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ELECTIONS

Class 09 - Social Science (Understanding Society)

Time Allowed: 1 hour and 30 minutes

Maximum Marks: 155

1. Which type of party system is typically found in authoritarian regimes? **[1]**
 - a) Two-Party System.
 - b) Multi-Party System.
 - c) Coalition Government System.
 - d) One-Party System.
2. What is the composition of the Election Commission of India? **[1]**
 - a) A five-member body
 - b) A two-member body
 - c) A three-member body
 - d) A single-member body
3. Which countries are examples of a Two-Party System? **[1]**
 - a) India, France
 - b) US, UK
 - c) China, North Korea
 - d) Japan, Germany
4. What is the primary purpose of dividing a country into constituencies for elections? **[1]**
 - a) To simplify the process of counting votes across the entire country.
 - b) To create smaller areas for administrative convenience.
 - c) To elect a representative who works on behalf of people in that area.
 - d) To allow all citizens to gather in one place for voting.
5. What is the tenure for the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners? **[1]**
 - a) Six years, or up to the age of 65 years
 - b) Six years, or up to the age of 62 years
 - c) Four years, or up to the age of 65 years
 - d) Five years, or up to the age of 60 years
6. Which of the following bodies cannot question the orders of the Delimitation Commission? **[1]**
 - a) The Election Commission of India
 - b) Any court
 - c) The President of India
 - d) The Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies
7. The power to enforce the Model Code of Conduct and monitor election expenses falls under which category? **[1]**
 - a) Administrative Powers
 - b) Disciplinary Powers
 - c) Quasi-Judicial Powers
 - d) Regulatory Powers
8. Under which Article of the Constitution does the Election Commission of India operate? **[1]**
 - a) Article 320
 - b) Article 326
 - c) Article 330
 - d) Article 324

9. What is a 'Common Minimum Programme' (CMP) in the context of a coalition government? [1]
a) A financial budget for joint projects. b) A fixed term for the government.
c) A shared policy agenda of coalition partners. d) A set of rules for electing the Prime Minister.
10. What is the primary function of the Delimitation Commission? [1]
a) To manage the national budget. b) To conduct general elections in India.
c) To redraw constituency boundaries. d) To appoint judges to the Supreme Court.
11. What is another name for an electoral roll? [1]
a) Election register b) Voters' list
c) Voters' record d) Citizens' directory
12. What is a core principle of Proportional Representation (PR)? [1]
a) To elect one representative from each single-member constituency
b) To divide the entire country into small geographical areas called constituencies
c) To ensure that every vote counts and reflects wider political views.
d) To declare the candidate with the highest votes in a race as the winner
13. At what minimum age can an Indian citizen register to vote, provided they are ordinarily resident in a constituency? [1]
a) 18 years b) 21 years
c) 25 years d) 16 years
14. In the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) system, what is the requirement for a candidate to be declared the winner in a constituency? [1]
a) To secure an absolute majority (50% + 1) of the total votes
b) To be part of the party that receives the highest national vote share
c) To achieve a fixed quota of votes based on preferences
d) To receive more votes than any other candidate in that constituency
15. What function involves preparing, revising, and updating voter lists through continuous revision and SIR? [1]
a) Delimitation b) Registration of Political Parties
c) Electoral Rolls d) Conduct of Elections
16. How many registered voters does India have, making it one of the largest electorates globally? [1]
a) Over 700 million b) Over 500 million
c) Over 900 million d) Over 1 billion
17. Which form must be submitted for inclusion in the electoral roll by new voters or those who have shifted their residence? [1]
a) Form 8 b) Form 5

c) Form 7

d) Form 6

18. What is one significance of delimitation regarding marginalized communities? [1]
- It sets educational quotas for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
 - It provides financial aid to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
 - It grants special voting rights to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
 - It determines the constituencies to be reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
19. In a coalition government, what is the agreement on a shared policy agenda known as? [1]
- Common Minimum Programme (CMP)
 - Alliance Pact
 - Consensus Document
 - Government Mandate
20. Which electoral system combines features of both First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) and Proportional Representation (PR) systems? [1]
- Mixed-Member Proportional (MMP)
 - Plurality System
 - Single Transferable Vote (STV)
 - Party-list system
21. Match the items in List I with those List II. [1]

List I	List II
(A) India	(I) 900 million registered voters
(B) Political decisions	(II) Panchas or Councillors
(C) Local level representatives	(III) Representative democracy
(D) Electorate size	(IV) Elected representatives

- A-III, B-IV, C-II, D-I
- A-I, B-II, C-IV, D-III
- A-II, B-I, C-III, D-IV
- A-IV, B-III, C-I, D-II

22. Match the items in List I with those in List II. [1]

List I	List II
(A) FPTP system	(I) Voter ranks candidates
(B) PR system	(II) Winner by highest votes
(C) STV method	(III) Ensures fair representation
(D) Mixed-Member system	(IV) Combines FPTP and PR

- A-I, B-IV, C-II, D-III
- A-III, B-II, C-IV, D-I
- A-II, B-III, C-I, D-IV
- A-IV, B-I, C-III, D-II

23. Match the items in List I with those in List II. [1]

List I	List II
(A) Electoral system types	(I) Single Transferable Vote
(B) PR sub-systems	(II) FPTP, PR, Mixed-Member

(C) Used for Vice-President	(III) Proportional Representation
(D) Ensures fair representation	(IV) STV method

a) A-II, B-I, C-IV, D-III

b) A-IV, B-III, C-I, D-II

c) A-I, B-II, C-III, D-IV

d) A-III, B-IV, C-II, D-I

24. Match the items in List I with those in List II.

[1]

List I	List II
(A) Delimitation Oversight	(I) Awareness promotion
(B) Electoral Rolls Function	(II) Separate Delimitation Commission
(C) Voter Education Programme	(III) Continuous revision
(D) Disciplinary Power Example	(IV) Suspend officials

a) A-II, B-III, C-I, D-IV

b) A-III, B-I, C-IV, D-II

c) A-IV, B-III, C-II, D-I

d) A-I, B-II, C-III, D-IV

25. Match the items in List I with those in List II.

[1]

List I	List II
(A) National Party recognition (MPs)	(I) 3% total seats or three seats (Assembly)
(B) State Party recognition (Assembly votes/MLAs)	(II) 2% total Lok Sabha seats from three states
(C) National Party recognition (State Party status)	(III) Recognised in four or more states
(D) State Party recognition (Assembly seats)	(IV) 6% valid votes and 2 MLAs

a) A-IV, B-II, C-I, D-III

b) A-II, B-IV, C-III, D-I

c) A-I, B-III, C-IV, D-II

d) A-III, B-I, C-II, D-IV

26. **Statement I:** Delimitation is crucial for maintaining an equal distribution of population across electoral constituencies.

[1]

Statement II: The Delimitation Commission's orders are final and binding, even for the Parliament.

a) Both Statement I and Statement II are false

b) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

c) Statement I is true but Statement II is false

d) Both Statement I and Statement II are true

27. **Statement I:** The Election Commission of India has the authority to advise both the President and Governors regarding the disqualification of members of legislative bodies.

[1]

Statement II: The ECI is solely responsible for preparing and updating electoral rolls, entirely independent of any external oversight.

a) Both Statement I and Statement II are true

b) Both Statement I and Statement II are false

- c) Statement I is false but Statement II is true d) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
28. **Statement I:** In a democratic election, public representatives are permanently chosen and cannot be removed if they fail to perform their duties. [1]
Statement II: Elections foster political competition among parties, ideologies, and individual candidates, and also educate the populace about national issues through party manifestos.
- a) Both Statement I and Statement II are false b) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
c) Statement I is true but Statement II is false d) Both Statement I and Statement II are true
29. **Statement I:** The Chief Election Commissioner can be removed from office by the President if the government disagrees with their decisions. [1]
Statement II: The Election Commission of India directly conducts the delimitation process for constituencies.
- a) Statement I is true but Statement II is false b) Both Statement I and Statement II are false
c) Both Statement I and Statement II are true d) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
30. **Statement I:** The large scale of Indian elections, with over 900 million registered voters, is often compared to conducting elections across several large countries combined. [1]
Statement II: The role of elections in India is solely to allow voters to choose the people who will form the government and make major decisions, without influencing policy-making or law-making.
- a) Both Statement I and Statement II are true b) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
c) Both Statement I and Statement II are false d) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
31. **Assertion (A):** The FPTP system often results in a disproportionate number of seats for a party. [1]
Reason (R): The winning candidate in FPTP does not require an absolute majority of votes.
- 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 not the correct explanation of A.
c) A is true but R is false. d) A is false but R is true.
32. **Assertion (A):** The Chief Election Commissioner cannot be easily removed by the government. [1]
Reason (R): The removal process is similar to that of a Supreme Court judge.
- 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 not the correct explanation of A.
c) A is true but R is false. d) A is false but R is true.
33. **Assertion (A):** The President and Vice-President of India are elected using the PR system. [1]
Reason (R): These elections are indirect, involving legislators' ranked preferences to achieve a

quota.

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 not the correct explanation of A.

c) A is true but R is false.

d) A is false but R is true.

34. **Assertion (A):** Constituencies are essential for fair representation in a democracy. [1]

Reason (R): They allow all citizens to gather in one place to directly elect their representatives.

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 not the correct explanation of A.

c) A is true but R is false.

d) A is false but R is true.

35. **Assertion (A):** India uses the FPTP system for Lok Sabha elections. [1]

Reason (R): Lok Sabha members are elected directly by the people in single-member constituencies.

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 not the correct explanation of A.

c) A is true but R is false.

d) A is false but R is true.

36. Discuss the reasons why the orders issued by a Delimitation Commission cannot be challenged in a court of law, and briefly touch on its impact. [2]

37. Explain how including photographs in electoral rolls enhances the integrity of voting and what practical benefits this provides at polling stations. [2]

38. Name two examples of countries that operate under a multi-party system. [2]

39. Explain how the significant number of registered voters in a country impacts its ability to conduct democratic processes effectively. [2]

40. Explain the primary responsibilities and functions of a Delimitation Commission regarding electoral boundaries. [2]

41. Elaborate on the term that refers to the process of establishing or modifying the territorial limits of legislative constituencies within a nation or its constituent states. Explain why this process is essential for democratic governance. [2]

42. Identify which specific governmental elections in India utilize the Proportional Representation (PR) system with the Single Transferable Vote (STV) method. [2]

43. Discuss why regular democratic elections are essential for maintaining government accountability to its citizens. [2]

44. Explain how a candidate is determined as the winner under the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) system, particularly regarding the vote margin. [2]

45. Describe the main components of an electoral roll and explain why maintaining it accurately is important for the electoral process. [2]

46. Explain the primary function of an independent body responsible for redrawing electoral boundaries. What are the key objectives this body aims to achieve in its operations? [2]

47. Explain why the Proportional Representation (PR) system, particularly with the Single Transferable Vote (STV) method, is considered to result in lower wastage of votes compared to the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) system. [2]

48. Discuss the significance of the shift from single-party dominance to a multi-party system in India after 1989. [2]
49. Describe the process by which votes are managed in a Single Transferable Vote (STV) system when a candidate exceeds the quota or receives insufficient votes. [2]
50. Differentiate between Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies and describe how each connects voters to different levels of government. [2]
51. Describe the critical role of a Booth Level Officer (BLO) in the process of voter enrolment and verification. [3]
52. Explain how the central election body addresses situations where it deems polling to be unfair, outlining the possible remedial actions it can undertake. [3]
53. Describe the primary functions of elections within a representative democratic framework. [3]
54. Explain the significance of the electoral roll in upholding the principles of political equality and preventing fraudulent voting practices. [3]
55. How does the principle of 'no discrimination' in electoral roll preparation reinforce the foundational values of a democratic society? [3]
56. Describe how the electoral process for determining who holds the office of the head of state differs significantly from the process used to elect representatives in the direct legislative chamber of the lower house, regarding how votes translate into representation. [3]
57. Explain the distinguishing characteristics of a coalition government that set it apart from a single-party majority government. [3]
58. Explain how the electoral process allows citizens to hold their elected officials accountable for their performance. [3]
59. Discuss the process through which decisions regarding electoral boundary adjustments are made legally binding and implemented, highlighting the roles of various governmental entities. [3]
60. Explain how the competitive nature of elections contributes to informed citizenship and better governance. [3]
61. Explain the importance of having a Photo Electoral Roll in enhancing the integrity and efficiency of the voting process. [3]
62. How does the regular updating mechanism of an electoral roll contribute to fairness in the democratic process? [3]
63. Explain the core function of an independent body responsible for defining territorial boundaries for legislative representation. [3]
64. Describe the core functions performed by the central electoral body to ensure that elections in the country are conducted freely, fairly, and periodically, adhering to democratic principles. [3]
65. What is the fundamental objective behind the employment of an enumerator in the context of elections? [3]
66. **Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [4]
The Proportional Representation system seeks to make every vote count. Unlike FPTP, where only the winning candidate gains representation, PR ensures that parties receive seats according to their electoral support. In India, the Single Transferable Vote (STV) method is used for certain indirect elections. Under STV, voters rank candidates according to preference. A candidate must secure a quota of votes to be elected. Surplus votes and votes of eliminated candidates are transferred based on voter preferences. This reduces vote wastage and allows better

representation of political groups. The Rajya Sabha elections use this system because they require representation of different political parties according to their strength in State Assemblies. The system encourages inclusiveness and reflects the diversity of opinions within a democratic society.

Questions:

- a. Which voting method is used in Rajya Sabha elections? **(1)**
- b. What do voters do under the STV system? **(1)**
- c. How does STV reduce vote wastage? **(2)**

67. Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow: [4]

Political parties are an essential component of democratic governance. They organise public opinion, contest elections, and seek to form governments. India follows a multi-party system where several national and regional parties compete for power. This system reflects India's social, cultural, linguistic, and regional diversity. Sometimes, no single party secures a majority in the legislature. In such situations, political parties join together to form coalition governments. Coalition governments require cooperation, negotiation, and consensus among partners. Political parties also serve as a link between citizens and the government by conveying public demands and concerns. Through elections, parties present alternative policies and programmes, allowing voters to choose among competing visions for governance. The multi-party system encourages wider representation and accommodates diverse viewpoints within the democratic framework.

Questions:

- a. Which party system does India follow? **(1)**
- b. What is a coalition government? **(1)**
- c. How does the multi-party system strengthen democracy? **(2)**

68. Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow: [4]

The Election Commission has several powers that help it conduct elections effectively. Its administrative powers include deciding election schedules, managing polling arrangements, and appointing election staff. It has advisory powers to recommend action regarding the disqualification of legislators. The Commission also exercises quasi-judicial powers by settling disputes related to political parties and election symbols. During elections, it monitors campaign expenditure and enforces the Model Code of Conduct. If officials engage in misconduct, the Commission can transfer or suspend them. These powers enable the ECI to ensure fairness and maintain discipline throughout the electoral process. By regulating election activities, it helps create a level playing field for political parties and candidates.

Questions:

- a. Which power allows the ECI to settle symbol disputes? **(1)**
- b. What code of conduct does the ECI enforce during elections? **(1)**
- c. How do the powers of the ECI help ensure fair elections? **(2)**

69. Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow: [4]

Different countries adopt different electoral systems to elect representatives. India mainly follows the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) system for Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections. Under this method, the candidate who secures the highest number of votes in a constituency wins,

even if they do not obtain more than half of the total votes. The country is divided into constituencies, each electing one representative. In contrast, the Proportional Representation (PR) system allocates seats according to the percentage of votes received by political parties. This system seeks to ensure fair representation of different groups. India uses Proportional Representation with the Single Transferable Vote (STV) method for elections to the Rajya Sabha and for electing the President and Vice-President. Electoral systems influence representation, party strength, and government formation, making them an important part of democratic governance.

Questions:

- a. Which electoral system is used for Lok Sabha elections in India? **(1)**
- b. What does FPTP stand for? **(1)**
- c. How does the Proportional Representation system differ from FPTP? **(2)**

70. **Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow:** **[4]**

The Election Commission of India (ECI) is a constitutional body responsible for conducting free and fair elections. Established on 25 January 1950 under Article 324 of the Constitution, it supervises elections to Parliament, State Legislatures, and certain constitutional offices. The Commission operates independently from the government to maintain electoral integrity. It prepares electoral rolls, registers political parties, allocates election symbols, and monitors election expenditure. During elections, the ECI enforces the Model Code of Conduct and can order repolls if irregularities occur. The Commission also undertakes voter awareness programmes under SVEEP. Its independence is safeguarded through constitutional provisions, ensuring that elections remain transparent, impartial, and credible. The ECI plays a central role in preserving democratic values and public confidence in the electoral process.

Questions:

- a. Under which Article of the Constitution does the ECI function? **(1)**
 - b. What is the full form of SVEEP? **(1)**
 - c. Why is the independence of the Election Commission important? **(2)**
71. How do geographical divisions within a country facilitate broader citizen involvement in the democratic process? **[5]**
72. Evaluate the procedural steps for voter enrollment, distinguishing between its online and offline mechanisms, and explain their collective importance in promoting electoral accessibility. **[5]**
73. Explain how the process of elections ensures that the government truly represents the will of the people, rather than merely selecting individuals based on other criteria. **[5]**
74. Describe the multifaceted nature of political competition that arises during elections, detailing its different forms and the impact it has on public awareness. **[5]**
75. How does the selection process for directly elected legislative bodies differ from that for indirectly elected positions within a political system that employs diverse electoral methods? **[5]**

Solution
ELECTIONS
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1.
(d) One-Party System.
Explanation:
The One-Party System is typically found in authoritarian regimes, where only one political party is legally allowed to hold power and form the government.
2.
(c) A three-member body
Explanation:
It is a three-member body headquartered in New Delhi.
3.
(b) US, UK
Explanation:
The United States (Democrats/Republicans) and the United Kingdom (Conservatives/Labour) are given as examples of a Two-Party System.
4.
(c) To elect a representative who works on behalf of people in that area.
Explanation:
A constituency serves as a fixed geographical area from which voters elect their representative to a legislative body, ensuring representation for the people residing in that specific area.
5. **(a) Six years, or up to the age of 65 years**
Explanation:
They have a tenure of six years, or up to the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.
6.
(b) Any court
Explanation:
The Delimitation Commission in India is a high-power body whose orders have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court.
7.
(d) Regulatory Powers
Explanation:
Regulatory Powers include enforcing the Model Code of Conduct and monitoring election expenses.
8.
(d) Article 324
Explanation:
The Election Commission of India operates under Article 324 of the Constitution.
9.
(c) A shared policy agenda of coalition partners.
Explanation:
A key feature of a coalition government is the Common Minimum Programme (CMP), where coalition partners agree on a shared policy agenda to govern effectively.

10. **(c)** To redraw constituency boundaries.
Explanation:
Delimitation means fixing or redrawing the boundaries of territorial constituencies in a country or a state that has a legislature. This work is done by an independent body called the Delimitation Commission.
11. **(b)** Voters' list
Explanation:
An electoral roll is also known as the voters' list, which is an official compilation of eligible citizens registered to vote.
12. **(c)** To ensure that every vote counts and reflects wider political views.
Explanation:
The fundamental principle of proportional representation is that every vote contributes to the final result, rather than only determining which party gains a simple plurality or bare majority, aiming for fair and balanced representation.
13. **(a)** 18 years
Explanation:
Every Indian citizen who is 18 years or above and is ordinarily resident in a constituency can register to vote.
14. **(d)** To receive more votes than any other candidate in that constituency
Explanation:
The FPTP system states that the candidate who receives the most votes in a constituency is declared the winner, without needing an absolute majority.
15. **(c)** Electoral Rolls
Explanation:
The ECI prepares, revises, and updates voter lists through continuous revision and SIR (Special Intensive Revision) as part of its Electoral Rolls function.
16. **(c)** Over 900 million
Explanation:
India has over 900 million registered voters, making it one of the largest electorates in the world.
17. **(d)** Form 6
Explanation:
Citizens can apply for inclusion in the electoral roll by submitting Form 6 (for new voters or those who have shifted).
18. **(d)** It determines the constituencies to be reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
Explanation:

Delimitation determines the constituencies to be reserved for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) to ensure their political representation.

19. **(a) Common Minimum Programme (CMP)**

Explanation:

In a coalition government, the shared policy agenda agreed upon by partners is called a Common Minimum Programme (CMP).

20. **(a) Mixed-Member Proportional (MMP)**

Explanation:

The **Mixed-Member Proportional (MMP)** system combines elements of both electoral methods:

- Part of the legislature is elected using the **First-Past-the-Post (FPTP)** system.
- The remaining seats are allocated through **Proportional Representation (PR)** to balance overall party representation.

21. **(a) A-III, B-IV, C-II, D-I**

Explanation:

- (A) India → (III) Representative democracy
- (B) Political decisions → (IV) Elected representatives
- (C) Local level representatives → (II) Panchas or Councillors
- (D) Electorate size → (I) 900 million registered voters

22.

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

Explanation:

- (A) FPTP system → (II) Winner by highest votes
- (B) PR system → (III) Ensures fair representation
- (C) STV method → (I) Voter ranks candidates
- (D) Mixed-Member system → (IV) Combines FPTP and PR

23. **(a) A-II, B-I, C-IV, D-III**

Explanation:

- (A) Electoral system types → (II) FPTP, PR, Mixed-Member
- (B) PR sub-systems → (I) Single Transferable Vote
- (C) Used for Vice-President → (IV) STV method
- (D) Ensures fair representation → (III) Proportional Representation

24. **(a) A-II, B-III, C-I, D-IV**

Explanation:

- (A) Delimitation Oversight → (II) Separate Delimitation Commission
- (B) Electoral Rolls Function → (III) Continuous revision
- (C) Voter Education Programme → (I) Awareness promotion
- (D) Disciplinary Power Example → (IV) Suspend officials

25.

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

Explanation:

- (A) National Party recognition (MPs) → (III) Recognised in four or more states
- (B) State Party recognition (Assembly votes/MLAs) → (I) 3% total seats or three seats (Assembly)
- (C) National Party recognition (State Party status) → (II) 2% total Lok Sabha seats from three states
- (D) State Party recognition (Assembly seats) → (IV) 6% valid votes and 2 MLAs

26.

(d) Both Statement I and Statement II are true

Explanation:

Statement I is true, as the text states Delimitation 'Redraws constituency boundaries to ensure a more equal distribution of the population across constituencies'. Statement II is true because the orders 'have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court' and even the Lok Sabha 'cannot change or modify these orders'.

27.

(d) Statement I is true but Statement II is false

Explanation:

Statement I is true as the ECI has 'Advisory Powers' for disqualification of members. Statement II is false as while ECI prepares, revises, and updates voter lists, its independence is within the constitutional framework and it is not 'entirely independent of any external oversight' in the broader sense of the democratic system.

28.

(b) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

Explanation:

- **Statement I is false:** In a democracy, elected representatives are **not permanent**. They serve for a fixed term and can be removed through elections if they fail to perform or lose public support.
- **Statement II is true:** Elections encourage **political competition** among parties and candidates. They also help inform citizens about issues through **manifestos, campaigns, and public debates**, improving political awareness.

29.

(b) Both Statement I and Statement II are false

Explanation:

Statement I is false because the CEC can only be removed through a process similar to that for a Supreme Court judge, not just due to government disagreement. Statement II is false because the ECI oversees delimitation, which is conducted by a separate Delimitation Commission.

30.

(b) Statement I is true but Statement II is false

Explanation:

- **Statement I is true:** Elections in India involve an extremely large electorate (over 900 million voters), making them one of the largest democratic exercises in the world, often comparable to conducting elections across several large countries simultaneously.
- **Statement II is false:** Elections do more than just select government representatives. They also influence **policy-making and law-making**, as elected governments formulate laws, set priorities, and implement policies based on public mandate and electoral promises.

31. **(a)** Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

The FPTP system can lead to a party winning many seats without an overall majority of votes, precisely because only a plurality, not an absolute majority, is needed to win a constituency. This disproportionate outcome arises from the mechanics of winning individual seats.

32. **(a)** Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

- **Assertion (A) is true:** The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of the Election Commission of India cannot be removed easily, ensuring independence from political pressure.
- **Reason (R) is true:** The removal procedure of the CEC is similar to that of a Supreme Court judge, requiring a special majority in Parliament on grounds of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.

- **R correctly explains A** because this stringent removal process is what protects the independence and security of the office.

33. **(a)** Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

The indirect nature of these elections, involving a limited electorate (legislators), and the use of ranked preferences to meet a quota, are characteristic of the PR system, specifically STV. This mechanism ensures their election is proportional among the electoral college.

34.

(c) A is true but R is false.

Explanation:

- **Assertion (A) is true:** Constituencies are indeed essential in a democracy because they divide the electorate into manageable geographical units, ensuring **fair and effective representation**.
- **Reason (R) is false:** Constituencies do not require citizens to gather in one place to vote. Instead, voters cast their votes individually at polling stations or through other authorized methods within their constituency.

35. **(a)** Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

The direct election of members from single-member constituencies is a key characteristic of the FPTP system, which India uses for Lok Sabha elections.

36. The orders of a Delimitation Commission cannot be challenged in court because they are given legal finality to avoid delays and disputes in the electoral process. This ensures smooth and timely conduct of elections. Its impact is fair representation of citizens, balanced constituencies based on population, and greater efficiency and stability in the democratic system.
37. Including photographs in electoral rolls improves election integrity by making voter identification more reliable and reducing impersonation or fraud. At polling stations, officials can quickly verify voters' identity by matching faces with records. This speeds up the voting process, increases transparency, and ensures that only genuine, eligible voters are allowed to cast their votes.
38. Two examples of countries that operate under a multi-party system are France and Israel. In such systems, multiple political parties have the potential to gain government control, often resulting in coalition governments.
39. A large number of registered voters increases the complexity of conducting elections but also strengthens democracy by ensuring broad participation. It requires extensive administrative arrangements, efficient voter registration, and strong logistical planning. Despite challenges, it enhances legitimacy, as outcomes reflect the will of a diverse and large population, making governance more representative and inclusive.
40. A Delimitation Commission is responsible for redrawing the boundaries of electoral constituencies based on population data from the latest census. It allocates seats among regions, ensures fair representation, and maintains balanced population distribution across constituencies. Its work helps provide equal voting power to citizens and supports the effective functioning of the democratic electoral system.
41. The term for establishing or modifying territorial limits of legislative constituencies is 'delimitation.' This process is crucial for democratic governance as it ensures that representation in legislative assemblies remains fair and equitable. By periodically redrawing boundaries based on population shifts, delimitation prevents certain regions from being over or under-represented. It also safeguards the political representation of specific communities by reserving constituencies, thereby upholding democratic principles of equal participation and voice.
42. In India, the Proportional Representation (PR) system, specifically incorporating the Single Transferable Vote (STV) method, is used for several key indirect elections. These include the election of members to the Rajya Sabha, which is the Upper House of Parliament. Additionally, this system is employed for the

elections of the President of India and the Vice-President of India, ensuring a representative outcome for these crucial national offices.

43. Regular democratic elections are essential because they allow citizens to evaluate the performance of their government and hold leaders accountable. If representatives fail to meet expectations, voters can replace them with better candidates. This ensures responsiveness, transparency, and responsibility in governance. Elections thus keep governments answerable to the people and aligned with public needs.
44. In the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) system, the candidate who receives the highest number of votes in a constituency is declared the winner, regardless of whether they achieve an absolute majority. The vote margin is simply the difference between the winner's votes and the runner-up's votes. Even a small margin is sufficient for victory.
45. An electoral roll contains the names, addresses, age, and identification details of all eligible voters in a constituency. It is regularly updated to include new voters and remove ineligible ones. Maintaining it accurately is important to ensure only qualified citizens vote, prevent fraud or duplication, and uphold fairness, transparency, and credibility in elections.
46. The primary function of this independent body is to redraw the boundaries of territorial constituencies. Its key objectives include ensuring fair representation in legislative bodies by adjusting boundaries based on population changes, preventing disparities in population distribution across constituencies like over-representation or under-representation, and designating constituencies for reserved categories to guarantee their political voice.
47. The Proportional Representation system, especially the Single Transferable Vote (STV), reduces wasted votes because seats are allocated based on overall vote share. Even if a candidate is not the first choice, votes can be transferred to other preferences, ensuring broader representation. In contrast, FPTP wastes votes that go to losing candidates or surplus winning margins.
48. The shift after 1989 signified a move away from concentrated power towards more diverse representation. This period saw the prominence of a multi-party system and coalition governments, reflecting a greater need for political consensus and power-sharing among various ideological groups. This change fostered broader political participation and decentralized decision-making in governance.
49. In the Single Transferable Vote (STV) system, a candidate who receives more votes than the required quota is declared elected, and their surplus votes are transferred to other candidates according to voters' next preferences. If no candidate reaches the quota, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and their votes are transferred based on subsequent preferences until all seats are filled.
50. Parliamentary constituencies elect Members of Parliament (MPs) who represent citizens at the national level in the Lok Sabha. Assembly constituencies elect Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) who represent people at the state level. Both link voters to different tiers of government, ensuring representation in national and state decision-making processes.
51. A Booth Level Officer (BLO) plays a critical role in voter enrolment by conducting a mandatory field visit. After a citizen submits Form 6 for registration, the BLO's primary responsibility is to verify the applicant's residence and other submitted details. This on-ground verification ensures the accuracy of the information provided, preventing errors and fraudulent registrations, and is essential before the applicant's name is officially added to the electoral roll.
52. When polling is found to be unfair, the Election Commission of India can take corrective measures to ensure free and fair elections. It may order a repoll in specific booths or entire constituencies, countermand elections in serious cases, or cancel results if malpractice is proven. It can also deploy additional security, transfer officials, or revise polling arrangements. These actions restore voter confidence, ensure transparency, and uphold the integrity of the democratic process.
53. Elections in a representative democracy perform several key functions. They enable citizens to choose their representatives at different levels of government. Elections ensure accountability by allowing voters to reward or replace leaders based on performance. They facilitate political competition among parties and candidates, encouraging better policies and governance. Elections also reflect the popular will, giving legitimacy to governments. Additionally, they promote political participation and awareness among citizens, strengthening the democratic process and ensuring responsive and responsible governance.

54. The electoral roll, as an official list of eligible voters, is crucial for free and fair elections. By ensuring that only registered and qualified citizens can cast their votes, it protects political equality by preventing discrimination based on any social markers. It acts as a safeguard against bogus voting and duplication, as individuals not on the list or attempting to vote multiple times would be identified. This systematic listing maintains the integrity of the democratic process and ensures that every legitimate vote counts equally.
55. The principle of 'no discrimination' in electoral roll preparation, which forbids exclusion based on religion, caste, gender, or race, directly reinforces the foundational values of a democratic society. It ensures that every eligible citizen has an equal right to register and participate in the democratic process, irrespective of their background. This commitment to universal inclusion guarantees political equality and prevents any form of prejudice from undermining citizen participation, thereby strengthening the democratic ideal of inclusive representation.
56. The election of a head of state is usually indirect, where elected representatives (such as MPs and MLAs) vote through an electoral college, so individual public votes are not directly counted for final selection. In contrast, elections to the lower house use direct voting by citizens in constituencies. Here, votes directly determine representatives through systems like FPTP. Thus, head-of-state elections rely on indirect aggregation of votes, while legislative elections directly translate votes into seats.
57. A coalition government is formed when two or more political parties join together to achieve a majority and govern collectively. Unlike a single-party majority government, where one party has enough seats to form the government on its own, a coalition government requires cooperation, negotiation, and power-sharing among partner parties. Decisions are often made through consensus, and policies may reflect diverse viewpoints. Coalition governments are common when no single party wins a clear majority in the legislature.
58. The electoral process allows citizens to hold elected officials accountable by giving them the power to evaluate their performance at regular intervals through voting. If representatives fail to meet public expectations or deliver on promises, voters can choose not to re-elect them. Elections create pressure on leaders to remain responsive, transparent, and responsible throughout their term. This mechanism ensures that government actions align with public interest, as political survival depends on voter approval in subsequent elections.
59. Decisions on electoral boundary adjustments are established by a high-powered independent commission, whose pronouncements possess the force of law. These rulings are not subject to challenge in any court of law, underscoring their finality. Their implementation date is determined by the head of state. Although copies of these decisions are presented to the national lower legislative house and respective state legislative assemblies, these legislative bodies lack the authority to amend or alter the orders. This unique process ensures the independence and unimpeachable authority of the boundary adjustment decisions.
60. The competitive nature of elections encourages parties and candidates to present their policies, achievements, and plans clearly to attract voters. This generates debates, campaigns, and media discussions that inform citizens about national issues and policy alternatives. As voters become better informed, they can make thoughtful choices. Competition also pressures leaders to perform well and remain responsive to public needs. Consequently, it leads to improved governance, greater accountability, and more efficient delivery of public services.
61. The inclusion of photographs in electoral rolls, known as a Photo Electoral Roll, significantly enhances the integrity and efficiency of the voting process. It serves as an additional layer of identification, making it more difficult for individuals to impersonate registered voters and cast fraudulent ballots. This visual aid assists polling officers in quickly verifying the identity of the voter, reducing disputes and streamlining the administrative procedures on election day, thereby contributing to more secure and credible elections.
62. The regular updating mechanism of an electoral roll, including annual revisions and pre-election updates, is crucial for fairness. It ensures that new eligible voters are included, while names of deceased individuals or those who have relocated are removed. This process keeps the list accurate and current, preventing disenfranchisement of new voters and eliminating opportunities for fraudulent votes based on outdated information, thereby upholding political equality and fair representation.

63. The core function of such an independent body is to meticulously fix or redraw the geographical limits of electoral divisions within a nation or its constituent states. This process is crucial for establishing and maintaining equitable representation in legislative bodies. By periodically adjusting these boundaries, the body addresses changes in population distribution, thereby ensuring that each constituency roughly represents a similar number of voters. This mechanism prevents demographic shifts from leading to imbalanced political power or under-representation, upholding the principle of 'one person, one vote'.
64. The central electoral body supervises, directs, and controls elections for Parliament and State Legislatures. It prepares and revises voter lists, recognizes political parties, and allots symbols. This body also promotes voter awareness through specific programs and monitors election expenses to ensure transparency. It oversees delimitation, though performed by a separate commission, ensuring compliance with democratic norms for free and fair elections.
65. The fundamental objective behind employing an enumerator in elections is to ensure the accuracy and currency of the electoral roll. Enumerators conduct door-to-door surveys, collect detailed information, verify it against documents, and record the data. This crucial fieldwork directly contributes to updating the voter list, ensuring that only eligible citizens are included and that the electoral roll reflects the actual population, thus supporting free and fair elections.
66. a. Rajya Sabha elections use the Single Transferable Vote (STV) method under the Proportional Representation system. It helps ensure representation according to the relative strength of political parties.
b. Under STV, voters rank candidates in order of preference, such as first preference, second preference, and so on. These rankings help determine how votes are transferred during counting.
c. STV reduces vote wastage because surplus votes and votes of eliminated candidates are transferred according to voter preferences. This ensures that more votes contribute to electing representatives and improves overall representation.
67. a. India follows a multi-party system. Multiple political parties contest elections at national and state levels and participate in the democratic process.
b. A coalition government is formed when two or more political parties join together to achieve a legislative majority and govern collectively, usually when no single party wins enough seats.
c. The multi-party system strengthens democracy by providing voters with more choices and ensuring representation of diverse social and regional interests. It encourages debate, competition, and broader participation in governance.
68. a. The Election Commission uses its quasi-judicial powers to settle disputes relating to political parties and election symbols. These powers help resolve conflicts impartially.
b. The Election Commission enforces the Model Code of Conduct during elections. It regulates the behaviour of political parties and candidates to ensure ethical campaigning.
c. The ECI's powers help maintain impartiality, regulate campaigns, monitor expenditure, and prevent misconduct. These measures create equal opportunities for candidates and strengthen public confidence in the electoral process.
69. a. India uses the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) system for Lok Sabha elections. Under this system, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in a constituency is declared elected.
b. FPTP stands for First-Past-the-Post. It is also known as the plurality system because the candidate with the largest number of votes wins, even without an absolute majority.
c. FPTP elects the candidate with the highest votes in a constituency, whereas Proportional Representation allocates seats according to the percentage of votes received. PR aims to provide broader representation and reduce the mismatch between votes and seats.
70. a. The Election Commission of India functions under Article 324 of the Constitution. This Article grants it authority to supervise, direct, and control elections in the country.
b. SVEEP stands for Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation. It is an awareness programme designed to encourage informed and active participation in elections.
c. The independence of the Election Commission ensures impartial conduct of elections. It prevents political interference, maintains public trust, and guarantees that electoral processes remain free, fair, and transparent for all participants.

71. Geographical divisions, such as electoral constituencies, facilitate broader citizen involvement in the democratic process by ensuring that all regions and communities receive representation in government. Each constituency elects a representative who voices local concerns and interests in legislative bodies. This system makes elections more organized and manageable by dividing large populations into smaller units. It also helps ensure that citizens from diverse social, economic, and cultural backgrounds can participate effectively in governance. By providing equal opportunities for voting and representation, geographical divisions strengthen democratic participation, improve accountability of elected representatives, and promote inclusive decision-making that reflects the needs and aspirations of people across the country.
72. Voter enrollment merges online and offline procedures to maximize accessibility. Online enrollment via the Voters' Service Portal or Voter Helpline App offers convenience for tech-savvy citizens, allowing them to apply remotely. Offline, submitting Form 6 to a Booth Level Officer or Electoral Registration Officer caters to individuals preferring traditional methods or those with limited digital access. Both methods culminate in essential steps: form submission, field verification by a BLO to confirm residence, official approval, and finally, the issuance of a Voter ID. This dual approach ensures that all eligible citizens, regardless of their technological proficiency or location, can register and participate, promoting broad electoral engagement and inclusivity.
73. Elections ensure that the government represents the will of the people by allowing citizens to choose their representatives through a fair and democratic voting process. Every eligible voter has the right to cast a vote, giving people a direct role in deciding who will govern them. Candidates must gain public support rather than being selected based on wealth, status, family background, or other non-democratic criteria. Regular elections also make leaders accountable to the people, as they must respond to public needs and seek re-election. This process reflects the preferences and aspirations of the majority while ensuring that government authority is based on the consent of the governed.
74. Elections stimulate diverse forms of political competition. This primarily manifests as rivalry among various political parties, each vying for power. It also involves a contest of ideologies and policy proposals, as different parties present their visions for national governance. At a more localized level, competition occurs among individual candidates within specific constituencies. Additionally, prominent leaders often engage in high-profile battles for public support. This entire competitive process is crucial as it compels parties to articulate their positions and solutions for national issues, informing the public through manifestos and debates. This heightened exposure educates voters on crucial matters and proposed policy directions.
75. Direct elections for legislative bodies typically utilize a plurality system where the candidate with the most votes in a demarcated area wins, irrespective of securing an absolute majority. This method emphasizes territorial representation. Conversely, indirect elections for positions like those in an upper house or head of state often employ a preferential system, such as proportional representation with transferable votes. Here, voters rank candidates, and seats are allocated based on quotas and the transfer of surplus or eliminated votes, aiming for a more proportional reflection of political group strength or federal balance. The key distinction lies in the direct public mandate for legislative bodies versus an electoral college or assembly mandate for other positions.