

A S MODERN SR. SEC. SCHOOL
Class XI (Political Science)
Chapter 1 (Constitution: Why and How?)

Some other important Questions

Q1: Which of these is not a function of the constitution?

- a. It gives a guarantee of the rights of the citizen.
- b. It marks out different spheres of power for different branches of government.
- c. It ensures that good people come to power.
- d. It gives expression to some shared values.

Ans: - (c) It ensures that good people come to power. The Constitution is responsible for the framework of distribution of power and not for the personal integrity of the people who occupy the positions of power.

Q 2 Which of the following is a good reason to conclude that the authority of the constitution is higher than that of the parliament?

- a. The constitution was framed before the parliament came into being
- b. The constitution makers were more eminent leaders than the members of the parliament.
- c. The constitution specifies how parliament is to be formed and what are its powers.
- d. The constitution cannot be amended by the parliament.

Ans: - (c) The constitution specifies how parliament is to be formed and what are its powers. Thus, it is the source of authority for the parliament.

Q3 State whether the following statements about a constitution are True or False.

- a. Constitutions are written documents about formation and power of the government.
- b. Constitutions exist and are required only in democratic countries.
- c. Constitution is a legal document that does not deal with ideals and values.
- d. A constitution gives its citizens a new identity.

Ans: - a. True

- b. False
- c. False
- d. True

Q 4 State whether the following inferences about the making of the Indian Constitution are Correct or Incorrect. Give reasons to support your answer.

- a. The Constituent Assembly did not represent the Indian people since it was not elected by all citizens.
- b. Constitution making did not involve any major decision since there was a general consensus among the leaders at that time about its basic framework.
- c. There was little originality in the Constitution, for much of it was borrowed from other countries.

ANSWER:

(a). The statement is incorrect because the Constituent Assembly was elected by the members of the Provisional Legislative Assemblies. Members from every province and religious group were given representation in the assembly.

(b). Incorrect. There were arguments and queries on most of the provisions. Each clause of the Constitution was subjected to scrutiny and debate. Leaders like Dr. Ambedkar, Pt. Nehru, Rajendra Prasad, Maulana Azad and Sardar Patel did not agree to many things.

(c) Correct. It is a combination of French, Irish, British, Canadian and United States Constitution in a new form.

Q5 Why is it necessary for a country to have a clear demarcation of powers and responsibilities in the constitution? What would happen in the absence of such a demarcation?

Ans: It is necessary for a country to have a clear demarcation of powers and responsibilities in the constitution because demarcation allows the institutions to work efficiently without any interference or overlapping of power and responsibilities. Absence of such demarcation would lead to a clash between the various institutions that derive their power from the constitution and ultimately subvert it.

Q6 Why is it necessary for a constitution to place limitations on the rulers? Can there be a constitution that gives no power at all to the citizens?

Ans: - It is necessary for a constitution to place limitations on the rulers because absence of limitations would lead to authoritarian form of government that threatens human rights. There cannot be any constitution that gives no power at all to the citizens as they make up the fabric of the state. The institutions of the state that are meant to serve the citizens would end up denying them their rights in such a scenario.