

CBSE CLASS X
Social Science (087)**ANSWER KEY***From previous CBSE Board Exam questions***Code: AL6RXR****Questions: 49****Maximum Marks: 189****Generated: 2026-06-15 13:05****SELECTIONS USED**

Source	Previous-year board
Subject	Social Science
Lessons	Outcomes of Democracy
Year	2022-2026
Questions selected	49

Composition — Types: 32 Long · 10 MCQ · 4 Short · 4 Very short · 1 Assertion–reason

Q1. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?

[5]

"Democracy is attentive to the needs and demands of the people." Justify the statement.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/2/1 Q9(a)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy and Responsiveness to People's Needs and Demands

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Model Answer

Democracy is attentive to the needs and demands of the people — this can be justified through the following points:

1. **People are the source of power:** In a democracy, all political power rests with the citizens. Everyone has a voice in shaping public policies, ensuring that needs are heard and addressed.
1. **Power-sharing arrangements:** Power is distributed among legislature, executive, and judiciary, as well as among different levels of government. This ensures checks and balances and prevents any one group from ignoring public demands.
1. **Representation of diverse groups:** Arrangements like reserved constituencies allow weaker sections, minorities, and women to participate in governance, making the system responsive to their needs.
1. **Role of political parties and pressure groups:** Competition among parties and influence of interest groups (farmers, workers, traders) ensure that demands of various sections reach the decision-makers.
1. **Dignity and freedom:** Democracy recognises the dignity of every individual. Citizens transform from passive subjects to active citizens who can question power-holders, demand more, and hold government accountable through their vote.

Source: *Outcomes of Democracy, Chapter 5; Power-Sharing, Chapter 1*

Explanation

Examiners look for **5 distinct, well-labelled points** (one per mark) connecting democracy's features — power-sharing, representation, accountability, dignity — to responsiveness toward citizens. Avoid vague statements; use specific examples (reserved constituencies, pressure groups, checks and balances). The conclusion about citizens becoming active rather than passive is a key textbook idea from Chapter 5 and should not be missed.

Q2. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government

[5]

Why is Democratic Government considered as Legitimate Government ? Explain.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/6/1 Q32(a)

♦ **Outcomes of Democracy**

Democratic Government as Legitimate Government

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Model Answer

Democratic government is considered a **legitimate government** for the following reasons:

1. **People's own government:** Democratic government is formed by representatives elected by the people themselves. People have the right to choose their rulers and control over them.
1. **Accountable and transparent:** Democracy ensures decision-making is based on norms and procedures. Citizens have the right to examine how decisions are made — this is known as **transparency**.
1. **Responsive to citizens:** Democratic government is attentive to the needs and demands of the people and allows citizens to participate in decision-making.
1. **Overwhelming public support:** As data from South Asia shows, 94% of people agree with rule by elected representatives, proving democracy generates its own support.
1. **Better than alternatives:** Though democracy may be slow and less efficient, non-democratic regimes are no less corrupt or insensitive. Democracy remains far better in all these respects.

Thus, democracy's ability to generate its own support is itself an important outcome.

Source: *Outcomes of Democracy, Chapter 5*

Explanation

Examiners expect students to use the key term "**legitimate**" and link it to: people electing rulers, transparency, accountability, and public support data. Don't write a general essay on democracy — focus specifically on *why it is legitimate*. Mentioning the South Asia survey data adds a factual touch that earns marks. Five clear points match the 5-mark weightage perfectly.

Q3. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction)

[5]

Evaluate the outcomes of democracy in the social sector of the country.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/5/1 Q32(b)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Outcomes of Democracy in the Social Sector

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Model Answer**Outcomes of Democracy in the Social Sector:**

1. **Accommodation of Social Differences:** Democracy is best suited to handle social differences, divisions and conflicts. It develops procedures to conduct competition among groups, reducing the possibility of tensions becoming explosive or violent.
1. **Majority-Minority Cooperation:** Democracy ensures the majority works with the minority so that governments represent the general view. Majority and minority opinions are not permanent — every citizen has a chance of being in the majority at some point.
1. **Prevention of Domination:** Rule by majority must not become rule by a majority community based on religion, race or language. If any group is barred on the basis of birth, democracy ceases to be accommodative.
1. **Negotiation of Conflicts:** No society can fully resolve conflicts, but democracy evolves mechanisms to negotiate differences and helps citizens respect them. Non-democratic regimes suppress or ignore social differences.
1. **Limitation:** Democracy does not guarantee perfect social harmony; it ensures people manage differences peacefully, not that conflicts disappear entirely.

Source: Chapter 5, Accommodation of Social Diversity

Explanation

- Examiners expect 4–5 distinct points covering: accommodation of diversity, majority-minority balance, prevention of community domination, conflict negotiation, and an honest limitation.
- Always use the textbook examples (Belgium, Sri Lanka) as supporting references — they signal you have read the chapter.
- The two conditions for democracy to handle social diversity (majority not becoming permanent, no rule by majority community) are frequently asked; state them clearly.
- Avoid copying entire paragraphs; rephrase in your own words while keeping the key terms intact.

Q4. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?

[5]

"Democratic governance is responsive to the expectations of citizens." Justify the statement with suitable arguments.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/4/1 Q32(A)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Accountability and transparency in democracy

Democracy and responsiveness to citizens' expectations

Democracy as a legitimate and dignified form of government

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Model Answer

Democratic governance is responsive to the expectations of citizens. This can be justified as follows:

1. **Accountable Government:** Democracy produces a government accountable to citizens. People have the right to choose and control their rulers through regular, free, and fair elections.
1. **Transparency:** Decision-making in a democracy follows set norms and procedures. Citizens have the right to examine this process (Right to Information), making the government transparent.
1. **Participation:** Citizens can participate in decision-making that affects them, ensuring the government remains attentive to their needs.
1. **Legitimate Government:** Democratic government is people's own government, chosen by elected representatives. This gives it legitimacy and overwhelming public support — over 88% in South Asia find democracy suitable.
1. **Resolves Conflicts:** Democracy provides a method to resolve conflicts and correct mistakes through open public debate and deliberation.

Thus, though democracy may be slow, it is more acceptable, people-centred, and responsive than any non-democratic alternative.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy, Accountable, Responsive and Legitimate Government

Explanation

- Examiners expect **5 distinct points** for a 5-mark answer — one point per mark is a safe formula.
- Key terms to include: **accountable, transparent, legitimate, responsive, participation.**
- Support with the South Asia data (88% suitability) — it shows the examiner you've read the chapter carefully.
- Avoid writing that democracy *always* delivers — the textbook itself says the record is "mixed," so nuance scores marks.
- End with a concluding line to round off the answer neatly.

Q5. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government § Economic growth and development

[1]

Which one of the following is not true about a democratic government ?

- (a) Democratic government is a legitimate government.
- (b) Democratic government is a responsive government.
- (c) Democratic government is a people's government.
- (d) It does not allow room to correct mistakes.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/5/1 Q12

♦ **Outcomes of Democracy** Features and Outcomes of Democratic Government

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Model Answer

(d) It does not allow room to correct mistakes.

Democracy allows room to correct mistakes — this is one of its key features. Hence, option (d) is **not true** about democratic government.

Source: How do we assess democracy's outcomes?, Chapter 5

Explanation

The passage clearly lists "Allows room to correct mistakes" as a feature of democracy. Options (a), (b), and (c) are all stated as true features in the chapter. For MCQs, always check the exact wording against what the textbook states.

Q6. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?

[5]

(B) "Democracy produces an accountable, responsive and legitimate government." Support the statement with arguments.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/4/1 Q32 (B)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy produces accountable, responsive and legitimate government

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Model Answer

Democracy produces an accountable, responsive, and legitimate government in the following ways:

Accountable Government:

- In a democracy, rulers are elected by the people and must answer for their actions. Citizens can question decisions through elections, RTI, and public debates.
- Example: Nannu used the Right to Information Act to hold officials accountable, and his work was done within a week.

Responsive Government:

- A democratic government is responsive as it must fulfil the needs and demands of citizens. People have the right to participate in decision-making and to expect their needs to be addressed.

Legitimate Government:

- Democracy is a legitimate form of government because it is chosen by the people through free and fair elections. People have faith in it even when dissatisfied, as it provides a method to resolve conflicts and correct mistakes peacefully.

Thus, democracy creates conditions for accountable, responsive, and legitimate governance.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy

Explanation

- **Accountable** = government answerable to citizens; use Nannu's RTI example — examiners love it.
- **Responsive** = government acts on people's needs.
- **Legitimate** = people accept and trust it because they chose it.
- Each of the three terms must be addressed separately with a brief supporting point — that is how marks are allocated for this question.
- Avoid writing a long essay; crisp labelled points score full marks in CBSE.

Q7. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § Reduction of inequality and poverty § Dignity and freedom of the citizens

[5]

Analyse the conditions under which democracies promote dignity and freedom of citizens.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/2/1 Q32(b)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy Democracy, Dignity and Freedom of Citizens

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Model Answer

Democracy promotes dignity and freedom of citizens under the following conditions:

1. **Recognition of individual equality:** Democracy recognises, at least in principle, that all individuals are equal and deserve respect. Once this principle is legally and morally accepted, citizens can struggle against discrimination.
1. **Dignity of women:** Long struggles by women have created sensitivity that equal treatment of women is a necessary ingredient of a democratic society. Legal and moral backing makes discrimination against women unacceptable.
1. **Elimination of caste inequalities:** Democracy in India has strengthened the claims of disadvantaged castes for equal status and opportunity. Caste-based atrocities now lack legal and moral foundations.
1. **Awareness among citizens:** Democracy transforms people from subjects to citizens. People develop awareness, express dissatisfaction, and hold power-holders accountable — itself a sign of democratic success.
1. **Rule with minority cooperation:** Majority must work with minority to represent the general view, ensuring no group is permanently excluded.

Source: Chapter 5, Outcomes of Democracy — Dignity and Freedom of Citizens

Explanation

Examiners look for **5 distinct points** clearly linked to dignity and freedom. Key terms to include: *principle of equality, legal and moral basis, women's dignity, caste discrimination, subject to citizen*. Avoid writing a vague general essay — use the textbook's specific examples (women, caste, awareness/complaints as a sign of success). The phrase "transforms people from subjects to citizens" is a direct textbook quote worth using.

Q8. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government

[5]

How is democracy a legitimate government ? Explain with examples.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/5/1 Q32(b)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy as a legitimate government

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Model Answer

Democracy as a Legitimate Government:

Democracy is considered a **legitimate government** because it is formed by representatives freely chosen by the people through regular, free and fair elections. It is truly the people's own government.

Key points explaining democracy's legitimacy:

1. **People's choice:** Citizens elect their rulers, giving the government a mandate to rule. This makes it acceptable and legitimate in their eyes.
1. **Accountability and transparency:** Democratic governments follow set procedures and norms. Citizens have the right to information and can examine decision-making processes (transparency).
1. **Participation:** Citizens can participate in decision-making, making them stakeholders in governance.
1. **Overwhelming public support:** Survey data from South Asia shows 94% people agree with rule by elected representatives. In India, 92% find democracy suitable — proving people willingly accept democratic rule.
1. **Self-generating support:** Democracy's ability to generate its own support is itself a major outcome. Even in non-democratic countries, people desire democracy.

Thus, though democracy may be slow or less efficient, it remains legitimate because it is the government people choose for themselves.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy, Accountable, Responsive and Legitimate Government

Explanation

Examiners look for the term "**legitimate**" clearly defined (government chosen by and acceptable to the people), followed by 4–5 supporting points. Use the South Asia survey data as a concrete example — it adds evidence and impresses examiners. Avoid writing a vague essay; crisp numbered points score better in 5-mark answers. The phrase "*people's own government*" is directly from the textbook — use it.

Q9. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Dignity and freedom of the citizens

[1]

Read the following characteristics of democracy and choose the correct option.

I. Free and fair elections

II. Equality before law

III. Dignity of a person

IV. Majority rule

- (A) Only I, II and III are correct.
- (B) Only II, III and IV are correct.
- (C) Only I, III and IV are correct.
- (D) Only I, II and IV are correct.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/4/1 Q14

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Characteristics/Features of Democracy

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Model Answer

(D) Only I, II and IV are correct.

Dignity of a person (III) is a characteristic, but the textbook lists it separately under outcomes. Free and fair elections, equality before law, and majority rule are core democratic features.

Wait — reconsidering: the textbook Exercise Q.6 identifies **majority rule (C)** as the **odd one out**, meaning it is NOT a necessary feature of democracy. Therefore the correct answer is **(A) Only I, II and III are correct.**

(A) Only I, II and III are correct.

Source: Outcomes of Democracy, Chapter 5

Explanation

- Exercise Q.6 in Chapter 5 directly asks which is the "odd one out" among: free and fair elections, dignity of the individual, majority rule, and equal treatment before law — and **majority rule** is the odd one out, as democracy protects minority rights too.
- So Characteristic IV (Majority rule) alone is problematic as a defining feature of democracy.
- Free and fair elections (I), Equality before law (II), and Dignity of a person (III) are all valid characteristics of democracy per the textbook.
- Answer: **(A).**

Q10. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction)

[5]

How do we assess democracy's outcomes ? Explain.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/3/1 Q32(a)

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Assessing Democracy's Outcomes

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Model Answer**Assessing Democracy's Outcomes**

To assess democracy's outcomes, we must first recognise that **democracy is just a form of government** — it can only create conditions for achieving goals; citizens must take advantage of those conditions.

We assess democracy on the following expected outcomes:

1. **Accountable & Legitimate Government:** Democracy should produce a government accountable to citizens, ensuring transparency, free and fair elections, and open public debate. Democratic government is people's own government, making it legitimate.
1. **Economic Well-being:** Evidence shows dictatorial regimes have a slightly better growth rate (4.42%) than democracies (3.95%), but in poor countries the difference is negligible. Democracies often struggle with income inequality.
1. **Social Diversity:** Democracy best handles social differences by developing procedures to reduce conflict and preventing majority rule from becoming oppression of minorities.
1. **Freedom & Dignity:** Democracy promotes equality, enhances individual dignity, and allows correction of mistakes — outcomes non-democratic regimes cannot guarantee.

Source: Chapter 5, Outcomes of Democracy

Explanation

- Examiners expect you to cover **multiple dimensions** of assessment: government accountability, economic outcomes, social diversity, and legitimacy.
- Mention the **data/evidence** briefly (growth rates) — it shows analytical thinking.
- The key CBSE point: democracy is a *form of government*, not a magic solution — state this clearly.
- Use bold headings or numbered points for a 5-mark answer to make it easy to award marks.

Q11. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Accommodation of social diversity § Dignity and freedom of the citizens

[1]

Read the following statements regarding democracy and choose the correct option.

- I. Promotes equality among citizens
- II. Government by few individuals
- III. Protection of human rights
- IV. Ensures checks and balance system

- (A) I, II and III
- (B) II, III and IV
- (C) I, III and IV
- (D) I, II and IV

Previously asked in: 2024 32/3/1 Q13

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Features and outcomes of democracy

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Model Answer

(C) I, III and IV

Statement II is incorrect — democracy means government by the people, not by a few individuals. Statements I, III and IV correctly describe features of democracy.

Explanation

Statement II describes oligarchy/dictatorship, not democracy. The textbook (Chapter 5) clearly states democracy promotes equality, protects rights, and ensures accountability through checks and balances. Examiners expect you to identify the odd statement and choose accordingly.

Q12. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction)

[5]

Explain any five values of democracy.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/1/1 Q32(b)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Values of Democracy

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Model Answer

Democracy is valued for the following reasons:

1. **Promotes equality among citizens** – In a democracy, every citizen has an equal right to vote and participate in governance, regardless of caste, religion or gender.
1. **Enhances the dignity of the individual** – Democracy respects individual rights and freedoms, ensuring every person is treated with dignity.
1. **Improves the quality of decision-making** – Democratic decisions involve deliberation and consultation among many people, leading to better and more informed outcomes.
1. **Provides a method to resolve conflicts** – Democracy offers peaceful, constitutional means to handle disagreements among different groups in society.
1. **Allows room to correct mistakes** – In a democracy, if a government makes wrong decisions, citizens can vote it out and elect a better alternative.

Source: Outcomes of Democracy, Chapter 5

Explanation

The examiner expects exactly these five points drawn from the textbook's own list (from the discussion in Madam Lyngdoh's class). Write each as a labelled point with a one-to-two line explanation. Avoid going beyond what the passage states — these are the standard, mark-fetching answers for this question.

Q13. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction)

[5]

Explain any five bases for assessing the outcomes of democracy.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/1/1 Q32(a)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Bases/Criteria for Assessing Outcomes of Democracy

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Model Answer

To assess the outcomes of democracy, we examine the following five bases:

1. **Accountable Government:** Democracy produces a government accountable to citizens through regular, free and fair elections, open public debate, and citizens' right to information (transparency).
1. **Responsive Government:** A democratic government is expected to be attentive to the needs and demands of the people and responsive to their expectations.
1. **Legitimate Government:** Democratic government is people's own government, chosen by elected representatives. This generates overwhelming public support, making it a legitimate form of governance.
1. **Equality among Citizens:** Democracy promotes political equality — every citizen has one vote, ensuring no political domination.
1. **Dignity of the Individual:** Democracy enhances the dignity of every individual and allows room to correct mistakes, making it morally and practically superior to alternatives.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy

Explanation

- The examiner expects **five distinct points**, each named and briefly explained — not a running essay.
- Key terms: **accountable, responsive, legitimate, equality, dignity** — these are directly from the textbook and must appear.
- Avoid confusing "accountable" with "responsive" — accountable = answerable for decisions; responsive = attentive to needs.
- Do **not** add unrelated points (e.g., economic growth) unless the question specifically asks for it.
- Each point should be 1–2 lines only for a 5-mark answer.

Q14. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Dignity and freedom of the citizens

[5]

"Dignity and freedom of the citizens are the essence of democracy." Examine the statement.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/1/1 Q27 (B)

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy promotes dignity and freedom of citizens

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Model Answer

Democracy is considered the best form of government because it promotes the dignity and freedom of every individual. The following points examine this statement:

1. **Basis of Democracy:** The passion for respect and freedom are the very foundation of democracy. Every individual desires respect from fellow beings, and democracy recognises this.
1. **Recognition of Equality:** Democracies across the world have recognised, at least in principle, that all individuals are equal, regardless of gender, caste, or religion.
1. **Dignity of Women:** Long struggles by women have made equal treatment a necessary ingredient of democratic society. In democracy, discrimination becomes legally and morally unacceptable.
1. **Caste Inequalities:** Democracy in India has strengthened the claims of disadvantaged castes for equal status and equal opportunity. Caste-based atrocities now lack legal and moral foundations.
1. **Empowerment of Citizens:** Democracy transforms people from subjects into citizens. People develop awareness and the ability to critically examine those in power, which itself is a sign of democratic success.

Thus, dignity and freedom are not just outcomes but the essence of democracy.

Source: *Outcomes of Democracy, Chapter 5*

Explanation

Examiners look for **5 distinct, well-labelled points** covering: the philosophical basis (respect/freedom), recognition of equality in principle, specific examples (women's dignity, caste), legal/moral backing provided by democracy, and citizen empowerment. Use the textbook phrase "*transforms people from the status of a subject into that of a citizen*" — it scores well. Avoid vague general statements; ground each point in the chapter's argument.

Q15. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Economic outcomes of democracy

[1]

Look at the given picture carefully and choose the most appropriate option :
Which of the following is a strength of democracy highlighted in the cartoon ?

- (A) Avoidance of social conflicts.
- (B) Quick decision-making
- (C) Concentration of power with one
- (D) Thinking accommodation of various demands.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/4/1 Q21

♦ Outcomes of Democracy Strengths/merits of democracy

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Model Answer

(D) Thinking accommodation of various demands.

Democracy is valued for its ability to accommodate diverse groups and demands, not for quick decisions or concentration of power.

Explanation

The source passage directly asks: *"Is democracy all about coping with multiple pressures and accommodating diverse demands?"* — and the cartoon caption reinforces this. Options A, B, and C are either incorrect or describe non-democratic features (concentration of power is opposed to democracy; quick decision-making suits dictatorship per Chapter 1). Examiners expect you to link the cartoon's theme to the correct strength of democracy from the chapter.

Q16. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?

[5]

"There is an overwhelming support for the idea of democracy all over the world." Support the statement with examples.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/1/1 Q32(a)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Global support and preference for democracy

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Model Answer

Overwhelming Support for Democracy Worldwide:

1. **Wide adoption:** Over 100 countries today claim and practise some form of democratic politics. They have formal constitutions, hold elections, have political parties, and guarantee rights of citizens.
1. **People's preference:** When people are asked, most support democracy over alternatives such as rule by a monarch, military, or religious leaders.
1. **Democracy seen as morally superior:** People believe democracy promotes equality among citizens, enhances the dignity of the individual, and provides a method to resolve conflicts peacefully.
1. **Prudential reasons:** Democracy improves the quality of decision-making and allows room to correct mistakes — reasons beyond just moral appeal.
1. **Diverse democracies:** Despite differences in social situations, economic achievements, and cultures, countries across the world choose democracy, showing its universal appeal.

Source: Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction), Chapter 5

Explanation

- The question asks you to **support** the statement, so list evidence/reasons — no need to discuss failures or contradictions of democracy in practice.
- Key facts the examiner expects: the **100+ countries** figure, **people's preference over monarchy/military**, and the **five reasons** (equality, dignity, decision-making, conflict resolution, correcting mistakes).
- Avoid writing about democracy's shortcomings here — that's for a different type of question.

Q17. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government

[1]

Which one of the following is the most popular form of government in the contemporary world ?

- A Dictatorial Government
- B Constitutional Monarchy
- C Military Government
- D Democratic Government

Previously asked in: 2023 32/1/1 Q18

♦ Outcomes of Democracy Democracy as the most popular form of government

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Model Answer

D. Democratic Government

Democracy is the most popular form of government in the contemporary world. Over a hundred countries today claim and practice some kind of democratic politics.

Explanation

The source passage from Chapter 5 explicitly states: "*Over a hundred countries of the world today claim and practice some kind of democratic politics.*" This makes Option D the correct answer. The passage also notes that democracy is considered better than dictatorship, military rule, or rule by monarchy — eliminating options A, B, and C. In MCQs like this, look for direct textual evidence from the chapter to support your choice.

Q18. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government

[1]

How is democracy better than other forms of Government ? Choose the most appropriate option.

- A It enhances the dignity of individuals.
- B It promotes equality among elites.
- C It promotes tendency of private ownership only.
- D It increases the individualism.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/6/1 Q15

♦ Outcomes of Democracy Democracy vs. Other Forms of Government

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Model Answer

Option A — It enhances the dignity of individuals.

Democracy promotes equality among citizens and enhances individual dignity, making it better than other forms of government.

Source: *How do we assess democracy's outcomes?, Chapter 5*

Explanation

The textbook explicitly lists "enhances the dignity of the individual" as one of the key reasons democracy is better than dictatorship or other alternatives. Options B, C, and D are either factually wrong or not listed as democratic outcomes. Examiners expect you to pick the option directly supported by the NCERT text.

Q19. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?**[3]**

The ability of democracy to generate its own support is itself an outcome that cannot be ignored. Analyse the statement with three examples.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/3/1 Q8

♦ **Outcomes of Democracy**

Democracy's ability to generate its own support as an outcome

Legitimacy and popular support for democratic government

Outcomes of democracy: political and social outcomes

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Model Answer

Democracy's ability to generate its own support is a key outcome because people prefer it over all alternatives even when its performance is imperfect. Three examples:

1. **Overwhelming support in South Asia:** Surveys show 88% of South Asians find democracy suitable for their country, including in nations like Pakistan and Nepal that lack stable democratic regimes.
1. **Preference over dictatorship:** In countries like India (70%) and Sri Lanka (71%), people prefer democracy over dictatorship, showing faith in the system despite its shortcomings.
1. **Support for elected representatives:** About 94% of South Asians agree with rule by elected leaders, proving democracy creates legitimacy that no non-democratic government can match.

Source: *Outcomes of Democracy, Chapter 5*

Explanation

The examiner looks for the **core idea** — legitimacy as a self-sustaining outcome — supported by **three distinct, specific examples** drawn from the survey data in the chapter. Students often write vague points; using actual figures (88%, 70%, 94%) from the SDSA survey makes the answer precise and scoring. One point = one mark here, so keep each example crisp and separate.

Q20. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?

[5]

Analyse the reasons for the overwhelming support for the idea of democracy all over the world.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/1/1 Q9 (b)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Popular Perception and Legitimacy of Democracy

Reasons for Global Support for Democracy

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Model Answer

Democracy enjoys overwhelming support worldwide due to the following reasons:

1. **Promotes Equality:** Democracy treats all citizens as equal, giving every person one vote and one value, regardless of caste, religion or gender.
1. **Enhances Individual Dignity:** It respects and upholds the dignity of every individual, which is a fundamental human need.
1. **Better Decision-Making:** Democratic decisions involve wider consultation and deliberation, improving the quality of decisions.
1. **Resolves Conflicts:** Democracy provides peaceful procedures to manage social differences and conflicts, reducing the chance of violence or explosion of tensions.
1. **Accountable Government:** It produces responsive, accountable and legitimate governments — rulers can be questioned and changed through elections.
1. **Corrects Mistakes:** Unlike dictatorships, democracy allows room to correct its own errors through open discussion and public participation.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy

Explanation

- CBSE expects you to list **reasons/arguments** clearly — numbered points work best for "analyse" questions at this level.
- The passage directly states the five advantages discussed in Madam Lyngdoh's class; add accountability (from the chapter overview) as a sixth point to reach 5-mark length.
- Avoid vague lines like "democracy is the best system" — stick to specific, named reasons.
- The contrast with dictatorship/monarchy strengthens each point briefly; no need to elaborate at length.

Q21. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government

[5]

Democratic government is better than other alternatives. Analyse this statement.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/1/1 Q9 (a)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy vs. Other Forms of Government

Outcomes and Merits of Democracy

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Model Answer**Democracy is better than other alternatives — Analysis:**

1. **Promotes equality and dignity:** Democracy promotes equality among citizens and enhances the dignity of individuals, unlike dictatorships that concentrate power in few hands.
1. **Accountable and legitimate government:** A democratic government is accountable to citizens through free and fair elections, transparency, and the right to information. It is people's own government, making it legitimate.
1. **Better decision-making:** Though slower, democratic decisions follow proper procedures and are more acceptable to people. Non-democratic rulers may decide quickly but face resistance.
1. **Resolves conflicts and corrects mistakes:** Democracy provides mechanisms to resolve conflicts peacefully and allows room to correct mistakes through elections and public debate.
1. **Economic outcomes:** Dictatorial regimes show slightly higher economic growth (4.42% vs 3.95%), but among poor countries the difference is negligible. Hence, economic growth alone cannot justify rejecting democracy.
1. **Overwhelming public support:** In South Asia, 88% find democracy suitable and most people prefer democracy over dictatorship, showing democracy generates its own support.

Conclusion: Democracy may be slow and imperfect, but it remains better than alternatives because it is legitimate, accountable, and respects human dignity.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy

Explanation

Examiners expect students to cover **multiple dimensions** — political, moral, and economic — using specific points from the chapter. Key things to include:

- The five reasons democracy is better (from Class IX discussion)
- Accountability, legitimacy, transparency
- Economic growth comparison (mention figures briefly)
- The fact that democracy is **legitimate government** — the most important conclusion
- South Asia data on public support for democracy

Avoid writing only about advantages without acknowledging limitations — a balanced answer scores better. Each point should be crisp; do not elaborate excessively on any single point.

Q22. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?

[3]

'Transparency is the most important feature of democracy.' Support the statement.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/5/1 Q28

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Transparency as a Key Feature of Democracy

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Model Answer

Transparency is the most important feature of democracy because:

1. **Accountable government:** In a democracy, the government is accountable to the people. Citizens have the right to know about government decisions and actions, reducing the chances of corruption.
1. **Checks and balances:** Power is distributed among legislature, executive, and judiciary. Each organ checks the others, ensuring no one exercises unlimited power secretly.
1. **Informed participation:** When government functioning is open and transparent, citizens can make informed choices, voice opinions, and shape public policies effectively.
1. **Correcting mistakes:** Transparency allows citizens to identify errors in governance and demand corrections, which is a key advantage of democracy over other forms of government.

Source: *Outcomes of Democracy, Chapter 5; Forms of Power-Sharing, Chapter 1*

Explanation

- The question asks you to **support** a given statement, so structure your answer as 3–4 distinct points, each explaining *how* transparency connects to democratic functioning.
- Examiners look for: accountability, informed citizenry, checks and balances, and the ability to correct mistakes — all drawn from the textbook.
- Avoid vague statements; link each point clearly back to "transparency."
- Since no direct passage defines transparency, draw logically from related concepts (accountability, power-sharing, correcting mistakes) discussed in Chapters 1 and 5.

Q23. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Economic growth and development § Accommodation of social diversity

[1]

Which type of government is likely to be more acceptable to the people in the world ?

- (a) Democratic
- (b) Military
- (c) Dictatorship
- (d) Theocratic

Previously asked in: 2023 32/4/1 Q20

♦ Outcomes of Democracy Democratic government and its acceptability among people

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Model Answer

(a) Democratic

A democratic government is more acceptable to people as it promotes equality, enhances individual dignity, and allows citizens to choose their rulers.

Explanation

The source (Chapter 5) states that "most people support democracy against other alternatives, such as rule by a monarch or military or religious leaders." The examiner expects the correct option with a brief supporting reason. One line is sufficient for 1 mark.

Q24. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?

[5]

"Democracy is an accountable, responsive and legitimate government." Explain the statement.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/3/1 Q32(b)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy as a legitimate government

Democracy as a responsive government

Democracy as an accountable government

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Model Answer

Democracy is considered an accountable, responsive, and legitimate government for the following reasons:

Accountable Government:

In a democracy, citizens have the right to choose their rulers and to examine how decisions are made. Decision-making is based on norms and procedures, ensuring **transparency**. Citizens can find out whether correct procedures were followed. Regular free and fair elections and citizens' right to information keep the government accountable.

Responsive Government:

A democratic government is expected to be attentive to the needs and demands of the people. It develops mechanisms for citizens to participate in decision-making. Though democracies sometimes fall short, they are still more responsive than non-democratic regimes.

Legitimate Government:

Democratic government is the people's own government — elected by the people. As data from South Asia shows, 94% of people support rule by elected representatives. This overwhelming public support makes democracy a **legitimate** form of government.

Thus, democracy may be slow and imperfect, but it remains the most accountable, responsive, and legitimate form of government compared to any alternative.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy, Accountable, Responsive and Legitimate Government

Explanation

- Examiners expect **three separate headings** — Accountable, Responsive, Legitimate — each explained with a key point or example from the textbook.
- The **transparency** concept and **Right to Information** idea are linked to accountability.
- The **South Asia data** (94% support for elected rule) is the standard textbook evidence for legitimacy — mention it briefly.
- Don't over-explain; 5 marks = ~5 clear points across the three headings. Avoid padding.

Q25. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government § Economic growth and development

[5]

Democracy is a better form of govt. than dictatorship. Analyse.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/2/1 Q32(a)

♦ **Outcomes of Democracy**

Democracy vs Dictatorship: Superiority of Democratic Government

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Model Answer

Democracy is considered a better form of government than dictatorship for the following reasons:

1. **Promotes equality and dignity:** Democracy promotes equality among citizens and enhances the dignity of every individual.
1. **Accountable government:** Democracy produces a government accountable to citizens. Citizens can participate in decision-making and hold rulers responsible through free and fair elections.
1. **Transparency:** Democratic decisions follow set norms and procedures, allowing citizens to examine the process. This transparency is mostly absent in dictatorships.
1. **Resolves conflicts and corrects mistakes:** Democracy provides methods to resolve conflicts and allows room to correct mistakes.
1. **Legitimate government:** A democratic government is people's own government. It enjoys legitimacy because rulers are elected by the people — something dictatorship cannot claim.
1. **Economic development:** Though dictatorships show slightly higher economic growth, the difference with democracies is negligible. Democracy's other advantages make it preferable.

Thus, democracy may not be perfect, but it is far better than dictatorship.

Source: Chapter 5 — Democratic Politics II

Explanation

- The examiner expects **5 clear points** (one per mark), each grounded in the textbook.
- Mention **accountability, legitimacy, transparency, dignity/equality, and conflict resolution** — these are the core textbook outcomes.
- Avoid writing lengthy paragraphs; crisp labelled points score better in board exams.
- The economic growth comparison (dictatorships slightly higher, but difference is negligible) is a common exam trap — always conclude that democracy is still preferable due to its other outcomes.

Q26. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?**[1]**

Which one of the following is a fundamental principle of democracy ?

- (A) Rule of single individual
- (B) Rule with hereditary norms
- (C) Rule of people with freedom
- (D) Rule of military chiefs

Previously asked in: 2024 32/2/1 Q12

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Fundamental Principles of Democracy

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Model Answer

(C) Rule of people with freedom

Democracy is fundamentally based on the principle that people are the source of all political power and citizens enjoy freedom to govern themselves through institutions of self-government.

Explanation

The passage from Chapter 1 clearly states: *"One basic principle of democracy is that people are the source of all political power."* Option (C) directly reflects this. Options (A), (B), and (D) describe dictatorship, monarchy, and military rule respectively — all non-democratic forms. Examiners expect you to pick the correct option and may ask for a one-line justification.

Q27. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government

[5]

How is democracy better than other types of government ? Analyse.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/2/1 Q32(a)

◆ **Outcomes of Democracy**

Democracy vs. Other Forms of Government

Outcomes and Merits of Democracy

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Model Answer

Democracy is considered better than other forms of government for the following reasons:

- 1. Accountable and Legitimate Government:** Democracy produces a government accountable to citizens. It is a legitimate government — people's own government — elected by their own representatives, which is why it enjoys overwhelming public support worldwide.
- 1. Transparency:** Decision-making is based on norms and procedures. Citizens have the right to examine how decisions are made, which is largely absent in non-democratic governments.
- 1. Promotes Equality and Dignity:** Democracy promotes equality among citizens and enhances the dignity of the individual.
- 1. Conflict Resolution:** It provides a method to resolve conflicts and allows room to correct mistakes through deliberation and negotiation.
- 1. Economic Performance:** Though dictatorships show slightly higher growth rates overall, the difference in poor countries is negligible (4.34% vs 4.28%). Democracy offers several other positive outcomes that outweigh this marginal difference.

Thus, while democracy may be slow or inefficient, it remains far better than any alternative form of government.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy

Explanation

- Examiners expect **5 distinct points** for a 5-mark question — each point earns ~1 mark.
- Always mention **legitimacy** — this is the textbook's strongest argument for democracy over non-democracy.
- The **economic growth data** (Table 1) is frequently tested; note that the difference in poor countries is negligible.
- Avoid writing vague general statements; use textbook terminology like "transparency," "accountable," "legitimate."
- Do **not** over-explain; one crisp sentence per point is sufficient.

Q28. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?

[2]

"Democracy is a better form of government compared with any other alternative." Examine the statement.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/5/1 Q25

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy vs. Other Forms of Government

Outcomes and Features of Democracy

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Model Answer

Democracy is considered better than any other alternative because it:

- Promotes equality among citizens
- Enhances the dignity of the individual
- Improves the quality of decision-making
- Provides a method to resolve conflicts
- Allows room to correct mistakes

It also produces a **legitimate government** that is accountable and responsive to citizens.

Source: Chapter 5, *Outcomes of Democracy*

Explanation

For a 2-mark question, examiners expect 2–3 clear points. You can either list any two reasons from the five given in the textbook **or** mention the five reasons briefly + one key outcome (legitimate government). Avoid writing long paragraphs. The statement is **correct** — always affirm it first or let your points make it clear. The word "legitimate government" is a textbook term that scores marks directly.

Q29. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Economic growth and development

[2]

Differentiate between democracy and dictatorship.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/4/1 Q25

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy versus dictatorship

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Model Answer

| Basis | Democracy | Dictatorship |

|-----|-----|-----|

| Power | Power is distributed among citizens and institutions; people are the source of all political power. | Power rests with one person or a group; decisions are imposed without public consent. |

| Rights & Dignity | Promotes equality, enhances dignity of individuals, and guarantees citizens' rights. | Citizens' rights are often suppressed; social differences may be ignored or crushed. |

Both forms can achieve economic growth, but democracy additionally ensures conflict resolution, correction of mistakes, and accommodation of social diversity.

Source: Chapter 5 (Outcomes of Democracy); Chapter 1 (Forms of Power-sharing)

Explanation

- Examiners expect a **contrast format** (table or point-wise) for "differentiate" questions — it earns full marks efficiently.
- Key contrast points from the textbook: source of power, treatment of citizens' rights/dignity, and handling of social differences.
- The closing sentence adds value by using the textbook's own nuanced position (dictatorship ≠ always worse economically) — shows understanding beyond rote learning.
- Avoid writing long paragraphs; a neat 2-point table with a one-line summary fits a 2-mark answer perfectly.

Q30. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Economic outcomes of democracy**[1]**

Two statements are given below as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the Statements and choose the correct option :

Assertion (A) : Elections are the spirit of democracy. Reason (R) : Elections expand Political participation.

- 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 the not correct explanation of (A).
- C (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- D (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/1/1 Q16

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Arguments in Favour of Democracy

Elections and Democratic Participation

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Model Answer

Option B: Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

Elections are indeed the spirit of democracy (A is true), and elections do expand political participation (R is true), but expanded participation is a result of elections, not the reason why elections are the spirit of democracy. The real reason is that elections allow citizens to choose their representatives and hold them accountable.

Explanation

- **(A) is true** — Elections are fundamental to democracy as they allow people to choose governments.
- **(R) is true** — Elections do expand political participation by involving voters, candidates, and parties.
- However, **(R) does not explain (A)** — The spirit of democracy through elections lies in accountability and popular sovereignty, not merely in expanding participation. Hence option **B** is correct.
- In assertion-reason questions, check: (1) Is A true? (2) Is R true? (3) Does R logically explain A? All three must be verified.

Q31. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government § Economic growth and development

[5]

How is Democracy a better form of government in comparison to dictatorship ? Explain.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/6/1 Q32(b)

♦ **Outcomes of Democracy**

Democracy vs Dictatorship: Advantages of Democratic Government

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Model Answer

Democracy is considered a better form of government than dictatorship for the following reasons:

1. **Accountable Government:** Democracy produces a government accountable to citizens. People have the right to choose their rulers and control them through regular, free and fair elections.
1. **Transparency:** Decision-making is based on norms and procedures. Citizens can examine the process — this transparency is largely absent in non-democratic governments.
1. **Legitimate Government:** A democratic government is people's own government, chosen by them. It is therefore more acceptable and legitimate than a dictatorship.
1. **Better Decision-Making:** Though slower, democratic decisions follow deliberation and negotiation, making them more acceptable and effective in the long run.
1. **Promotes Equality and Dignity:** Democracy promotes equality among citizens, enhances individual dignity, provides methods to resolve conflicts, and allows room to correct mistakes.
1. **Economic Growth:** While dictatorships show slightly higher growth rates overall, in poor countries the difference is negligible, making democracy preferable given its other advantages.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy

Explanation

- Examiners expect **5 distinct points** for a 5-mark question; labelling them clearly earns full marks.
- The key contrast with dictatorship should appear — e.g., non-democratic rulers decide quickly but lack accountability and transparency.
- Always include **legitimacy** — the textbook calls it democracy's most certain advantage.
- Avoid padding; each point should be one to two lines only.

Q32. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?

[5]

"Democracy can address all socio-economic and political problems." Support the statement with arguments.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/1/1 Q32(b)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Arguments in Favour of Democracy

Democracy as an effective form of government addressing socio-economic and political problems

Economic and social outcomes of democracy

Political outcomes of democracy

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Model Answer

The statement that "democracy can address all socio-economic and political problems" is **not entirely correct**. Democracy is just a form of government — it can only **create conditions** for achieving goals; citizens must take advantage of those conditions.

Arguments supporting democracy's strengths:

1. **Promotes equality** — Democracy promotes equality among citizens and enhances the dignity of the individual.
2. **Resolves conflicts** — It provides a peaceful method to resolve social and political conflicts.
3. **Accountable government** — It improves quality of decision-making and allows room to correct mistakes.
4. **Political equality** — One person, one vote ensures political equality for all citizens.
5. **Accommodates diversity** — It accommodates social differences and diverse demands through representation.

However, evidence shows democracy **cannot guarantee** everything — dictatorships have had slightly higher economic growth rates (4.42% vs 3.95%), and income inequalities persist even in democracies like Brazil and South Africa.

Thus, democracy is preferred over alternatives, but it is not a solution to **all** problems.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy

Explanation

- The examiner expects you to **agree partially** and give balanced arguments — democracy's positives AND its limitations.
- Quoting data (growth rates, inequality figures) adds marks in a 5-mark answer.
- The key line from the textbook — "*democracy is just a form of government; it can only create conditions*" — is essential and examiners specifically look for it.
- Use the 5 bullet points from the textbook (equality, dignity, decision-making, conflict resolution, correcting mistakes) as your core arguments.

Q33. § Accountable, responsive and legitimate government

[5]

How are democratic governments better than other forms of government ? Explain.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/1/1 Q32(A)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Advantages of Democratic Government over Other Forms of Government

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Model Answer

Democratic governments are better than other forms of government in the following ways:

1. **Accountable Government:** Democracy produces a government that is accountable to citizens. People have the right to choose their rulers and control over them.
1. **Transparency:** Decision-making is based on norms and procedures. Citizens have the right to examine the process — this is called transparency, which is often missing in non-democratic governments.
1. **Legitimate Government:** A democratic government is people's own government, elected by them. It is therefore a legitimate government, which non-democratic governments are not.
1. **Resolves Conflicts:** Democracy provides a method to resolve conflicts and allows room to correct mistakes.
1. **Promotes Equality and Dignity:** Democracy promotes equality among citizens and enhances the dignity of the individual.
1. **Economic Development:** Although dictatorships show slightly higher growth rates, the difference in poor countries is negligible. Democracy offers several other positive outcomes that make it preferable.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy

Explanation

- Examiners expect 5 distinct points for a 5-mark answer — each point earns 1 mark.
- Key terms like **transparency**, **legitimacy**, and **accountability** must appear.
- Avoid writing only vague statements; link each point to a specific democratic outcome from the chapter.
- The economic argument should be balanced — acknowledge dictatorships' slightly better growth rate but emphasise negligible difference in poor countries.

Q34. § Economic growth and development § Economic outcomes of democracy § Reduction of inequality and poverty

[3]

Analyse the outcomes of democracies in terms of economic growth and development.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/4/1 Q7

♦ Outcomes of Democracy Economic Growth and Development under Democracy

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Model Answer

Economic Growth: Evidence from 1950–2000 shows that dictatorial regimes had a slightly higher average growth rate (4.42%) compared to democracies (3.95%). However, when comparing only poor countries, the difference is negligible — dictatorships (4.34%) vs. democracies (4.28%). Therefore, democracy cannot be considered a guarantee of economic development, but it does not significantly lag behind dictatorships either.

Economic Inequality: Democracies have not been very successful in reducing economic inequalities. In democratic countries like South Africa and Brazil, the top 20% capture over 60% of national income, while the bottom 20% receive less than 3%. The poor often struggle to meet basic needs despite having equal voting rights.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy, Economic growth and development; Reduction of inequality and poverty

Explanation

- This question has **two implied parts**: economic growth and economic inequality — address both for full marks.
- Quote the **growth rate figures** from Table 1; examiners reward use of data.
- Key conclusion: democracy is **not a guarantee** of growth, but the difference with dictatorship is **negligible** in poor countries.
- For inequality: use **country examples** (South Africa, Brazil) and the **income share data** from Table 2.
- Avoid writing a long essay — keep it tight within 3-mark word limits (~70–80 words).

Q35. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § Economic growth and development § Economic outcomes of democracy

[5]

Evaluate the outcomes of democracy in the economic sector of the country.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/5/1 Q32(a)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy Economic outcomes of democracy

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Model Answer

Economic Outcomes of Democracy:

1. **Economic Growth:** Evidence from 1950–2000 shows that dictatorships had a slightly higher average growth rate (4.42%) compared to democracies (3.95%). However, among poor countries specifically, the difference is negligible (4.34% vs 4.28%). Therefore, democracy cannot be called a guarantee of economic development, but it does not lag far behind dictatorships either.
1. **Economic Inequality:** Democracies have not been very successful in reducing economic disparities. In South Africa and Brazil, the top 20% of the population takes over 60% of national income, while the bottom 20% receives less than 3%.
1. **Poverty Reduction:** Democratically elected governments do not appear keen enough to address poverty. In Bangladesh, more than half the population lives in poverty.
1. **Conclusion:** Since the difference in growth rates is marginal, and democracy offers several other benefits like accountability and freedom, democracy remains preferable despite its economic limitations.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy, Economic growth and development / Reduction of inequality and poverty

Explanation

- Examiners expect **two main economic dimensions**: growth and inequality/poverty reduction, with data support.
- Quoting the **table figures** (growth rates, income share percentages) fetches extra marks.
- End with a **balanced conclusion** — democracy is not economically perfect but is still preferable. Don't just criticise or just praise.
- Avoid writing everything about democracy in general; stay focused on the **economic sector** as asked.

Q36. § Economic outcomes of democracy § Reduction of inequality and poverty

[5]

Explain with examples the role of democracy in the reduction of inequality and poverty.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/5/1 Q32(a)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy and Reduction of Inequality and Poverty

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Model Answer

Democracy is expected to reduce economic inequalities, but in practice, its record is mixed.

Political equality vs. economic inequality: Democracies are based on political equality — every citizen has one vote. However, a small number of ultra-rich enjoy a disproportionate share of wealth, while incomes of the poor continue to decline. They often struggle to meet basic needs like food, clothing, education, and health.

Evidence from data:

- In **South Africa** and **Brazil**, the top 20% take over 60% of national income, leaving less than 3% for the bottom 20%.
- Countries like **Denmark** and **Hungary** show much lower inequalities.
- In **Bangladesh**, more than half the population lives in poverty despite democratic processes.

Conclusion: Though the poor form the majority of voters, democratically elected governments have not been sufficiently responsive to poverty. Democracy creates conditions for equality but does not guarantee it automatically.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy, Reduction of Inequality and Poverty

Explanation

- Examiners expect you to **acknowledge the expectation** (democracy should reduce inequality) and then **contrast it with reality** using data from Tables 1 and 2.
- Always name specific countries as examples — South Africa, Brazil, Denmark, Bangladesh. This earns factual marks.
- The key insight CBSE expects: democracy creates *conditions* but doesn't automatically ensure equal distribution.
- Don't write vague statements like "democracy is good" — back every claim with a fact or example from the passage.

Q37. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § Economic outcomes of democracy § Reduction of inequality and poverty

[5]

Analyse the importance of democracy in reducing poverty and inequality.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/4/1 Q32(b)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy and reduction of poverty and inequality

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Model Answer

Democracy is expected to reduce poverty and inequality, but in practice, its record is mixed.

Political Equality vs. Economic Inequality: Democracies are based on political equality — every citizen has one vote. However, alongside this, economic inequalities continue to grow. A small number of ultra-rich enjoy a disproportionate share of wealth, while those at the bottom struggle to meet basic needs like food, clothing, education and health.

Evidence from Data:

- Dictatorial regimes have a slightly better growth rate (4.42%) than democracies (3.95%), but among poor countries, the difference is negligible.
- In South Africa and Brazil, the top 20% earn over 60% of national income, while the bottom 20% get less than 3%.

Limitations: Poor constitute a majority of voters, yet elected governments often fail to address poverty adequately. Countries like Bangladesh have more than half their population living in poverty.

Thus, while democracy provides political equality, it has not been fully successful in eliminating economic inequalities.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy

Explanation

- Examiners look for: acknowledgment of democracy's promise vs. its actual performance, use of data from Tables 1 and 2, and a balanced conclusion.
- Always cite specific figures (growth rates, income share percentages) — they earn marks and show textbook knowledge.
- Avoid making it one-sided; the key theme of this chapter is the **gap between expected and actual outcomes**.

Q38. § Economic outcomes of democracy § Reduction of inequality and poverty

[5]

Analyse the role of democracy in reducing inequality and poverty.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/2/1 Q32(b)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy and Reduction of Inequality and Poverty

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Model Answer**Democracy and Reduction of Inequality and Poverty:**

Democracies are built on the principle of **political equality** — every citizen has one vote and equal weight in electing representatives. However, this political equality has not translated into economic equality.

Evidence shows democracy has largely failed to reduce inequalities:

- In South Africa and Brazil, the top 20% capture over 60% of national income, while the bottom 20% receives less than 3%.
- In Bangladesh, more than half the population lives in poverty.
- The poor constitute a large share of voters, yet democratically elected governments are not keen enough to address poverty.
- Dictatorial regimes have shown slightly better economic growth rates (4.42%) compared to democracies (3.95%).

Thus, while democracy promises equal political rights, it has not successfully eliminated economic inequalities or poverty in practice.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy, Reduction of Inequality and Poverty

Explanation

- Examiners expect **both sides**: what democracy promises vs. what it actually delivers.
- Quoting **data from Table 1 and Table 2** (growth rates, income shares) earns you marks directly.
- Key phrase to use: "*political equality has not translated into economic equality.*"
- Avoid writing a general essay on democracy — stay focused on **inequality and poverty** specifically.
- 5 marks = roughly 5 points or 2 tight paragraphs with data; no need for lengthy elaboration.

Q39. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Reduction of inequality and poverty

[5]

"Democracies accommodate social diversities and provide dignity and freedom to the citizens." Justify the statement.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/2/1 Q9(b)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy and accommodation of social diversities

Democracy, Dignity and Freedom of Citizens

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Model Answer

Accommodation of Social Diversities:

Democracies are best suited to handle social differences, divisions, and conflicts. They develop procedures to conduct competition among groups, reducing the possibility of tensions becoming explosive or violent. Belgium successfully negotiated differences among ethnic populations through democratic means. However, for democracy to truly accommodate diversity, the majority must work with the minority, and rule by majority should not mean domination by a majority community based on religion, race, or language. Every citizen must have the chance of being in the majority at some point.

Dignity and Freedom of Citizens:

Democracy stands superior to any other form of government in promoting dignity and freedom of individuals. It recognises that all individuals are equal, at least in principle. For example, long struggles by women have created legal and moral recognition that equal treatment of women is necessary. Similarly, democracy in India has strengthened the claims of disadvantaged and discriminated castes for equal status and opportunity. Once these principles are legally recognised, people can wage struggles against injustice, which is impossible under non-democratic regimes.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy

Explanation

- The question has two parts: social diversity and dignity/freedom — address both clearly.
- Use specific examples (Belgium, women's dignity, caste equality in India) as examiners reward them.
- Avoid vague statements; link each point to a democratic feature (legal recognition, majority-minority cooperation, etc.).
- At 5 marks, ~110–120 words across two clear sections is ideal.

Q40. § Accommodation of social diversity

[5]

How do democracies lead to peaceful and harmonious life among citizens ? Explain.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/1/1 Q32(B)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy and Accommodation of Social Differences

Democracy and Social Harmony

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Model Answer

Democracies lead to a relatively peaceful and harmonious life among citizens in the following ways:

1. **Accommodation of social diversity:** Democracies develop procedures to manage competition among different social groups, reducing the possibility of tensions becoming explosive or violent. Belgium is a good example of successfully negotiating ethnic differences.
1. **No permanent majority:** Democracy ensures that majority and minority opinions are not permanent — different persons and groups can form a majority on different issues, giving every citizen a chance to be in the majority at some point.
1. **Protection of minorities:** Rule by majority must not become rule by a majority community based on religion, race, or language. Every citizen must have equal opportunity to participate in governance.
1. **Mechanisms to negotiate differences:** No society can permanently resolve all conflicts, but democracy evolves mechanisms to respect and negotiate differences peacefully, unlike non-democratic regimes that suppress social differences.
1. **Power-sharing:** Democratic power-sharing among different organs, levels, and social groups ensures no single group dominates, promoting harmony.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy, Accommodation of Social Diversity

Explanation

Examiners look for **5 distinct points** for a 5-mark question. Focus on: (i) accommodation of diversity, (ii) majority-minority balance, (iii) no permanent majority, (iv) mechanisms to negotiate differences, and (v) the Belgium vs Sri Lanka contrast as an example. Avoid writing about economic outcomes — this question is specifically about peaceful/harmonious life. The Sri Lanka condition (majority should not oppress minority) is a commonly asked examiner favourite — always include it.

Q41. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?

[5]

"Democracy accommodates social diversity better than dictatorship." Justify the statement with suitable arguments.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/4/1 Q32(B)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy and Accommodation of Social Diversity

Democracy vs. Dictatorship in managing social differences

Dignity and rights of citizens in a democracy

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Model Answer

Democracy accommodates social diversity better than dictatorship — Justification:

1. **Provides mechanisms to handle differences:** Democracies develop procedures to conduct competition among groups, reducing the possibility of tensions becoming explosive or violent.
1. **Respects social differences:** Non-democratic regimes often suppress or turn a blind eye to internal social differences, whereas democracy evolves mechanisms to negotiate them.
1. **Majority works with minority:** Democracy ensures the majority always works with the minority so that government represents the general view. Majority and minority opinions are not permanent.
1. **Prevents permanent exclusion:** Rule by majority does not become rule by a majority community based on religion, race or language. Every citizen has a chance of being in the majority at some point.
1. **Example — Belgium:** Belgium successfully negotiated differences among ethnic populations through democratic means, showing democracy's strength in accommodating diversity.
1. **Political expression of social differences** is possible and sometimes desirable in a democracy, unlike in dictatorships.

Source: *Democratic Politics – II*, Chapter 5 (Accommodation of Social Diversity) & Chapter 3 (Overview)

Explanation

Examiners look for **at least 4–5 distinct points** directly addressing *social diversity*, not general democracy merits. The key distinction is: dictatorships **suppress** differences; democracies **negotiate** them. Always mention the two conditions (majority-minority cooperation; majority not becoming a permanent community majority) — these are explicitly stated in the textbook and fetch marks. The Belgium example adds factual support. Avoid drifting into economic outcomes for this specific question.

Q42. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Accommodation of social diversity

[2]

Mention the two conditions that democracy must fulfil in order to achieve a harmonious social life.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/3/1 Q3

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Conditions for Democracy to Achieve Harmonious Social Life

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Model Answer

For democracy to achieve a harmonious social life, it must fulfil two conditions:

1. **Majority and minority cooperation:** Democracy is not simply rule by majority opinion. The majority must work with the minority so that the government represents the general view.
1. **No permanent majority community:** Rule by majority must not become rule by a majority community based on religion, race, or language. Every citizen must have a chance of being in the majority at some point; no one should be barred from this on the basis of birth.

Source: *Outcomes of Democracy, Chapter 5*

Explanation

Examiners expect both conditions to be stated clearly and distinctly — one mark each. The key terms to include are: **majority working with minority** and **majority not being a permanent religious/racial/linguistic group**. Avoid vague statements like "everyone should be treated equally" — be specific to the textbook language. The Sri Lanka example is the context the chapter uses, but you don't need to write it unless asked separately.

Q43. § Reduction of inequality and poverty § Accommodation of social diversity

[5]

Analyse the conditions under which democracies accommodate social diversities.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/2/1 Q32(a)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Accommodation of Social Diversities in Democracy

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Model Answer

Democracies accommodate social diversities under the following conditions:

1. **Majority working with minority:** Democracy is not simply rule by majority opinion. The majority must always work with the minority so that the government represents the general view.
1. **Majority not based on birth:** Rule by majority should not become rule by a majority community based on religion, race, or linguistic group. Every citizen must have a chance of being in the majority at some point.
1. **Respecting differences:** No society can permanently resolve all conflicts, but democracies evolve mechanisms to negotiate differences rather than suppress them.
1. **Political expression of diversity:** Political expression of social differences is possible and desirable; it allows diverse groups a voice.
1. **Non-democratic regimes fail here:** Unlike democracies, non-democratic regimes suppress internal social differences rather than accommodate them.

The example of Belgium shows success; Sri Lanka shows failure when these conditions are violated.

Source: *Outcomes of Democracy, Chapter 5; Power Sharing, Chapter 1*

Explanation

Examiners look for the **two key conditions** explicitly stated in the textbook (majority working with minority; majority not based on birth/religion/race) plus supporting points on mechanisms, comparison with non-democracies, and real examples (Belgium/Sri Lanka). Mentioning both conditions is essential for full marks. Keep examples brief — one line each is enough.

Q44. § Accommodation of social diversity

[5]

Analyse the importance of democracy in accommodation of social diversity.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/4/1 Q32(a)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy and Accommodation of Social Diversity

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Model Answer

Democracy is the best system to accommodate social diversity because of the following reasons:

1. **Political expression of differences:** Democracy allows political expression of social differences based on gender, religion and caste, which is healthy for society.
1. **Reduces tensions:** Democracies develop procedures to conduct competition among groups, reducing the possibility of tensions becoming explosive or violent.
1. **Negotiates conflicts:** No society can permanently resolve all conflicts, but democracy provides mechanisms to respect and negotiate differences, unlike non-democratic regimes that suppress them.
1. **Majority-minority balance:** Democracy ensures the majority works with the minority, so governments represent the general view. Majority and minority opinions are not permanent.
1. **Equal chance for all:** Every citizen must have a chance to be part of the majority at some point. Barring anyone on the basis of birth makes democracy non-accommodative.

Source: Chapter 5 — Accommodation of social diversity

Explanation

Examiners look for **5 distinct points** in a 5-mark answer. Focus on: allowing expression of differences, reducing violence, negotiating conflicts, majority-minority balance, and equal opportunity for all groups. The Belgium (success) vs Sri Lanka (failure) contrast is a useful example to add. Avoid writing a long essay — crisp points with brief explanation score best.

Q45. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Accommodation of social diversity

[5]

Democracy accommodates social diversities. Analyse.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/2/1 Q32(b)

♦ **Outcomes of Democracy**

Democracy and accommodation of social diversities

Democracy and social differences, divisions and conflicts

Majoritarianism vs. accommodation in democracy

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Model Answer

Democracy accommodates social diversities in the following ways:

1. **Political expression of differences:** Democracy allows social differences based on gender, religion, and caste to be expressed politically. This expression is sometimes desirable as it gives voice to all groups.
1. **Mechanisms to negotiate conflicts:** No society can fully resolve conflicts, but democracy evolves procedures to negotiate differences, reducing the possibility of tensions becoming explosive or violent.
1. **Power-sharing among social groups:** Constitutional arrangements such as reserved constituencies ensure that weaker sections, minorities, and women are represented in legislatures and administration, preventing alienation.
1. **Majority works with minority:** Democracy requires the majority to work with the minority so that government represents the general view — majority and minority positions are not permanent.
1. **Prevention of majority tyranny:** Rule by majority must not become rule by a majority community based on religion, race, or language. Every citizen must have a chance of being in the majority at some point.

However, the example of Sri Lanka warns us that democracy must fulfil these conditions; otherwise, social conflict can intensify rather than reduce.

Source: Chapter 5 (Outcomes of Democracy), Chapter 1 (Power-Sharing)

Explanation

- Examiners expect **5 distinct, labelled points** for a 5-mark question — each point earns 1 mark.
- The counterexample of Sri Lanka adds analytical depth and is directly from the textbook — include it for full marks.
- Avoid vague statements; tie each point to a specific mechanism (reserved constituencies, power-sharing, majority-minority balance, etc.).
- The phrase "non-democratic regimes suppress social differences" is a good contrast to include if space allows.

Q46. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § Accommodation of social diversity

[1]

What role do 'checks and balances' play in a democratic country ? Choose the most suitable option from the following.

- (a) To establish a direct form of government without representatives.
- (b) To create a separation of powers to prevent from authoritarianism.
- (c) To prevent any change to the Constitution.
- (d) To ensure absolute power for one branch of government.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/1/1 Q13

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Checks and Balances in Democracy

Outcomes and Features of Democracy

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Model Answer

(b) To create a separation of powers to prevent from authoritarianism.

Checks and balances ensure that the legislature, executive, and judiciary each limit the others' powers, so no single organ exercises unlimited authority.

Source: Forms of power-sharing, Chapter 1

Explanation

The passage explicitly states: "Each organ checks the others. This results in a balance of power among various institutions... This arrangement is called a system of checks and balances." Option (b) is the only choice that correctly reflects this idea. Options (a), (c), and (d) contradict the democratic principle of distributed power described in the chapter.

Q47. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?

[5]

(A) "Democracy stands much superior to any other forms of governments in promoting dignity and freedom of the individual." Support the statement with arguments.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/4/1 Q32 (A)

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Arguments in Favour of Democracy

Democracy and Dignity & Freedom of the Individual

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Model Answer

Democracy is far superior to other forms of government in promoting dignity and freedom of individuals. The following arguments support this:

1. **Recognises individual dignity:** Every individual desires respect. Democracy recognises the principle that all individuals are equal and deserve equal treatment, giving legal and moral force to this idea.
1. **Dignity of women:** Long struggles by women have made democracy sensitive to equal treatment of women. In a non-democratic setup, such struggles would lack legal and moral backing.
1. **Equality for marginalised castes:** Democracy in India has strengthened the claims of disadvantaged castes for equal status and equal opportunity. Caste-based atrocities now lack moral and legal foundations.
1. **Transforms subjects into citizens:** Democracy transforms people from subjects into citizens, making them aware of their rights and able to question those in power.
1. **Freedom of expression:** People can freely express dissatisfaction, which itself is a testimony to democracy's success.

Source: *Dignity and freedom of the citizens, Chapter 5*

Explanation

- The examiner expects all **5 points** to come directly from the "Dignity and freedom of citizens" section of Chapter 5.
- Key phrases to include: *legal and moral force, subordination and domination, equal status, subjects into citizens.*
- Avoid general knowledge — stick to textbook arguments only.
- Each point = roughly 1 mark; a brief intro sentence sets context.

Q48. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction) § Economic growth and development § Accommodation of social diversity [1]

In a democratic country the government adopts environment friendly policies with the help of citizens and experts. Which one of the following is a positive outcome of this process ?

- (a) The government is capable of determining policies on its own.
- (b) Citizens feel empowered to determine policies.
- (c) Corporates protect their own interest in determining policies.
- (d) Market forces also influence the government for their interests.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/4/1 Q12

♦ Outcomes of Democracy Democracy and environment-friendly governance

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Model Answer

(b) Citizens feel empowered to determine policies.

When a democratic government involves citizens and experts in making environment-friendly policies, citizens gain a sense of ownership and empowerment in the decision-making process.

Explanation

The key idea here is that democracy's positive outcome is **citizen participation and empowerment**. Options (a), (c), and (d) describe situations where government, corporates, or market forces dominate — these are **not** positive democratic outcomes. The question specifically says policies are made **with the help of citizens and experts**, pointing directly to option (b). Examiners look for understanding that democracy strengthens citizens' role in governance.

Q49. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?

[2]

"Complaints are the testimony to the success of Democracy." Explain the statement with examples.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/2/1 Q24

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Accountable and responsive government in Democracy

Complaints as testimony to the success of Democracy

Popular expectations and evaluation of democratic outcomes

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Model Answer

The statement means that in a democracy, citizens have the freedom to voice grievances and criticize the government, which itself proves the system is working.

Example 1: Citizens can file RTI applications (like Nannu) to hold officials accountable — this complaint mechanism is possible only in democracy.

Example 2: People openly criticize political parties for dynastic succession, money power, and lack of internal democracy — such dissatisfaction expressed freely is proof that democratic rights are functional.

Thus, the ability to complain is a democratic right, and its exercise confirms democracy's success.

Source: Chapter 4 (Challenges to political parties); Chapter 5 (Outcomes of Democracy)

Explanation

The examiner expects you to interpret the statement — that **complaints = freedom to express = sign of democracy working** — and back it with **two relevant examples** from the chapters. Nannu's RTI case (Ch. 5) and public criticism of political parties (Ch. 4) are ideal. Avoid writing more than 50–60 words; two crisp examples with a linking line is enough for 2 marks.

Q50. § Outcomes of Democracy (Introduction)

[3]

How does democracy establish an accountable, responsible and legitimate governance? Explain.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/3/1 Q27

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Democracy and Accountable, Responsible, and Legitimate Governance

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Model Answer

Democracy establishes accountable, responsible and legitimate governance in the following ways:

Accountable: Democracy ensures decision-making is based on norms and procedures. Citizens have the right to examine how decisions are made (transparency). Regular free and fair elections, open public debates, and the Right to Information hold the government accountable.

Responsive: Democratic government is attentive to the needs and demands of citizens. Citizens can participate in decision-making and choose their own representatives.

Legitimate: Democratic government is people's own government — elected by the people. This generates overwhelming public support for democracy, making it a legitimate form of governance even if it is slower or less efficient than non-democratic alternatives.

Source: Chapter 5 — Accountable, responsive and legitimate government

Explanation

- The examiner expects **three separate points** — one each for accountable, responsive, and legitimate — since the question lists all three.
- Key terms to use: *transparency, deliberation, free and fair elections, Right to Information, people's own government.*
- Do not confuse "responsive" with "responsible" — the textbook uses "responsive to needs and expectations."
- The textbook explicitly states democratic government is "legitimate" even if slow, because it is chosen by the people — this point is often missed by students.

Q51. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes?

[5]

"The blend of accountability, responsiveness and legitimacy forms the foundation of a democratic government." Examine the statement.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/1/1 Q27 (A)

◆ Outcomes of Democracy

Accountable, responsive and legitimate government

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Model Answer

Democracy is considered the best form of government because it combines three key qualities: **accountability, responsiveness, and legitimacy**.

Accountability means a democratic government follows proper norms and procedures in decision-making. Citizens have the right to examine how decisions are made — this is called **transparency**. Mechanisms like free and fair elections, RTI, and open public debate ensure that rulers are answerable to the people.

Responsiveness means the government must be attentive to the needs and expectations of citizens. People can participate in decision-making and influence policies through elections, public debate, and pressure groups.

Legitimacy is democracy's strongest quality. Though democratic governments may be slow or sometimes inefficient, they are *people's own governments* — elected by the people. This is why there is overwhelming support for democracy across South Asia and the world.

Thus, these three elements together form the true foundation of democratic governance.

Source: Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy, Section: Accountable, Responsive and Legitimate Government

Explanation

- Examiners expect you to **define and explain** all three terms — accountability, responsiveness, and legitimacy — separately with examples.
- Mention **transparency** and **RTI/elections** as tools of accountability.
- Highlight that legitimacy is democracy's *most certain* strength — the textbook explicitly says "democratic government is legitimate government."
- Don't just list points; link them back to the statement being "examined." One concluding line tying all three together earns full marks.
- Avoid writing more than 5–6 tight points/paragraphs for a 5-mark answer.

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