ONE PAGE SUMMARY

Academic Education ICSE › Class 11 Arts › Political Science

What is Democracy? Why Democracy?

Democracy empowers people through participation and representation.

DEFINITION

> Democracy is a system of government where the citizens exercise power directly or elect representatives. It emphasizes equality, freedom, and participation in decision-making.

KEY CONCEPTS

Popular Sovereignty

The authority of the government is created and sustained by the consent of its people.

Political Equality

All citizens have equal rights and opportunities to participate in political processes.

Majority Rule

Decisions are made based on the preference of the majority while respecting minority rights.

Civil Liberties

Fundamental rights and freedoms protected from government interference, such as freedom of speech.

Accountability

Elected officials are responsible to the people and must answer for their actions.

EXAMPLES

→ Voting in local and national elections.

→ Participating in protests for social change.

→ Engaging in community discussions about policies.

MEMORY TIPS

★ Remember 'PEACE' for Popular sovereignty, Equality, Accountability, Civil liberties, and Equality.

★ Think of 'D' in Democracy as 'Direct involvement' of citizens.

★ Use the phrase 'Majority rules, but rights protect' to recall majority rule and civil liberties.

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ Confusing democracy with autocracy or dictatorship.

✗ Overlooking the importance of minority rights.

✗ Assuming democracy means complete freedom without responsibilities.

QUICK RECAP

Democracy is a government system where citizens have the power to influence decisions. It promotes equality, accountability, and civil liberties, ensuring everyone's voice is heard.