eligible to vote.

Ans. : false-Reason: The minimum voting age in India is 18 years, not 21.

22. The Election Commission of India ensures free and fair elections.

Ans. : true-Reason: It is a constitutional body responsible for conducting elections impartially.

23. The Lok Sabha has 543 elected members.

Ans. : true-Reason: India is divided into 543 constituencies for Lok Sabha elections.

24. Voter ID card is not necessary for voting in India.

Ans. : false-Reason: Voter ID card is required to verify the identity of the voter at polling stations.

25. India granted voting rights to women only in 1971.

Ans. : false-Reason: India granted voting rights to women from the very beginning in 1950. Infact Switzerland, not India, granted voting rights to women in 1971.

26. A person found guilty of serious crimes can be barred from voting.

Ans. : true-Reason: The law restricts voting rights for those convicted of serious offences.

27. The Vice President of India is directly elected by the public.

Ans. : false-Reason: The Vice President is elected by Members of Parliament through a single vote system.

28. Rajya Sabha members are elected using an indirect election method.

Ans. : true-Reason: Rajya Sabha members are elected by the MLAs, not by the general public.

29. The Model Code of Conduct applies only after elections are over.

Ans. : false-Reason: The Model Code of Conduct applies from the date of announcement of elections till the results are declared.

30. Electronic Voting Machines are used in Indian elections.

Ans. : true-Reason: EVMs are widely used in elections to cast and count votes efficiently.

31. The first general elections in India after Independence were held in 1947-48.

Ans. : false

32. The process of voting for the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha elections is similar.

Ans. : false

33. A voter's vote is kept secret to protect their identity.

Ans. : true

34. The First-Past-The-Post means the candidate has to secure 51% or more votes to win the election.

Ans. : false

35. The nominated members of Rajya Sabha do not have a right to vote in the general elections.

Ans. : true

*** Fill In The Blanks With Correct Alternative.[1 Marks Each]**

[15]

36. In India all votes have value. (Permanent, equal)

Ans. : equal

37. In India votes are not _____. (transferable, Permanent)

Ans. : transferable

38. Before Independence only _____ per cent of Indians were allowed to vote. (50 ,13)

Ans. : 13



39. In 1947, our literacy rate was _____ per cent. (12, 15)

Ans. : 12

40. In women were granted right to vote in 1971. (transferable, Switzerland)

Ans. : Switzerland

41. The Election Commission of India was established in the year _____. (1950, 1960)

Ans. : 1950

42. The right to vote in India is given under Article _____ of the Constitution. (326, 330)

Ans. : 326

43. The Rajya Sabha is also called _____ House because it is never dissolved. (directly, Permanent)

Ans. : Permanent

44. The President of India is elected by an _____ college. (equal, Electoral)

Ans. : Electoral

45. Only _____ elected representatives vote in the Presidential Election. (directly, indirectly)

Ans. : directly

46. _____ is the voting option that allows voters to reject all candidates if they are dissatisfied.

Ans. : self

47. The election of the Vice President of India is done using a _____ vote system.

Ans. : self

48. The members of Rajya Sabha are chosen through _____ elections.

Ans. : self

49. The leader of the party that wins the most seats in the Lok Sabha becomes _____ .

Ans. : self

50. The leader of the party that wins the most seats in the State Legislative Assembly becomes _____ .

Ans. : self

*** Answer The Following Questions In One Sentence.[1 Marks Each]**

[13]

51. When is the next election in the region where you are located? Is it to the state, urban local body or panchayat?

Ans. : In my region i.e., Delhi the next election will be held to Municipal Corporation of Delhi in 2027. This will be an urban local body election.

52. Imagine if a student did not want to vote for any of the candidates Ahmed, Gurmat, or Ravi. What option would they

Ans. : If a student did not want to vote for any of the candidates Ahmed, Gurmat, or Ravi they would have the option to choose NOTA (None Of The Above).

53. The legislative assembly is called by several names in regional languages, for example, Vidhan Sabha and Niyama Sabha. What is it called in your state?

Ans. : In my region, West Bengal, the legislative assembly is called the Vidhan Sabha.

54. What is the role of Model Code of Conduct during elections?

Ans. : It ensures that elections are conducted fairly and that political parties follow ethical practices.

55. Why were special voting facilities like home voting introduced in 2024?

Ans. : To make voting accessible for elderly and specially-abled citizens.

56. Why Rajya Sabha is called a permanent house?

Ans. : It is so called because it never dissolves. One-third of its members retire every two years and new are elected in their place.

57. Why was the Election Commission of India established?

Ans. : The Election Commission of India was established to ensure free, fair and impartial elections in the country.

58. What is the full form of WPAT?

Ans. : "Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail" is the full form of WPAT.

59. What is the use of Postal Ballots?

Ans. : self

60. Why were Voter ID cards introduced?

Ans. : self

61. Name the Chief Election Commissioner who brought reforms to ensure, free and fair elections.

Ans. : self

62. Who elects the Members of the Rajya Sabha?

Ans. : self

63. Why was NOTA introduced?

Ans. : self

*** VERY SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

[34]

64. What is universal adult franchise?

Ans. : Universal Adult Franchise is the right of all adult citizens (above 18 years of age) to vote in an election, regardless of their caste, gender, role, creed, religion, economical, educational or social status.

65. What is an electoral system?

Ans. : An electoral system is the method and rules used for electing representatives in a democracy. It explains how people vote, how the votes are counted, and how winners are chosen. It helps make elections fair and lets people take part in choosing their leaders.

66. How does India's electoral system work?

Ans. : India's electoral system works through free and fair elections where representatives are chosen by the people using secret ballots, based on the principle of Universal Adult Franchise which means every adult citizen has the right to vote. This system ensures that elections are fair and everyone's vote is kept secret.

67. Why was it important to have a secret ballot?

Ans. : A secret ballot ensures that voters can make their choices freely without fear, pressure, or influence from others. It protects the privacy of the voter and helps maintain the fairness and integrity of the election.

68. What considerations might the students have had while exercising their choice?

Ans. : While exercising their choice, the students might have considered the following:

1. The candidate's background and honesty.
2. Issues that the candidates promised to resolve.
3. Personal beliefs or values.

69. Do you think the students have any responsibility after Gurmat was elected as the class rep? If yes, what are they?

Ans. : Yes, the students have a responsibility now that Gurmat has been elected as the class representative. They should cooperate with her in fulfilling the promises she made during her campaign, even if they did not vote for her. By supporting her efforts, all the students stand to benefit not just those who voted for her.

70. What was the role that Ms. Usha played? Why was it important?

Ans. : Ms. Usha was appointed as the Election Officer for the annual class representative election. It was essential to ensure that the election process was fair, transparent, and conducted in strict accordance with the rules, without any bias.

71. Why is universal adult franchise important for a healthy democracy?

Ans. : Universal adult franchise (UAF) means that every adult citizen has the right to vote, regardless of caste, gender, religion or wealth. It is important for a healthy democracy because it ensures equal participation, represents all sections of the society and holds leaders accountable to the people.

72. What is the meaning of 'secret ballot'? Why is this important in a democracy?

Ans. : A secret ballot means voting in private so that no one knows who a person has voted for.

It is important in democracy as it protects voters from pressure or threats and ensures free and fair elections by allowing people to vote without fear or influence.

73. What is First-Past-The-Post electoral system?

Ans. : The First-Past-The-Post electoral system is a method of voting used in India and many other countries. In the FPTP system, the candidate who gets the highest number of votes in a constituency wins the election, even if they don't get absolute majority (more than 50% of the votes).

74. What is the difference between an MP and an MLA?

Ans. : An MP and an MLA are both elected representatives, but they work at different levels of government. An MP works in the Parliament of India, represents a parliamentary constituency and makes laws for the entire country. Whereas, an MLA works in the State Legislative Assembly, represents a state assembly constituency and makes laws for the state.

75. How is the election of the Vice President conducted?

Ans. : The election of the Vice President of India is conducted through a single vote system in which each Member of Parliament casts one vote for the candidate they prefer. Each MP votes for only one candidate and the candidate who receives the maximum number of votes is declared elected as the Vice President.

76. What are the crucial tasks that the Election Commission of India deals with?

Ans. : The crucial tasks of the Election Commission of India include conducting free and fair elections, preparing and updating election rolls, monitoring election campaigns, enforcing Model Code of Conduct, regulating and registering political parties and declaring results.

77. Which group of people is not involved in electing the President of India?

Ans. : self

78. What does the Uttaramerur inscription describe?

Ans. : self

79. In India, who has the right to vote?

Ans. : self

80. About 34 per cent of eligible voters did not exercise their right to vote in the 2024 elections. Why do you think this is so?

Ans. : The 34 per cent of eligible voters who did not vote may have faced voter apathy due to a lack of awareness, disinterest in politics, or the belief that their vote would not make a difference. Additionally, practical difficulties such as long

distances to polling stations, health issues, or lack of proper ID may have also prevented them from voting.

* Answer The Following Questions In Short.[3 Marks Each]

[45]

81. What are the most important aspects of the election process in this caselet?

Ans. : The most important aspects of the election process in this caselet are:

1. Free and fair election without any influence or pressure.
2. Every student had right to vote which shows equality.
3. Secret ballot to protect voter privacy.
4. Independent election officer to conduct and oversee election.
5. Another teacher was called to witness the counting process which shows transparency and accountability.
6. Voter awareness and participation.

82. Why was it important for Ms. Usha to organise braille ballot paper for Neha?

Ans. : It was important for Ms. Usha to arrange braille ballot papers for Neha, as she was visually impaired. Without them, Neha would not have been able to cast her vote. In a democracy, every eligible individual has the right to vote. Since Neha was a student in that class and met the criteria, she was eligible. If Ms. Usha had not made the necessary arrangements, Neha would have been unfairly excluded from the voting process.

83. Who are the MP and MLA / MLAs of the constituency you are located in? (A Lok Sabha constituency may have two or more assembly constituencies.)

Ans. : In my constituency, which is the Gurugram Lok Sabha constituency in Haryana, we are represented by Rao Inderjit Singh of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), elected in the 2025 General Elections. This parliamentary constituency includes nine assembly segments. Some key MLAs (2025) are Mukesh Sharma from Gurgaon, Rao Narbir Singh from Badshahpur, Bimla Chaudhary from Pataudi (SC), and Tejpal Tanwar from Sohna.

84. Which party does each of them belong to?

Ans. : All the representatives of the Gurugram Lok Sabha constituency, including the Member of Parliament (MP) and the Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs), belong to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). This includes Rao Inderjit Singh, the MP, along with the MLAs from the Gurgaon, Badshahpur, Pataudi (SC), and Sohna assembly segments. The entire representation at both the national and state levels is from the BJP.

85. What are the concerns of the MP and MLA, respectively?

Ans. : The concerns of an MP and MLAs differ in scope. An MP focuses on national issues, such as passing laws, representing the region in Parliament, and addressing broader topics like infrastructure, economic growth, and national policies. MLAs,

however, concentrate on local matters like improving roads, water supply, healthcare, education, and ensuring that state policies benefit their communities. While the MP deals with national governance, MLAs focus on the development and needs of their constituencies.

86. In 1947, our literacy rate was about 14 per cent, only about 8 per cent among women. Some argued that the right to vote should be given only to literate people. Discuss in your group why the Constitution makers may have decided on universal franchise from the time of Independence itself.

Ans. : The Constitution makers may have decided on Universal Adult Franchise from the time of independence to:

1. Ensure equality and fairness by giving every adult citizen, regardless of caste, gender, creed, religion, income, or education, the right to vote.
 2. Strengthen democracy by involving all citizens in the decision-making process.
 3. Break social hierarchies and promote social justice in a diverse country like India.
 4. Show the world that India believes in inclusive and participatory governance right from the start.
87. Why do you think a proportion of seats in the Lok Sabha is reserved for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes? Write a short note.

Ans. : A proportion of seats in the Lok Sabha is reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to ensure their adequate representation in Parliament. These communities have faced historical discrimination and social disadvantage, which limited their participation in politics. Reservation helps give them a voice in the law-making process, promotes equality, and supports their inclusion in the democratic system.

88. How is the election of members to the Lok Sabha different from that to the Rajya Sabha?

Ans. : Members of the Lok Sabha are elected through direct elections. All citizens aged 18 and above vote directly for their representatives in their constituencies. The candidate with the most votes becomes a Member of Parliament (MP). On the other hand, Rajya Sabha members are chosen through indirect elections. They are elected by the MLAs (Members of State Legislative Assemblies), not by the public. Some members are also nominated by the President for their special contributions to society.

89. What, in your view, are the advantages of the EVM over ballot papers?

Ans. : Advantages of EVM (Electronic Voting Machine) over ballot papers are:

1. Faster Counting: Results can be declared quickly as counting is done electronically.
2. Cost-effective: Saves paper, printing and transportation costs.
3. Reusable: EVMs can be used multiple times, they have to be only calibrated as per the requirement.



4. Reduces Errors: Minimises human errors in counting.
5. Eco-friendly: No need of paper, so it helps save trees.
6. Prevents Fraud: Reduces chances of invalid or tampered votes.

90. What is the procedure for the election of the President of India?

Ans. : The President of India is elected through an indirect election. The electoral college responsible for electing the President consists of the elected members of both Houses of Parliament and the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of all states, including the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry. The election is conducted through a system of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote. Voting is done by secret ballot to ensure free and fair elections.

91. Why do you think the President of India is not elected by the general public like in the United States of America?

Ans. : The President of India is not elected by the general public because India follows a parliamentary system of government, not a presidential one like the United States of America. In India, the President is the constitutional head of the state, while the Prime Minister holds the executive powers. Therefore, the President is elected by an electoral college to reflect the federal character of the nation and to maintain a balance between the central and state governments. This method also ensures that the President remains a neutral and non-partisan figure.

92. Why does the number of constituencies differ from state to state in India?

Ans. : The number of constituencies differs from state to state in India because it is based on the population of each state. States with larger populations have more constituencies to ensure fair and equal representation in the Parliament. This system ensures that every citizen's vote carries the same weight, maintaining the principle of proportional representation in a diverse and populous country like India.

93. If you were appointed as the Chief Election Commissioner of India, what changes would you like to make to the election process and procedure?

Ans. : If I were appointed as the Chief Election Commissioner of India, I would focus on making the election process more transparent, efficient, and inclusive. I would strengthen the use of technology to prevent electoral fraud and speed up vote counting. I would also work to ensure greater voter awareness and participation, especially in remote and unrepresented areas. Additionally, I would push for stricter enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct and introduce stronger measures to curb the use of money and muscle power during elections.

94. What are some challenges people face in exercising their rights?

Ans. : Some challenges that people face in exercising their rights are:

1. Physical disabilities or old age.
2. Inaccessible polling stations.
3. Lack of Voter ID or registration issues.



4. Low awareness about voting procedures.
5. Poor transportation in remote areas.
6. Work or family commitments on voting day.

95. Design and conduct a short survey among adults in your family and neighbourhood to answer these questions. Analyse the data and write a report with suggestions on how it may be possible to ensure everyone votes.

Ans. : The survey revealed that many participants faced transportation issues and long wait times at polling booths. Additionally, some lacked sufficient information about candidates and the voting process. Based on this, suggestions include arranging mobile polling booths for remote areas to ensure accessibility, launching awareness campaigns to educate voters, and encouraging civic responsibility through community programs. Extended voting hours and providing better transportation options would also help increase voter participation. Making polling stations more accessible to people with disabilities would further ensure that everyone has the opportunity to vote.

* **Picture Based Question.**

[3]



96. What is shown in the picture?
97. When was this body established?
98. What is the main role of this body?

Ans. : 1. The picture shows the building of the Election Commission of India.
2. This body, i.e., the Election Commission of India, was established in 1950.
3. The main role of this body, i.e., the Election Commission of India, is to conduct free and fair elections to the Parliament, State Assemblies and the offices of the President and the Vice President of India.

* **Answer The Following Questions In Brief.[5 Marks Each]**

[75]

99. India changed the minimum age for voting from 21 to 18 in 1988. Discuss whether this was a good move.

Ans. : The decision to lower the voting age in India from 21 to 18 in 1988 was a significant step towards a more inclusive democracy. It gave young adults the right to participate in elections, recognising them as capable of making decisions that affect their future. This move aligned India with global standards and allowed

millions of young people to have a voice in shaping policies on issues like education and employment! Although concerns about political maturity were raised, the long-term benefits of engaging youth in the democratic process far outweighed these concerns, making it a positive change for India's democracy.

100. Discuss in Groups:

- (a) What role do such measures play in a democracy?
- (b) Do you know of anyone who benefitted from these improved accessibility measures?
- (c) How might they increase voter participation in your neighbourhood?
- (d) How can technology assist?

Ans. : (a) These measures ensure that every eligible citizen, including the elderly, disabled, and those in remote areas, can participate in the electoral process. This helps uphold the principle of Universal Adult Franchise and strengthen democracy by making it inclusive.

(b) Yes, I know of an elderly neighbour who was able to vote from home during the 2024 general elections using the postal voting option.

(c) These measures can encourage more people, especially those with physical limitations or mobility issues, to vote by making the process easier and more accessible.

(d) Technology can assist by providing braille-enabled voter cards, mobile apps to request assistance, and ensuring polling stations are equipped with tools like ramps and support for disabled. This helps remove barriers and enables more inclusive participation.

101. If you have access to the internet, visit the ECI website (<https://www.eci.gov.in/persons-with-disabilities>.) Read and identify the various interventions that the ECI has taken to facilitate voting by people with disabilities.



Ans. : The Election Commission of India is dedicated to making voting accessible for persons with disabilities (PwDs). PwD voters are registered under four categories: visual impairment, speech and hearing disability, locomotor disability, and others. They can register online, at service centres, or via the Saksham app. Key initiatives to assist PwDs include:

1. Mapping PwDs polling station wise for better support
2. Ensuring polling stations are on the ground floor.
3. Providing PwD-friendly facilities and separate queues.
4. Offering optional home voting.
5. Issuing voter ID cards and slips in Braille.
6. Adding Braille features on voting machines.
7. Providing wheelchairs, ramps, and free pick-and-drop transport.

102. What would happen if many students in the class chose not to mark a preference?

Ans. : If many students choose not to mark a preference during the election, it could lead to several consequences. The number of valid votes would decline, potentially undermining the credibility of the election results. The elected representative might secure victory by a narrow margin, which raises concerns about whether they truly represent the majority's choice.

A high level of non-participation may reflect disinterest or apathy towards the election, which could discourage future candidates and weaken overall student engagement in class affairs. Additionally, students who abstain from voting miss the opportunity to influence the outcome, which may result in dissatisfaction with the chosen representative.

103. Identify teachers in your school or vicinity who may have performed election duty. invite them to your class to share their experiences.

Ans. : We invited two teachers from our school, Mrs. Sunita Sharma and Mr. Rajesh Kumar, who were part of election duty during the 2024 general elections, to speak to our class. Mrs. Sharma was posted at a rural polling booth and shared how she was trained to use EVMs and WPATs. She spoke about the challenges of reaching remote areas and ensuring that every voter could take part.

Mr. Kumar worked at a booth in the city and explained how the team made sure everything ran smoothly. He also mentioned about the special help given to elderly and disabled voters, like ramps and braille slips. Both teachers said the work was tiring but gave them a sense of pride. Their experiences helped us understand how important and well-organised the voting process is in our democracy.

104. Why do you think these might be violations of the code of conduct?

Ans. : These actions are violations of the Model Code of Conduct because:

1. Sarees distributed: Giving gifts or freebies to voters is considered bribery, which is unfair and influences voters' choices.

2. Abusive language against another candidate: Using foul or disrespectful language goes against the principle of respectful campaigning and can incite hatred or violence.

3. Government officials working for ruling party candidate: Government officers must remain neutral during elections. Their involvement supports unfair advantage and undermines free and fair elections.

4. 500 bundles found in car: Carrying large sums of unaccounted cash during elections suggests an attempt to buy votes, which is illegal and unethical.

These practices go against the spirit of fairness, transparency, and equality that elections must follow in a democracy.

105. Why do you think the I above group of people is not involved in electing the President of India? Why are the common people not involved in the election of the president?

Ans. : The group of people mentioned is not involved in electing the President of India because they are not directly elected by the public. Nominated members, such as those in the Rajya Sabha or State Legislative Assemblies, are chosen for their expertise or by the President, not through popular votes. The President represents the entire country, so only directly elected representatives, like MPs and MLAs, take part in the election.

This ensures the process is democratic and reflects the will of the people. Common people don't vote for the President directly because the role is largely symbolic and ceremonial. The election is done through an electoral college to maintain balance and ensure the President has support from both central and state governments.

106. Give examples of direct and indirect elections.

Ans. : In a direct election, citizens vote directly for the candidates they wish to elect. For example, elections to the Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies, Gram Panchayats, and Municipal Corporations are all direct elections. Here, the voters choose their representatives themselves through universal adult franchise.

In contrast, an indirect election is when elected representatives vote to choose a leader or representative. Examples of indirect elections in India include the election of the President, Vice President, and members of the Rajya Sabha. In these cases, Members of Parliament (MPs) or Members of Legislative Assemblies (MLAs) cast votes on behalf of the people.

107. Voter turnout has been declining in some urban areas of India. What could be the reasons for this trend, and what steps can be taken to encourage more people to vote?

Ans. : Voter turnout has been declining in some urban areas of India due to several reasons. These include voter apathy, lack of awareness, busy lifestyles, and a sense of disillusionment with political candidates or the electoral process. Some people also feel that their single vote will not make a difference.



To encourage more people to vote, steps like increasing voter awareness through campaigns, making the voting process easier with facilities like online registration and better access to polling booths, and encouraging youth participation through educational programs can be helpful. Additionally, ensuring transparency and accountability in politics can help build trust and motivate citizens to take part in elections..

108. what are the challenges, and what might the future of elections be in a digital age?

Ans. : Benefits of Social Media in Elections and Democracy are:

1. Wider reach and engagement: Social media allows political messages to reach a vast and diverse audience quickly and at a low cost.
2. Increased Political Participation: More people, especially youth, are engaging in political discussions and campaigns through platforms like Instagram and Twitter.
3. Real-Time Communication: Politicians can communicate directly with the public, bypassing traditional media filters.
4. Transparency and Accountability: Social media can expose corruption or misinformation and hold politicians accountable through viral content.

• Challenges of Social Media in Elections and Democracy are:

1. Misinformation and Fake News: False information can spread quickly, influencing voters based on lies or half-truths.
2. Trolling and Harassment: Online discussions can become toxic, deterring meaningful engagement.
3. Manipulation: Interference of groups with vested interests or automated accounts can sway public opinion and spread propaganda.

• Future of Elections in Digital Age

1. Online Voting: Elections might become more digital, offering secure online voting to increase turnout.
2. AI and Data Analytics: Campaigns may rely more on data to target voters with personalised messages.
3. Greater Regulation: There may be stronger rules to manage political ads, misinformation, and digital campaigning.
4. Hybrid Campaigning: A mix of digital and traditional methods will likely shape future elections, blending technology with grassroots methods.

109. Explain why managing the electoral process in India is considered a mammoth task. Highlight the scale of operations involved and the role of the Election Commission of India in conducting elections, using the Lok Sabha election 2024 as an example.

Ans. : Managing the electoral process in India is considered a mammoth task due to the massive scale and complexity involved. The Election Commission of India is responsible for ensuring that the elections are conducted freely and fairly, while also

keeping up with the needs of modern India. The process requires constant upgrading of its systems and operations.

Taking the 2024 Lok Sabha elections as an example, the scale becomes evident: there are 980 million voters, 543 parliamentary constituencies and approximately 1 million polling stations. Such vast numbers demand efficient coordination and extensive manpower. Moreover, elections in India are not held all at once but occur at different times across various regions with some regularity, making the process even more complex.

Adding to the complexity is the country's diverse geography, which requires careful planning and allocation of resources. A large number of people, including teachers, are deployed to assist in the smooth conduct of the elections. Furthermore, of the 543 Lok Sabha constituencies, 84 are reserved for Scheduled Castes and 47 for "Scheduled Tribes, reflecting the inclusive nature of the electoral process.

110. Why is the Model Code of Conduct necessary for free and fair elections?

Ans. : The Model Code of Conduct is necessary for free and fair elections because it sets guidelines for political parties and candidates to ensure ethical and disciplined behaviour during the election period. As per the Model Code of Conduct, political parties cannot influence voters by distributing gifts, nor are they allowed to announce new projects or schemes during the election period. It prevents misuse of government power and machinery, prohibits hate speeches and personal attacks, and promotes a level playing field for all participants. By enforcing these rules, the Election Commission ensures that elections are conducted in a transparent, peaceful and impartial manner.

111. What are the challenges that India's electoral system faces?

Ans. : self

112. What is the process of government formation?

Ans. : self

113. Why is the President of India elected indirectly and what challenges does India's electoral system face today?

Ans. : self

* Match the Following.

[10]

Column A	Column B
114. Ms. Usha	(i) Peer Coaching and Mutual Support
115. Ms. Sheeba	(ii) Election Officer
116. Ahmed	(iii) Arts Curriculum Music, Theatre and Visual Art
117. Gurmat	(iv) Witness of Counting Process
118. Ravi	(v) Cleanliness

- (a) 1 - (ii), 2 - (iv), 3 - (v), 4 - (i), 5 - (iii)
 (b) 1 - (iv), 2 - (iii), 3 - (ii), 4 - (v), 5 - (i)
 (c) 1 - (ii), 2 - (iv), 3 - (v), 4 - (iii), 5 - (i)
 (d) 1 - (iv), 2 - (ii), 3 - (i), 4 - (v), 5 - (iii)

Ans. : (a) 1 - (ii), 2 - (iv), 3 - (v), 4 - (i), 5 - (iii)

Column A	Column B
119. Universal Adult Franchise	(i) 47 Lok Sabha seats reserved
120. Right to Vote	(ii) 12 Rajya Sabha Seats
121. Scheduled Castes	(iii) Article 326 of the Constitution
122. Scheduled Tribes	(iv) 84 Lok Sabha seats reserved
123. Nominated by the President	(v) 18 years and above

- (a) 1 - (iv), 2 - (iii), 3 - (ii), 4 - (v), 5 - (i)
 (b) 1 - (ii), 2 - (i), 3 - (ii) 4 - (iv), 5 - (iii)
 (c) 1 - (iii), 2 - (v), 3 - (iv), 4 - (i), 5 - (ii)
 (d) 1 - (v), 2 - (ii), 3 - (i), 4 - (ii), 5 - (iii)

Ans. : self

* CASE BASED QUESTIONS

[4]

India's Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (WPAT) systems have been used in countries like Namibia and Bhutan with support from the ECI. Other countries have also studied this technology and have received training from India to adopt it in their countries. WPAT is a system that produces a physical paper record allowing voters to verify their electronic votes were cast correctly. This paper trail provides a backup for verification and recounting purposes in case of disputes or failures of the electronic system.

124. What is WPAT?

125. What are the benefits of using WPAT in elections?

126. Which countries have adopted EVMs and WPAT systems with support from India?

127. Do you think Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) are better than ballot papers? Give a reason.

Ans. : 1. WPAT means Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail. It is a system that produces a physical record allowing voters to verify that their electronic votes were cast correctly.

2. WPAT provides a backup for verification and recounting purposes in case of disputes or failures of the electronic system, thus enhancing transparency and trust in the election process.

3. Countries like Namibia and Bhutan have adopted EVM and WPAT systems with support from the Election Commission of India. Other countries have also studied this technology and received training from India.

4. Yes, EVMs are generally better than ballot papers because they are faster, reduce the chances of invalid votes, and are more environmentally friendly. When combined with WPAT, they also allow for reliable verification.

