

Chapter 5

Universal Franchise and India's Electoral System

Section A: Fill in the Blanks

1. Universal adult franchise means every adult citizen gets _____ vote and all votes have _____ value.
2. The population of eligible voters in India is _____ times the population of the United Kingdom.
3. In 2024, for the first time, the elderly and people with disabilities could cast their votes from _____.
4. The Uttaramerur inscriptions from the _____ century describe a transparent process for selecting representatives.
5. Elections in India are often referred to as the 'Festival of _____'.
6. Members elected to the Lok Sabha are known as _____.
7. Members elected to the State Legislative Assemblies are called _____.
8. India follows the _____-Past-the-Post electoral system.
9. One-third of Rajya Sabha members retire every _____ years.
10. The President of India is elected by an _____ college.

Section B: Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

1. What is the voting age in India?

a) 18 years		b) 19 years	
c) 21 years		d) 25 years	
2. Article 326 of the Constitution is related to:

a) Fundamental Rights	
b) Universal Adult Franchise	
c) Right to Education	
d) Directive Principles	
3. Before Independence, the percentage of Indians allowed to vote was:

a) 10%		b) 15%		c) 20%		d) 13%	
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4. Which country granted women the right to vote only in 1971?

a) USA		b) France	
c) Switzerland		d) Australia	
5. How many million women representatives are there in local government bodies in India?

a) 1.3 million		b) 2.0 million	
c) 0.8 million		d) 3.1 million	
6. How many times larger is India's area compared to France?

a) Four times		b) Six times	
c) Eight times		d) Ten times	
7. In the Suryodaya School election, how many votes did Gurmat get?

a) 8		b) 10		c) 12		d) 13	
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8. Who introduced reforms like voter IDs to stop proxy voting?

a) Sukumar Sen		b) Sunil Arora	
c) T.N. Seshan		d) S.Y. Quraishi	

9. In which state was the Model Code of Conduct first adopted?
- a) Kerala b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Maharashtra d) Punjab
10. When was the Election Commission of India established?
- a) 1947 b) 1950 c) 1952 d) 1960
11. How many constituencies are there in the Lok Sabha?
- a) 245 b) 233 c) 543 d) 500
12. Who nominates 12 members to the Rajya Sabha?
- a) Prime Minister b) President of India
- c) Lok Sabha Speaker d) Chief Justice of India

Section C: Write T for True and F for False in the boxes provided.

- Universal adult franchise means that only educated people can vote.
- Women in India got the right to vote from the very beginning.
- No one can vote on behalf of another person in India.
- In 2024, only people living in cities could use postal voting.
- NOTA changes the election result if it gets the most votes.
- State Election Commissions manage local body elections.
- A candidate must secure more than 50% of the votes to win under the First-Past-the-Post system.
- The Vice President of India is elected by members of both Houses of Parliament.
- The President of India is directly elected by the people.
- The Vice President is the chairperson of the Rajya Sabha.

Section D: Match the Following.

Column A

- Another term for franchise
- Election Commission of India
- Printing format for visually impaired
- Private voting method
- None Of The Above
- Voting on behalf of someone else
- Rajya Sabha & President election method

Column B

- Braille
- NOTA
- Single transferable vote
- Conducting elections
- Proxy voting
- Suffrage
- Secret ballot

Section E: Short Answer Questions

1. Give one reason why universal adult franchise is important.

Ans. _____

2. What measures has the Election Commission of India taken to make voting more accessible?

Ans. _____

3. Which elections are managed by State Election Commissions?

Ans. _____

4. What is the Model Code of Conduct?

Ans. _____

5. Name three reforms introduced by T.N. Seshan.

Ans. _____

6. Why are elections in India called the 'Festival of Democracy'?

Ans. _____

7. What is the difference between an MP and an MLA?

Ans. _____

8. Why is the Rajya Sabha called a permanent house?

Ans. _____

9. Why are some members not involved in the election of the President of India?

Ans. _____

10. What challenges does India's electoral system face today?

Ans. _____

Section F: Long Answer Questions

1. Compare the voting rights in India before and after Independence.

Ans. _____

2. Compare the ancient Uttaramerur election process with the modern school election in Suryodaya School.

Ans. _____

3. Explain the process of elections to the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

Ans. _____

4. Describe the election of the President and Vice President of India.

5. What are the major challenges in India's electoral system and how can they be overcome?

Ans. _____

Ans. _____

SECTION G: Give One word Answer.

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| 1. The area whose voters elect a representative. | — _____ |
| 2. A group of interconnected elements working together. | — _____ |
| 3. The lower house of Parliament. | — _____ |
| 4. The right to reject all candidates in an election. | — _____ |
| 5. The official who organises and oversees the election process. | — _____ |
| 6. Elections where people vote directly for their representatives. | — _____ |
| 7. The head of the Election Commission of India. | — _____ |
| 8. The system of government India follows. | — _____ |
| 9. A group of two or more parties working together. | — _____ |
| 10. The Upper House of Parliament. | — _____ |