

What is Democracy? Why Democracy?

Source Based Questions

Source 1

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most appropriate option:

In China, elections are regularly held after every five-years for electing the country's Parliament, called Quanguo Renmin Daibiao Dahui (National People's Congress). The National People's Congress has the power to appoint the President of the country. It has nearly 3,000 members elected from all over China. Some members are elected by the army. Before contesting elections, a candidate needs the approval of the Chinese Communist Party. Only those who are members of the Chinese Communist Party or eight smaller parties allied to it were allowed to contest elections held in 2002-03. The government is always formed by the Communist Party.

Since its independence in 1930, Mexico holds elections after every six-years to elect its President. The country has never been under a military or dictator's rule. But until 2000 every election was won by a party called PRI (Institutional Revolutionary Party).

Opposition parties did contest elections, but never managed to win. The PRI was known to use many dirty tricks to win elections.

Q1. Name the Parliament of China for which elections are held after every five-years.

- a. Quanguo Renmin Daibiao Dahui
- b. National People's Congress
- c. Both a. and b.
- d. Chinese Communist Party

Ans. (d)

Q2. How many members are elected from all over China to National People's Congress?

- a. 2,000
- b. 3,000

- c. 4,000
- d. 5,000

Ans. (b)

Q3. Which party always form the government in China?

- a. China Zhi Gong Party
- b. Chinese Communist Party
- c. China Democratic League
- d. Workers' Democratic Party

Ans. (b)

Q4. After how many years elections are held in Mexico to elect its President?

- a. Four
- b. Five
- c. Six
- d. Seven

Ans. (c)

Q5. Identify the incorrect statement about National People's Congress.

- a. It has the power to appoint the President of the country.
- b. It uses many dirty tricks to win the elections.
- c. Some of its members are elected by the army.
- d. It has nearly 3,000 members elected from all over China.

Ans. (b)

Q6. There are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read them and choose the correct option:

Assertion (A): Communist Party always forms the government in China.

Reason (R): People have to choose the ruling party and the candidates approved by it.

- a. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- b. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

- c. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
- d. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Ans. (a)

Source 2

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most appropriate option:

Zimbabwe attained independence from White minority rule in 1980. Since then, the country has been ruled by ZANU-PF, the party that led the freedom struggle. Its leader, Robert Mugabe, ruled the country since independence. Elections were held regularly and always won by ZANU-PF. President Mugabe was popular but also used unfair practices in elections. Over the years his government changed the Constitution several times to increase the powers of the President and make him less accountable. Opposition party workers were harassed and their meeting disrupted. Public protests and demonstrations against the government were declared illegal. There was a law that limited the right to criticise the President. Television and radio were controlled by the government and gave only the ruling party's version. There were independent newspapers but the government harassed those journalists who went against it. The government ignored some court judgments that went against it and pressurised judges. He was forced out of office in 2017.

Q1. From which of the following Zimbabwe attained independence in 1980?

- b. White minority rule
- a. Black majority rule
- d. China
- c. Mexico

Ans. (b)

Q2. Which party ruled the country, Zimbabwe and led the freedom struggle since 1980?

- a. Communist Party
- b. Marxist Party
- C. ZANU-PF
- d. Institutional Revolutionary Party

Ans. (c)

Q3. Who ruled the country since independence of Zimbabwe?

- a. Robert Williams
- b. Robert Mugabe
- c. Pinochet
- d. Allende

Ans. (b)

Q4. How was there no rule of law under Mugabe's rule?

- a. Elections were won through violence and harassment of the opposition politicians, workers and journalists.
- b. People found it difficult to get the right to vote.
- c. There was political competition and power play.
- d. Leaders do not know the best interests of the people that led to bad decisions.

Ans. (a)

Q5. When was Mugabe thrown out of power from Zimbabwe?

- a. 2015
- b. 2016
- c. 2017
- d. 2018

Ans. (c)

Q6. What was the unfair practice used by Mugabe in elections?

- a. Public protests and demonstrations against the President were declared illegal.
- b. Opposition party workers were harassed and their meeting disrupted.
- c. There was no rule of law and citizen's rights were not respected.
- d. All of the above

Ans. (d)

Source 3

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow:

In Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf led a military coup in October 1999. He overthrew a democratically elected government and declared himself the Chief Executive' of the

country. Later, he changed his designation to President and in 2002 held a referendum in the country that granted him a five year extension. Pakistani media, human rights organisations and democracy activists said that the referendum was based on malpractices and fraud. In August, 2002 he issued a 'Legal Framework Order' that amended the Constitution of Pakistan. According to this Order, the President can dismiss the national and provincial assemblies. The work of the civilian cabinet is supervised by a National Security Council which is dominated by military officers. After passing this law, elections were held to the national and provincial assemblies. So, Pakistan has had elections, elected representatives have some powers. But the final power rested with military officers and General Musharraf himself.

Q1. Who said that the referendum held in 2002 was based on malpractices and fraud?

Ans. Pakistani media, human rights organisations and democracy activists said that the referendum held in 2002 was based on malpractices and fraud.

Q2. What was the motive towards issuing a 'Legal Framework Order' in August 2002?

Ans. General Pervez Musharraf issued a 'Legal Framework Order' in August 2002 with the motive to ensure that he had the ultimate power to decide how he wanted Pakistan to be ruled.

Q3. What were the amendments made in the Constitution of Pakistan under Legal Framework Order?

Ans. The amendments made in the Constitution of Pakistan under Legal Framework Order were:

(i) The President can dismiss the national or provincial assemblies.

(ii) The work of the civilian's cabinet is supervised by a National Security Council which is dominated by military officers.