

CBSE CLASS X
Social Science (087)

QUESTION PAPER

AI-generated question paper

Code: 5XJCDT

Questions: 41

Maximum Marks: 128

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SELECTIONS USED

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Subject | Social Science |
| Lessons | 5 Outcomes of Democracy |
| Level of understanding | Thorough understanding |
| Question selection | Curated chapter coverage (~5 questions per section + 8 synthesis) |
| Model | claude-sonnet-4-6 |

Composition — Difficulty: 1 straightforward · 19 medium · 21 deep | Types: 28 Short · 8 Long · 3 MCQ · 2 Very short

Q1. medium thorough-understanding § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) [3]

A student argues: 'If democracy is not delivering economic growth or reducing poverty in our country, we should simply replace it with a more efficient system.' What is the flaw in this reasoning? What is the correct way to think about what democracy can and cannot be expected to deliver?

◆ **Outcomes of Democracy**

Q2. deep thorough-understanding § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) [3]

Democracy is widely supported even by people living under non-democratic regimes, yet many people living in democracies remain dissatisfied with how their democracy actually functions. What does this apparent contradiction reveal about the way democracy should be evaluated?

◆ **Outcomes of Democracy**

Q3. medium thorough-understanding § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? [3]

Democracy is described as 'good in principle but not so good in practice.' What does this tension reveal about how we should judge democracy — purely on moral grounds or also on practical outcomes? Explain.

◆ **Outcomes of Democracy**

Q4. deep thorough-understanding § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? [3]

Over a hundred countries today hold elections and have formal constitutions, yet their democratic outcomes differ greatly. Despite this variation, is it still meaningful to set common benchmarks for what ALL democracies must deliver? Explain with reasons.

◆ **Outcomes of Democracy**

Q5. deep thorough-understanding § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? [5]

A student argues: 'Since most people around the world support democracy and yet are dissatisfied with how it actually functions, we should look for a better form of government altogether.' Using the reasoning in this section, evaluate whether this argument is logically sound.

◆ **Outcomes of Democracy**

Q6. medium thorough-understanding § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government [3]

A non-democratic government can implement a major infrastructure project in weeks, while a democratic government takes months of debate and approvals to do the same. Does this make the democratic government inefficient? Justify your answer.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q7. medium thorough-understanding § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government [3]

What is the difference between an 'accountable' government and a 'responsive' government? Can a government be one without being the other?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q8. straightforward thorough-understanding § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government [1]

Identify and briefly explain any two institutional mechanisms through which citizens can hold a democratic government accountable.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q9. deep thorough-understanding § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government [3]

A citizen complains: 'Our elected government is slow, occasionally corrupt, and ignores many of our demands — so dictatorship would be better.' Critically evaluate this complaint using the concept of legitimacy.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q10. medium thorough-understanding § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government [2]

Democratic governments are often criticised for being slow because they follow established norms and procedures. Do you think this procedural approach is a strength or a weakness of democracy? Justify your answer.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q11. deep thorough-understanding § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government [3]

Survey data from South Asia consistently shows that people living under non-democratic regimes also strongly prefer democracy for their country. What does this tell us about democracy as an outcome in itself?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q12. deep thorough-understanding § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government [5]

Democracies are described as having a 'mixed record' in producing accountable government. Identify one area where democracies have shown relative success and one area where they fall short, and explain why this overall picture does not undermine the case for democracy.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q13. deep thorough-understanding § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government [3]

A government passes a new law without any public debate or legislative scrutiny. Even though the law may benefit many people, why would a democrat object to the way it was passed?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q14. medium thorough-understanding § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government [3]

A country's democratic government has failed to achieve high economic growth and its delivery of public services is poor. A citizen argues that democracy has therefore failed. Do you agree? Explain why legitimacy and dignity may make democracy valuable beyond its economic performance.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q15. medium thorough-understanding § Economic growth and development [3]

Between 1950 and 2000, dictatorial regimes recorded a slightly higher average economic growth rate than democratic ones. Yet, this fact alone is considered insufficient reason to reject democracy. Why?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q16. deep thorough-understanding § Economic growth and development [3]

A political leader argues: 'Dictatorships grow faster than democracies; therefore, poor countries must choose dictatorship to lift themselves out of poverty.' Critically examine this argument. Is economic growth rate a sufficient basis for preferring one form of government over another? Justify your answer.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q17. medium thorough-understanding § Economic outcomes of democracy [3]

Data collected over fifty years (1950–2000) shows that dictatorial regimes had a slightly higher average economic growth rate than democracies overall, yet when only poor countries are compared, the difference between dictatorships and democracies almost disappears. What does this finding suggest about the relationship between a country's form of government and its economic growth?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q18. deep thorough-understanding § Economic outcomes of democracy [3]

In several democracies, such as South Africa and Brazil, the top 20% of the population takes more than 60% of national income, while the bottom 20% receive less than 3%. What does this pattern reveal about the relationship between political equality and economic equality in democracies?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q19. deep thorough-understanding § Economic outcomes of democracy [3]

[short_answer] A student argues: 'Since dictatorships have shown slightly higher economic growth rates on average, poor countries should adopt dictatorship to become rich faster.' Do you agree with this argument? Critically evaluate it with reference to available evidence on economic growth under different forms of government.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q20. medium thorough-understanding § Reduction of inequality and poverty [3]

Democracies are built on political equality — every citizen has one vote of equal value. Yet economic inequalities in many democracies are growing rather than shrinking. Why does political equality not automatically translate into economic equality?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q21. deep thorough-understanding § Reduction of inequality and poverty [3]

[short_answer] Economic data shows that income inequality varies widely among democratic countries — some have very large gaps between the richest and poorest citizens, while others have much smaller gaps. What does this variation tell us about whether democracy, by itself, is sufficient to reduce economic inequality? Explain with suitable reasoning.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q22. medium thorough-understanding § Reduction of inequality and poverty [1]

The poor constitute a large proportion of voters in many democracies, yet democratically elected governments often fail to prioritise poverty reduction effectively. Which of the following best explains this contradiction?

- A The poor do not participate in elections in significant numbers.
- B Democratic governments are structurally prevented from making economic policies.
- C Winning votes does not necessarily compel governments to address the underlying causes of poverty after elections.
- D Poverty is a problem only in non-democratic countries.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q23. deep thorough-understanding § Reduction of inequality and poverty [5]

Some argue that poor countries should adopt dictatorship to achieve rapid economic growth, and only rich countries can afford democracy. Using evidence on economic growth rates under democracies and dictatorships, and considering democracy's other outcomes, critically evaluate this argument.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q24. medium thorough-understanding § Accommodation of social diversity [3]

Why is democracy considered better suited than authoritarian regimes to manage social differences and conflicts? Explain the conditions democracy must fulfil to prevent these differences from turning into deep social divisions.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q25. deep thorough-understanding § Accommodation of social diversity [3]

In a country where one ethnic community consistently wins every election due to its numerical majority and uses that power to exclude other communities from government, is this a healthy democracy? Explain why or why not, using the conditions democracy must fulfil to accommodate social diversity.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q26. medium thorough-understanding § Accommodation of social diversity [1]

A democratic government passes a law declaring one religion the official state religion, makes its language mandatory in all schools and gives its followers priority in government jobs. Which of the following best explains the likely outcome of such policies on democracy and social harmony?

- ((A)) It strengthens democracy by giving a clear cultural identity to the nation.
- ((B)) It leads to majoritarianism, alienates minorities and can trigger social conflict and instability.
- ((C)) It promotes transparency and accountability among citizens.
- ((D)) It ensures efficient decision-making by reducing diversity-related debates.

- A Sri Lanka failed to hold free and fair elections, making it undemocratic.
- B Majority rule in Sri Lanka turned into the permanent dominance of one ethnic-religious community, denying others the chance to ever be in the majority.
- C Sri Lanka's government was a dictatorship that suppressed all social differences.
- D Sri Lanka's poor economic growth led to violent social conflicts among its citizens.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q27. deep thorough-understanding § Accommodation of social diversity [5]

Democracy cannot permanently eliminate conflicts among social groups, yet it is still considered the best system for managing social diversity. Examine this apparent contradiction. What exactly does democracy offer, and what are its limits, when it comes to social harmony?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q28. medium thorough-understanding § Dignity and freedom of the citizens [1]

[mcq] In a democracy, women are granted equal legal rights, yet gender discrimination persists in many households and workplaces. What does this gap between legal recognition and social reality BEST tell us about democracy?

Options:

- (A) Democracy has failed because laws alone cannot change society overnight.
- (B) Legal equality is meaningless unless backed by economic equality.
- (C) Recognising equal dignity in law creates a moral and legal basis for women to challenge discrimination over time.
- (D) Democracy and social equality are unrelated goals.

- A Recognition automatically ensures equal treatment in all social situations.
- B It gives women a legal and moral basis from which to challenge discrimination.
- C It transfers political power directly to women through elections.
- D It guarantees that governments will pass laws protecting women immediately.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q29. medium thorough-understanding § Dignity and freedom of the citizens [1]

Why do people in democracies tend to complain more about their government than people living under non-democratic regimes, even when the democracy may actually be functioning better?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q30. medium thorough-understanding § Dignity and freedom of the citizens [3]

How does democracy help the disadvantaged castes in India assert their claims for equal status, even when caste-based discrimination still occurs in practice?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q31. deep thorough-understanding § Dignity and freedom of the citizens [3]

[short_answer] It is said that 'democracy's examination never gets over.' What does this mean? Why is the fact that citizens always want more from their democratic government considered a sign of democratic strength rather than democratic failure? Explain with an example.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q32. medium thorough-understanding § Dignity and freedom of the citizens [3]

In what specific way does democracy transform the relationship between an ordinary person and the state, and why is this transformation itself considered an important outcome?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q33. deep thorough-understanding § Dignity and freedom of the citizens [5]

A student argues: 'Since caste discrimination and gender inequality still exist in India, democracy has failed to deliver dignity to its citizens.' Do you agree? Justify your answer using the logic of what democracy can and cannot guarantee.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q34. deep thorough-understanding § Dignity and freedom of the citizens [3]

[short_answer] Democracy faces challenges of both gender inequality and caste inequality in India. Explain how democracy addresses these two forms of inequality. In what way is democracy's approach to both similar, and in what significant way does the nature of the challenge differ between the two?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q35. deep thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [5]

A critic argues: 'Democracy is pointless — it is slower than dictatorship, fails to eliminate poverty, and still has corruption.' Using evidence from what you know about democracy's actual outcomes, explain why this criticism, though partly valid, does not justify rejecting democracy.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q36. deep thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [5]

Democracy is often praised for promoting both political equality (one person, one vote) and social dignity (respect for all individuals). Yet economic inequality persists and social discrimination continues in many democracies. How do you reconcile these contradictions without dismissing democracy as a failure?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q37. deep thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [3]

Both the accommodation of social diversity and the dignity of citizens are outcomes linked to democratic principles. What is the common underlying idea that connects these two outcomes, and how does the failure of one tend to undermine the other?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q38. medium thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [3]

[short_answer] A daily-wage earner in a city was repeatedly denied a ration card by local officials. After learning about the Right to Information Act, he filed a request, tracked his application, and eventually received the card. How does this situation illustrate the practical connection between transparency, accountability, and the dignity of ordinary citizens in a democracy?

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q39. medium thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [3]

[short_answer] 'Dictatorship may deliver faster decisions and comparable economic growth, but it can never match democracy on legitimacy.' Evaluate this claim by comparing democracy and dictatorship on the three parameters of (i) speed and efficiency of decision-making, (ii) economic growth rate, and (iii) legitimacy of government.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q40. deep thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [5]

Democracy is sometimes described as a form of government that 'creates conditions' rather than 'guarantees outcomes.' Using examples from at least THREE different outcome areas (such as economic development, social harmony, and individual dignity), justify this distinction.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Q41. medium thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [3]

[short_answer] 'Majority rule is both the strength and the greatest internal threat of democracy.' Explain this statement by discussing the conditions under which majority decision-making can undermine democratic accommodation, and how democracy is expected to prevent such an outcome.

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

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