

CLASS NOTES

Class: X

Topic: POWER SHARING

Subject: DEMOCRATIC POLITICS-II

**CONTENTS-MCQ ,FILL UPS,TRUE OR FALSE,
ASSERTION AND REASON AND MCQ PRACTICE
DRILL... FOR TERM-I/ JT/01--10/08/21 ... JT**

1. Which one of the following countries does not share its boundary with Belgium?

- (a) France (b) Netherlands
(c) Sweden (d) Luxembourg

Ans : (c) Sweden

2. In Belgium, the percentage of French community is:

- (a) 54% (b) 40%
(c) 30% (d) 20%

Ans : (b) 40%

3. Which language is dominantly spoken in Belgium?

- a. Dutch (b) Spanish
(c) France (d) Italian

Ans : (a) Dutch

4. Power struggle demanding separate Eelam was launched by:

- a. Sinhalese (b) Buddhists
(c) Tamilians (d) none of these

Ans : (c) Tamilians

5. Which of the following is the capital city of Belgium?

- a. Bruges (b) Brussels
(c) Ghent (d) Antwerp

Ans : (b) Brussels

6. Belgium shares its border with:

- a. France (b) Germany
(c) Luxembourg (d) all of the above

Ans : (d) all of the above

7. What proportion of population speaks French in the capital city of Belgium?

- a. Bruges (b) Brussels
(c) Ghent (d) Antwerp

Ans : (d) Antwerp

8. Power shared among governments at different levels is also called:

- a. horizontal distribution (b) vertical distribution
(c) slant distribution (d) none of the above

Ans : (b) vertical distribution

9. A war-like conflict between two opposite groups in a country is called

- a. Cold war
- (b) Civil war
- (c) Ethnic war
- (d) None of these

Ans : (b) Civil war

10. Belgium has worked on the principles of:

- a. majoritarianism
- (b) accommodation
- (c) both (a) and (b)
- (d) none of the above

Ans : (b) accommodation

11. Sri Lanka is an island nation, just a few kilometres from the Southern coast of

- a. Goa
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Lakshadweep

Ans : (c) Tamil Nadu

12. Majoritarianist constitution was adopted by:

- a. Belgium
- (b) India
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Pakistan

Ans : (c) Sri Lanka

13. What is the percentage of Sinhala-speaking people in Sri Lanka?

- (a) 74%
- (b) 75%
- (c) 14%
- (d) 19%

Ans : (a) 74%

14. What is the percentage of Sri Lankan Tamils out of the total population of Sri Lanka?

- a. 10 percent
- (b) 19 percent
- (c) 13 percent
- (d) 25 percent

Ans : (c) 13 percent

15. Power sharing is desirable because it

- a. helps the people of different communities to celebrate their festivals.
- (b) imposes the will of the majority community over others.
- (c) reduces the conflict between social groups.
- (d) ensures the stability of political order.

Ans : (c) reduces the conflict between social groups

16. Intelligent sharing of power is done among

- (a) Legislature and Central Government
- (b) Executive and Judiciary
- (c) Legislature and Executive
- (d) Legislature, Executive and Judiciary

Ans : (d) Legislature, Executive and Judiciary

17. Division of power between higher and lower level of government is known as

- a. vertical division of power
- b. horizontal distribution of power

- c. union division of power
- d. community division of power

Ans : (a) vertical division of power

18.The capital city of Belgium is:

- a. Dutch (b) France
- (c) Brussels (d) none of the above

Ans : (c) Brussels

19.Power sharing is a good way to ensure the stability of:

- a. population (b) political order
- (c) both (a) and (b) (d) none of the above

Ans : (b) political order

20.When power is shared among different organs of the government it is called as

- a. horizontal distribution of power
- b. community distribution of power
- c. coalition of power
- d. federal distribution of power

Ans : (a) horizontal distribution of power

21.Which of the following is not the benefit of power sharing?

- a.It upholds the spirit of democracy.
- b. Political parties get their expected share.
- c. It ensures political stability in the long-run.
- d. It reduces the possibility of conflicts between social groups.

Ans : (b) Political parties get their expected share.

22.An Act of recognising Sinhala as the official language was signed in:

- (a) 1942 (b) 1956
- (c) 1954 (d) 1948

Ans : (b) 1956

23.Which of the following is not the form of power sharing?

- a. Vertical division of power
- b. Horizontal division of power
- c. Division of power between people
- d. Division of power among social groups

Ans : (c) Division of power between people

24.Power struggle demanding separating Eelam was launched by:

- a. Sinhalese (b) Buddhists
- (c) Tamilians (d) none of the above

Ans : (c) Tamilians

25.Which of the following features are common to Indian and Belgian form of power-

sharing arrangements?

- A. Power is shared among governments at different levels.
- B. Power is shared among different organs of government.
- C. Power is shared among different social groups.
- D. Power is shared among different parties and takes the form of competition.

- (a) A, B, C, D
- (b) B, C and D
- (c) A and C
- (d) A, C and D

Answer: (b) B, C and D

26. In dealing with power sharing, which one of the following statements is NOT correct about democracy?

- (a) People are the source of all political power. !
- (b) In a democracy, people rule themselves through institutions of self-governance.
- (c) In a democracy, due respect is given to diverse groups and views that exist in a society.
- (d) In a democracy, if the power to decide is dispersed, it is not possible to take quick decisions and enforce them.

Answer: d

27. A belief that the majority community should be able to rule a country in whichever way it wants, by disregarding the wishes and needs of the minority is:

- (a) Power Sharing
- (b) Central Government
- (c) Majoritarianism
- (d) Community Government

Answer: c

28. A system of 'checks and balances' is another name for which one of the following power-sharing arrangements:

- (a) Power sharing among different social groups.
- (b) Vertical division of power or power shared among different levels of government.
- (c) Horizontal division of power or power shared among different organs of the government.
- (d) Power sharing in the form of political parties, pressure groups and governments.

Answer: c

29. Which one of the following statements about power-sharing arrangements is correct?

- (a) Power sharing is necessary only in societies which have religious, linguistic or ethnic divisions.

- (b) Power sharing is suitable only for big countries that have regional divisions.
- (c) Every society needs some form of power sharing even if it is small or does not have social divisions.
- (d) Power-sharing is not necessary at all.

Answer: c

30. Consider the following statements about the ethnic composition of Sri Lanka:

- A. Major social groups are the Sinhala-speaking (74%) and Tamil-speaking (18%)?
- B. Among the Tamils, there are two sub-groups, Sri Lankan Tamils and Indian Tamils.
- C. There are about 7% Christians, who are both Tamil and Sinhala.
- D. Most of the Sinhala-speaking are Hindus or Muslims and most of the Tamil-speaking are Buddhists.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) A, B, C
- (b) A, B, D
- (c) B, C, D
- (d) A, B, C, D

Answer: (a) A, B, C

31. Prudential reasons of power sharing stress on the facts that:

- A. It ensures the stability of political order.
- B. It reduces the possibility of conflict between social groups.
- C. It gives a fair share to minority.
- D. It is the very spirit of democracy.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) A, B
- (b) A, C and D
- (c) All are correct
- (d) A, B & C

Answer: d

Fill in the Blanks

1. When European countries came together to form the European Union (EU), was chosen as the headquarters.
2. The distribution of power is also called a system of checks and balances.
3. The religion followed by Sinhala-speaking people in Sri Lanka is
4. division of power means power to be shared among the government at different levels.
5. In leaders realised that unity of the country is possible by respecting the interests of different communities.

6. In the year an Act was passed to recognise Sinhala as the official language.

Answers

1. Brussels
2. horizontal
3. Buddhism
4. Federal
5. Belgium
6. 1956

FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. In Belgium, three communities are living....., and

Ans. French, Dutch and Germans

2. _____ has started power struggle demanding separate Eelam in Sri Lanka.

Ans. Sri Lankan Tamils

3..... was started in Sri Lanka due to distrust between the two communities.

Ans. Civil War

4. Both and share power on an equal basis in Belgium.

Dutch and French

5. In Belgium, lastly the power is shared between, and

Ans. Central Government, State Government and Community Government

TRUE OR FALSE

Power sharing increases the possibility of conflict between social groups.

Ans : False

Sri Lanka is facing the problems because of supporting the Tamilians in the state.

Ans : True

Belgium has French people in majority whereas the others struggle for their rights.

Ans : False

Power sharing is desirable and reduces possibilities of conflict within the country.

Ans : True

Belgium and Sri Lanka are the two similar causes in the struggle of people.

Ans : True

The feeling of accommodation has led to the problem in Sri Lanka.

Ans : False

ASSERTION AND REASON

DIRECTION : Mark the option which is most suitable :

- (a) If both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.**
- (b) If both assertion and reason are true but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.**
- (c) If assertion is true but reason is false.**
- (d) If both assertion and reason are false.**

Assertion : Tyranny of majority is highly desirable.

Reason : It helps in making the political order more stable.

Ans : (d) Both assertion and reason are false.

Tyranny of majority community is oppressive for the minority community and can also ruin the majority. It is a source of dissatisfaction and tension which is a source of political instability.

Assertion : In Belgium, the leaders realized that the unity of the country is possible by respecting the feelings and interest of different countries.

Reason : Belgium favoured Dutch speaking community.

Ans : (d) Both assertion and reason are false.

Belgians adapted a power sharing arrangement in which all the communities have equal representation. This helped in relieving tension between the different communities. Thus they did not favour any particular community. Both the assertion and reason are false.

Assertion : French speaking community in Belgium was rich and powerful.

Reason : Belgian Government favoured French speaking community.

Ans : (c) Assertion is true but reason is false.

There was ethnic tension between French speaking and Dutch speaking communities in Belgium. For resolving, the government adopted a power sharing arrangement where all the communities got equal representation.

Assertion : In a democracy, everyone has voice in the shaping of public policies.

Reason : India has federal system.

Ans : (b) Both assertion and reason are true but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.

In a democracy, people elect the representatives who participate in the decision making process. Due respect and proper representation is given to diverse groups in a democratic system. Hence, in democracy everyone has voice in the shaping of public policies. However the reason does not justify the assertion.

Assertion : Power should reside with one person and group located at one place in a democracy.

Reason : If the power is dispersed, it will not be possible to take decision quickly and enforce it.

Ans : (d) Both assertion and reason are false.

In a good democratic government, due respect is given to diverse groups and views that exist in the society. Hence, political power should be distributed among citizens.

Assertion : Belgium and Sri Lanka both faced ethical tension among different communities.

Reason : Both the countries resolved the conflict by power sharing arrangement which gave equal representation to all the communities.

Ans : (c) Assertion is true but reason is false.

Belgians adopted a power sharing model where all the communities got equal representation; this helped in solving tension between different communities. However, Sri Lanka tried to promote the supremacy of Sinhala community which eventually led to civil war. Thus the reason is false.

Assertion : There was a feeling of alienation among Sri Lankan Tamils.

Reason : The Sri Lankan government denied them equal political rights and discriminated against them in getting jobs and other opportunities,

Ans : (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.

An act was passed in 1956 to recognize Sinhala as an official language. The government of Sri Lanka favoured people from Sinhala community for higher education and government jobs. It led to resentment among Sri Lankan Tamils as government was not sensitive to their culture and language.

Assertion : Community government in Belgium is elected by one language community.

Reason : Community government helped in resolving conflict between different linguistic groups.

Ans : (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.

Community government is elected by people of one language community, i.e. French, Dutch and German speaking. Such a government has power related to culture, education and language issues. It helps in resolving conflicts between different ethnic groups by safeguarding the interest of its group.

Assertion : Sinhala was recognized as only official language of Sri Lanka.

Reason : The government of Sri Lanka wanted to establish the supremacy of Sinhala community.

Ans : (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.

The government of Sri Lanka passed an Act in 1956 to recognize Sinhala as only official language of Sri Lanka. The government also formulated preferential policies to favour Sinhala applicants for university positions

and government jobs. All this was done to establish supremacy of Sinhala community. Thus the reason justifies the assertion.

Assertion : Power Sharing is good.

Reason : It leads to ethical tension.

Ans : (c) Assertion is true but reason is false.

Power Sharing is good because it helps in reducing the chances of conflict between different social groups and ensures stability of the political system.

**MCQ DRILL FOR PRACTICE—TEST YOURSELF
(ANSWER KEY AT THE LAST)**

Q1. Belgium Shares borders with France, the Netherlands, Germany and

- A. England**
- B. Norway**
- C. Luxembourg**
- D. Italy**

Q2. In the capital city Brussels, 80 percent people speak.....

- A. French**
- B. Dutch**
- C. German**
- D. English**

Q3. 20 % of the people of Brussels Speak.....

- A. Dutch**
- B. English**
- C. German**
- D. Italian**

Q4. Brussels presented a special problem:What was it

- A. Dutch-speaking people constituted a minority in the country, but a majority in the capital**
- B. Dutch-speaking people constituted a majority in the country, but a minority in the capital**
- C. Other foreign languages were seeping in**
- D. English was becoming dominant**

Q5. What percentage of Srilankan Population is Tamil Speaking

- A. 50%**
- B. 20%**
- C. 18%**
- D. 16%**

Q6. The people whose forefathers came from India to Srilanka as plantation workers

during the colonial period are called.....

- A. Sri Lankan Tamils
- B. Indian Tamils
- C. Tamil Indians
- D. Indian Sri Lankans

Q7. Most of the Sinhalese Speaking people in Sri Lanka are.....

- A. Hindus
- B. Christians
- C. Muslims
- D. Buddhists

Q8. When did Sri Lanka emerge as an independent country?

- A. 1949
- B. 1950
- C. 1948
- D. 1951

Q9. Inan Act was passed to recognise Sinhalese as the only official language, thus disregarding Tamil. The governments followed preferential policies that favoured Sinhalese applicants for university positions and government jobs?

- A. 1956
- B. 1957
- C. 1958
- D. 1959

Q10. All these government measures, coming one after the other, gradually increased theamong the Sri Lankan Tamils

- A. Protests
- B. Favouritism
- C. Feeling of alienation
- D. Subordination

Q11. By the 1980s several political organisations were formed demanding

- A. Certain rights
- B. Independent Tamil Eelam (state)
- C. Sovereign State
- D. Priority in Jobs for Tamils

Q12. When did the Civil War of Sri Lanka end

- A. 2010
- B. 2009
- C. 2005
- D. 2011

Q13. How many times was the constitution of Belgium amended between 1970 and 1993?

- A. Three times**
- B. Two times**
- C. Four times**
- D. Once**

Q14. The Constitution of Belgium prescribes that the number of Dutch and French-speaking ministers in the central government

- A. Shall be equal**
- B. Dutch speaking shall be more**
- C. French speaking will be more**
- D. None of the above**

Q15. The 'community government' is elected by people belonging to one language community – Dutch, French and German-speaking. What powers does it hold

- A. Cultural, educational and language-related issues.**
- B. Political issues**
- C. Defence related issues**
- D. All of the above**

Q16. Give reason as to why power sharing can be good for a country?

- A. it helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups**
- B. is a good way to ensure the stability of political order**
- C. It does not lead to confusion in managing the state**
- D. A & B**

Q17. Give one moral reason as why power sharing is good

- A. it helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups**
- B. It does not lead to confusion in managing the state**
- C. People have a right to be consulted on how they are to be governed.**
- D. power sharing is a good way to ensure the stability of political order**

Q18. The idea of power-sharing has emerged in opposition to

- A. Democracy**
- B. Dictatorship**
- C. Monarchy**
- D. Undivided political power under one sect**

Q19. Give an example of horizontal distribution of power

- A. governments at the provincial or regional level.**
- B. legislature, executive and judiciary**

- C. among different social groups
- D. political parties, pressure groups and movements

Q20. Which is a federal division of power?

- A. governments at the provincial or regional level.
- B. legislature, executive and judiciary
- C. among different social groups
- D. political parties, pressure groups and movements

Q21. Where power is shared among different organs of government, such as the legislature, executive and judiciary, what is the functioning of this system called?

- A. Horizontal system
- B. system of checks and balances
- C. System of shared duties
- D. System of limited power

Q22. Consider the following statements about power sharing arrangements in Belgium and Sri Lanka.

1. In Belgium, the Dutch-speaking majority people tried to impose their domination on the minority French-speaking community.
2. In Sri Lanka, the policies of the government sought to ensure the dominance of the Sinhala-speaking majority.
3. The Tamils in Sri Lanka demanded a federal arrangement of power sharing to protect their culture, language and equality of opportunity in education and jobs.
4. The transformation of Belgium from unitary government to a federal one prevented a possible division of the country on linguistic lines

Which of the statements is correct?

- A. All of the above
- B. 1, 2 and 4
- C. 3 and 4
- D. 2, 3 and 4

Q23. In Sri Lanka, there are about..... percent Christians, who are both Tamil and Sinhala

- A. 10
- B. 15
- C. 7
- D. 12

Q24. In Sri Lanka the democratically elected government adopted a series of measures to establish Sinhala supremacy

- A. Extreme
- B. Democratic
- C. Political
- D. Majoritarian

Q25. In Srilanka, a new constitution stipulated that the state shall protect and fosterTamil Indians

- A. Hindu**
- B. Buddhist**
- C. Christain**
- D. Islam**

Q26. In Belgium.....

- A. The state governments are not subordinate to the Central Government**
- B. The state governments are subordinate to the Central Government**
- C. The state governments have no say before the central govt**
- D. The state govt can contradict the Central government**

Q27. When many countries of Europe came together to form the European Union, was chosen as the headquarter?

- A. Paris**
- B. Brussels**
- C. Rome**
- D. London**

Q28. Name one prudential reason for power sharing

- A. Power sharing is the very spirit of democracy.**
- B. People have a right to be consulted on how they are to be governed.**
- C. Citizens, through participation, acquire a stake in the system**
- D. Power sharing is good because it helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups**

Q29. Different arguments are usually put forth in favour of and against power sharing. Identify those which are in favour of power sharing and select the answer using the codes given below? Power sharing:

- 1. reduces conflict among different communities**
- 2. decreases the possibility of arbitrariness**
- 3. delays decision making process**
- 4. accommodates diversities**
- 5. increases instability and divisiveness**
- 6. promotes people's participation in government**
- 7. undermines the unity of a country**

- A. 1, 2, 4, 6**
- B. 1, 3, 5, 6**
- C. 1, 2, 4, 7**
- D. 2, 3, 4, 7**

Q30. Consider the following two statements on power sharing and select the answer

using the codes given below:

1. Power sharing is good for democracy.
 2. It helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups.
- Which of these statements are true and false?

- A. 1 is true but 2 is false
- B. Both 1 and 2 are true
- C. Both 1 and 2 are false
- D. 1 is false but 2 is true

CHECK YOUR PERFORMANCE

Answer key

Q. No.	Ans.	Q. No.	Ans.	Q. No.	Ans.
1	C	11	B	21	B
2	A	12	B	22	B
3	A	13	C	23	C
4	B	14	A	24	D
5	C	15	A	25	C
6	B	16	D	26	A
7	D	17	C	27	B
8	C	18	D	28	D
9	B	19	B	29	C
10	C	20	A	30	B

STOPS