



परमाणु ऊर्जा शिक्षण संस्था
Atomic Energy Education Society
उत्तर कुंजी / Answer Key (2025-26)

कक्षा /Class: VIII विषय /Subject: Social Science माह/ Month: _____ अंक/Marks: 40
दिया गया पाठ्यक्रम/Portion covered: L-5 Universal Franchise and India's Electoral System

Section A: MCQs

1. b) 18
2. b) Conducting free and fair elections
3. b) A vote where the voter's choice is private
4. b) Election Commission of India
5. a) 13%
6. a) Electoral Roll
7. b) Prevention of impersonation during voting
8. b) Universal Adult Franchise
9. b) Use of money power
10. a) January 25

Section B: Very Short Answer Questions (Sample Answers)

11. Universal Adult Franchise: It is the principle that every citizen above 18 years of age has the right to vote without discrimination based on caste, creed, gender, or religion. It is significant because it ensures political equality and allows all citizens to participate in choosing their representatives. This strengthens the foundation of Indian democracy by giving everyone an equal voice.
12. Role of Election Commission: The Election Commission of India (ECI) oversees the conduct of free and fair elections by preparing electoral rolls, announcing election schedules, and ensuring compliance with the code of conduct. It supervises polling stations and punishes violations to maintain transparency. The ECI also implements accessibility measures to include all eligible voters.
13. Secret Ballot: A secret ballot is a voting method where the voter's choice remains private, ensuring they can vote without fear or pressure. It is important because it protects voter privacy and promotes honest voting. This ensures fairness and prevents coercion in the electoral process.

Or

Progressive Voting Rights for Women: India granted women the right to vote from the beginning of its democratic journey, unlike many countries like Switzerland, where women gained this right in 1971. This was due to India's progressive constitutional vision and democratic values rooted in ancient traditions. It ensured gender equality in political participation early on.

14. Electoral Constituency: An electoral constituency is a geographical area where voters elect one representative for elections. For example, the Gulbarga Lok Sabha Constituency in Karnataka is one of the 543 constituencies for Lok Sabha elections. It ensures organized and fair representation.

Or

Accessibility Measure: The ECI provides Braille ballot papers for visually impaired voters to ensure they can vote independently. This measure removes barriers and promotes inclusivity. It ensures that no eligible voter is excluded from the electoral process.

Section C: Short Answer Questions (Sample Answers)

15. Model Code of Conduct (MCC)

The code is followed to ensure free and fair elections, listing the dos and don'ts for leaders, political parties, and candidates that must be adhered to.

A few elements of the code:

- i.) There are rules that the party in government must follow; this ensures that the resources available to the government are not used for the purpose of the elections. For example, no new schemes and projects are to be announced that may influence voters.
- ii.) All candidates are expected to exercise discretion and restraint to ensure that the elections take place peacefully.
- iii.) Influencing voters through gifts in return for votes is punishable.

15. A direct election is where the citizens directly vote for the candidates and elect their representatives. It is a more democratic method of election. People become more aware of the activities of the government, educate people regarding government activities and help them choose appropriate candidates. Ex- election to the Lok Sabha and State legislative Assembly.

whereas, an Indirect election is where voters elect their representatives who in turn elect their representatives to the formal offices like the President's office. That is the public does not cast votes directly. Instead put the responsibility on the hands of their representatives, whom they elect through direct elections. Example- election to President and Vice presidents' office.

Or

The Single Transferable Vote (STV) is a form of proportional representation where each candidate is ranked in order of preference by voters. The rules for voting and counting are very elaborate; the more populous states have a greater say.

In the Rajya Sabha it is a special way of ensuring that smaller states also get fair representation. Of the 245 members of the Rajya Sabha, 233 are elected by the elected members of the state legislative assemblies (MLAs), while the President of India nominates 12. Each state is allotted a different number of Rajya Sabha seats based on population.

Since the president represents the whole country, this method ensures the support of both the central and state governments.

Section D: Long Answer Questions (Sample Answers)

16. Importance of Universal Adult Franchise: The Universal Adult Franchise ensures that every citizen above 18 has an equal right to vote, regardless of caste, religion, gender, or economic status. This promotes equality by giving the same voting power to a poor farmer and a wealthy industrialist, ensuring all voices are heard. In India's diverse society, it fosters inclusivity by allowing representation of various communities, reducing discrimination. It strengthens democracy by encouraging citizen participation in governance. The principle of "one person, one vote" ensures the government is accountable to all citizens. This makes India's democracy vibrant and representative.

17. Challenges and Measures: India's electoral system faces challenges like the use of money power, where wealthy candidates gain an unfair advantage, and criminalization of politics, where candidates with criminal backgrounds use intimidation. Other issues include fake voters on electoral rolls and lack of voter awareness in some areas. To address money power, stricter regulations on campaign financing and transparency in funding can be enforced. To tackle

criminalization, the ECI can disqualify candidates with serious criminal charges. These measures would enhance fairness and integrity in elections.

Or

Voting Process: On election day, voters visit polling booths where election officials verify their identity using the Electoral Roll and EPIC or other valid IDs. A mark is placed on their finger to prevent duplicate voting. Voters use Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) to select their candidate by pressing a button next to the candidate's name and symbol. The ECI ensures accessibility, such as providing Braille for visually impaired voters. After voting, ballots are sealed, and votes are counted under supervision to ensure transparency. The ECI oversees the process to maintain fairness and accuracy.

Section E: Diagram-Based Activity

18. Mind Map: A well-drawn mind map with "Universal Adult Franchise" at the center and branches labeled:
- Ensures Equality: Every citizen has one vote of equal value.
 - Promotes Inclusivity: Includes all sections of society, regardless of caste, creed, or gender.
 - Enhances Representation: Allows diverse communities to elect their representatives.
 - Encourages Participation: Motivates citizens to engage in democratic decision-making.

Marks awarded for clarity, neatness, and inclusion of at least four valid points.

20. Section F: Case-Based Study

- Answer: b) It ensures every adult above 18 can vote without discrimination.
- Answer: b) It ensures free and fair elections.
- The NOTA option was provided to allow voters to reject all candidates if they were not satisfied with any of them. It sends a message to political parties that voters want better choices, promoting accountability.

Or

The Election Commission ensured inclusivity by providing assistance to differently-abled voters like Priya, such as accessible polling stations and support to cast votes, ensuring no voter is left behind