



HISTORY

BOOKS - FULL MARKS HISTORY (HINGLISH)

FRAMING THE CONSTITUTION THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA

Ncert Textbook Questions Solvend

1. What were the ideals expressed in the Objectives Resolution ?



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2. How was the term 'minority' defined by different groups?



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3. What were the arguments in favour of greater power to the provinces ?



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4. Why did Mahatma Gandhi think Hindustani should be the national language?



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5. What historical forces shaped the vision of the Constitution ?



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6. Discuss the different arguments made in favour of protection of the oppressed groups.



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7. What connection did some of the members of the Constituent Assembly make between the political situation of the time and the need for a strong Centre?

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8. How did the Constituent Assembly seek to resolve the language controversy?

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9. On a present-day political map of India, indicate the different languages spoken in each state and mark out the one that is designated as the language for official communication. Compare the present map with a map of the early 1950s. What differences do you notice? Do the differences say something about the relationship between language and the organisation of the states?



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10. Choose any one important constitutional change that has happened in recent years. Find out why the

change was made, what different arguments were put forward for the change and the historical background to the change. If you can try and look at the Constitutional Assembly debates in the website. (<http://parliamentofindia.nic.in/lis/debates/debates.htm>) to see how the issue was discussed at that time. Write about your findings.



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11. Compare the Constitutions of America, France or South Africa with the Indian Constitution, focusing on any two of the following themes: secularism, minority rights, relations between the Centre and

the states. Find out how these differences and similarities are linked to the histories of the regions.



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12. Article 356 gives the Centre the powers to take over a state administration, on the recommendation of the Governor. Make a project on this article as it has been used by Centre in various states.



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Additional Questions Solved Very Short Answer Type Questions

1. What is constitution?

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2. When was the Indian constitution passed and enforced ?

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3. Describe the significance of Indian constitution.
Give two important points.

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4. Describe the demand of low - caste people and linguistic minorities at the time of creation and adoption of the constitution .



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5. What is an unusual achievement for the Indian constitution?



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6. Describe the efforts of social reformers and socialists-cum-communists for social and economic justice.



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7. Give any two reasons that underlined the need for strong Centre.



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8. What inspired the Indian leaders to frame their own constitution ?



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9. Describe the suggestion of language committee of the Constituent Assembly on Hindi.



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10. Why was our constitution enacted on 26th January, 1950? Mention two reasons.





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11. What was the constitution assembly?



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12. Who was appointed as the president and the chairman of the Drafting Committee of the constituent assembly?



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13. State any two features of Indian constitution.



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14. What is the importance of constitution?



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15. What are constitutional amendments?



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16. What fundamental rights are enshrined in the Indian constitution to ensure religious freedom?





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17. Name some prominent leaders who played an important role in framing the constitution of India.



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18. What were the recommendations given by the constituent assembly to resolve the problems of untouchables?



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19. Who introduced the objective resolution in the Constituent Assembly and when?



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20. Write two problems faced by the new nation.



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21. Write the names of some members who favoured strong states.



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22. Give the names of proponents for a strong centre.



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23. Name two members who feared for the cause of Hindi if pushed too aggressively.



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24. Why is it important to understand the framing of the constitution?



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25. Define the guiding principles behind the nationalist movement.



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26. What were the aims which guided the framers of the constitution?



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1. How was the Constituent Assembly constituted?

Did it represent the whole nation?



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2. In the Constituent Assembly, the members had to balance between conflicting interests. Explain with examples.



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3. Indian constitution is a product of historical evolution. Justify the statement.



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4. What were the challenges before the members of Constituent Assembly?



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5. What provisions were made in the Indian constitution to make the centre more strong? Also

describe the two arguments which underlined the need for a strong centres.



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6. Did Indian government solve the problem of refugees? Explain in short.



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7. Describe the political institutions of colonial rule that helped develop an agreement over the institutions to design of constitution.





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8. What is a secular state? Which constitution provisions ensure secularism and religious freedom?



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9. "The constituent Assembly was the representative body of the people of India." Explain with examples.



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10. India is a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic. Explain.



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11. British imperialism is hanging over the deliberation of constituent assembly. Explain this interpretation of Somnath Lahiri.



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12. How many members were there in the constituent assembly in all? What were representing the Congress and what was their role?

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13. Explain the views given in favour of separate electorates in the constituent assembly.

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14. Why was G.B. Pant against the demand for separate electorates for the minorities?



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Additional Questions Solved Long Answer Type Questions

1. India's constitution was drawn up under very difficult circumstances. Elaborate the statement.



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2. Examine the role played by the Constituent Assembly in framing of the Indian Constitution.



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3. The years immediately preceding the making of the constitution had been exceptionally tumultuous.

Prove the statement with examples.



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[Additional Questions Solved Source Based Questions](#)

1. Read source given below and answer the questions which follow:

"That is very good, Sir-bold words, noble words."

Somnath Lahiri said: Well, Sir, I must congratulate Pandit Nehru for the fine expression he gave to the spirit of the Indian people when he said that no imposition from the British will be accepted by the Indian people. Imposition would be resented and objected to, he said, and he added that if need be we will walk the valley of struggle. That is very good, Sir - bold words, noble words.

But the point is to see when and how you are going to apply that challenge. Well, Sir, the point is that the imposition is here right now. Not only has the

British Plan made any future Constitution ... dependent on a treaty satisfactory to the Britisher but it suggests that for every little difference you will have to run to the Federal Court or dance attendance there in England, or to call on the British Prime Minister Clement Attlee or someone else. Not only is it a fact that this Constituent Assembly, whatever plans we may be hatching, we are under the shadow of British guns, British Army, their economic and financial stronghold - which means that the final power is still in the British hands and the question of power has not yet been finally decided, which means the future is not yet completely in our hands. Not only that, but the

statements made by Attlee and others recently have made it clear that if need be, they will even threaten you with division entirely. This means, Sir, there is no freedom in this country. As Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel put it some days ago, we have freedom only to fight among ourselves. That is the only freedom we have got ... Therefore, our humble suggestion is that it is not a question of getting something by working out this Plan but to declare independence here and now and call upon the Interim Government, call upon the people of India, to stop fratricidal warfare and look out against its enemy, which still has the whip hand, the British Imperialism - and go together to fight it and then resolve our claims afterwards when we will

be free.

Who was Somnath Lahiri?



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Why did Somnath Lahiri congratulate Pandit Nehru?



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Explain in brief the intention of the British in not framing the constitution before hand.



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Why was the constituent assembly under the shadow of British guns?

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5. Read source given below and answer the questions which follow:

"The British element is gone, but they have left the mischief behind"

Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel said: It is no use saying that we ask for separate electorates, because it is

good for us. We have heard it long enough. We have heard it for years, and as a result of this agitation we are now a separate nation ... Can you show me one free country where there are separate electorates? If so, I shall be prepared to accept it. But in this unfortunate country if this separate electorate is going to be persisted in, even after the division of the country, woe betide the country, it is not worth living in. Therefore, I say, it is not for my good alone, it is for your own good that I say it, forget the past. One day, we may be united ... The British element is gone, but they have left the mischief behind. We do not want to perpetuate that mischief. (Hear, hear). When the British introduced

this element they had not expected that they will have to go so soon. They wanted it for their easy administration. That is all right. But they have left the legacy behind Are we to get out of it or not?

Who was Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel?



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Why did he speak these words?



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What was one of serious impact of separate electorates?



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Write any two argument put forward by Patel against separate electorate.



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9. Read source given below and answer the question which follow:

"I believe separate electorates will be suicidal to the minorities"

During the debate on 27 August 1947, Govind Ballabh Pant said:

I believe separate electorates will be suicidal to the minorities and will do them tremendous harm. If they are isolated for ever, they can never convert themselves into a majority and the feeling of frustration will cripple them even from the very beginning. What is it that you desire and what is our ultimate objective? Do the minorities always want to remain as minorities or do they ever expect to form an integral part of a great nation and as such to guide and control its destinies? If they do, can they ever achieve that aspiration and that ideal if they are isolated from the rest of the community? I think

it would be extremely dangerous for them if they were segregated from the rest of the community and kept aloof in an airtight compartment where they would have to rely on others even for the

What are separate electorates ?

What are separate electrons?



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Why did G.B . Pant feel separate electorates would be suicidal for the minorities ?



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Why should the seats be reserved for muslims and other minorities in educational institutions ?

Mention arguments in favour and agains.



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Who was G.B.Pant?



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Previous Years Board Questions Solved

1. Explain, why many leaders demanded a strong centre during the debates in the constituent assembly? How were powers to legislate finally divided?



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2. What different arguments were put forward by those advocating a strong centre?



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3. Why did several members in the constituent assembly support the cause of the depressed classes? What did the assembly finally recommend for them?



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4. Explain how the constitutional developments before 1946 were different from those made by the constituent assembly?



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5. Explain how the constitution of India protects the rights of the central government and the states.



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6. How did the constituent assembly of India protect the powers of the central government? Explain.



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7. "The discussion within the Constituent Assembly were also influenced by the opinion expressed by the public" Examine the statement.



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

"We are not going just to copy"

This is what Jawaharlal Nehru said in his famous speech of 13 December 1946: My mind goes back to the various Constituent Assemblies that have gone before and of what took place at the making of the great American nation when the fathers of that nation met and fashioned out a Constitution which has stood the test of so many years, more than a century and a half and of the great nation which has resulted, which has been built up on the basis of that Constitution. My mind goes back to that mighty

revolution which took place also over 150 years ago and to that Constituent Assembly that met in that gracious and lovely city of Paris which has fought so many battles for freedom, to the difficulties that that Constituent Assembly had and to how the King and other authorities came in its way, and still it continued. The House will remember that when these difficulties came and even the room for a meeting was denied to the then Constituent Assembly, they betook themselves to an open tennis court and met there and took the oath, which is called the Oath of the Tennis Court, that they continued meeting in spite of Kings, in spite of the others, and did not disperse till they had finished

the task they had undertaken. Well, I trust that it is in that solemn spirit that we too are meeting here and that we, too, whether we meet in this chamber or other chambers, or in the fields or in the marketplace, will go on meeting and continue our work till we have finished it. Then my mind goes back to a more recent revolution which gave rise to a new type of State, the revolution that took place in Russia and out of which has arisen the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, another mighty country which is playing a tremendous part in the world, not only a mighty country but for us in India, a neighbouring country. So our mind goes back to these great examples and we seek to learn from

their success and to avoid their failures. Perhaps we may not be able to avoid failures because some measure of failure is inherent in human effort. Nevertheless, we shall advance, I am certain, in spite of obstructions and difficulties, and achieve and realise the dream that we have dreamt so long ... We say that it is our firm and solemn resolve to have an independent sovereign republic. India is bound to be sovereign, it is bound to be independent and it is bound to be a republic ... Now, some friends have raised the question: "Why have you not put in the word 'democratic' here.?" Well, I told them that it is conceivable, of course, that a republic may not be democratic but the whole of our past is witness to

this fact that we stand for democratic institutions. Obviously we are aiming at democracy and nothing less than a democracy. What form of democracy, what shape it might take is another matter. The democracies of the present day, many of them in Europe and elsewhere, have played a great part in the world's progress. Yet it may be doubtful if those democracies may not have to change their shape somewhat before long if they have to remain completely democratic. We are not going just to copy, I hope, a certain democratic procedure or an institution of a so-called democratic country. We may improve upon it. In any event whatever system of government we may establish here must fit in

with the temper of our people and be acceptable to them. We stand for democracy. It will be for this House to determine what shape to give to that democracy, the fullest democracy, I hope. The House will notice that in this Resolution, although we have not used the word "democratic" because we thought it is obvious that the word "republic" contains that word and we did not want to use unnecessary words and redundant words, but we have done something much more than using the word. We have given the content of democracy in this Resolution and not only the content of democracy but the content, if I may say so, of economic democracy in this Resolution. Others might take objection to this

Resolution on the ground that we have not said that it should be a Socialist State. Well, I stand for Socialism and, I hope, India will stand for Socialism and that India will go towards the constitution of a Socialist State and I do believe that the whole world will have to go that way.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

Explain why Nehru did not mention the world democratic in the resolution.



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and that India will go towards the constitution of a Socialist State and I do believe that the whole world will have to go that way.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

Mention the three basic features of the Constitution given in the above passage.



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the various Constituent Assemblies that have gone before and of what took place at the making of the great American nation when the fathers of that nation met and fashioned out a Constitution which has stood the test of so many years, more than a century and a half and of the great nation which has resulted, which has been built up on the basis of that Constitution. My mind goes back to that mighty revolution which took place also over 150 years ago and to that Constituent Assembly that met in that gracious and lovely city of Paris which has fought so many battles for freedom, to the difficulties that that Constituent Assembly had and to how the King and other authorities came in its way, and still it

continued. The House will remember that when these difficulties came and even the room for a meeting was denied to the then Constituent Assembly, they betook themselves to an open tennis court and met there and took the oath, which is called the Oath of the Tennis Court, that they continued meeting in spite of Kings, in spite of the others, and did not disperse till they had finished the task they had undertaken. Well, I trust that it is in that solemn spirit that we too are meeting here and that we, too, whether we meet in this chamber or other chambers, or in the fields or in the market-place, will go on meeting and continue our work till we have finished it. Then my mind goes back to a

more recent revolution which gave rise to a new type of State, the revolution that took place in Russia and out of which has arisen the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, another mighty country which is playing a tremendous part in the world, not only a mighty country but for us in India, a neighbouring country. So our mind goes back to these great examples and we seek to learn from their success and to avoid their failures. Perhaps we may not be able to avoid failures because some measure of failure is inherent in human effort. Nevertheless, we shall advance, I am certain, in spite of obstructions and difficulties, and achieve and realise the dream that we have dreamt so long ... We

say that it is our firm and solemn resolve to have an independent sovereign republic. India is bound to be sovereign, it is bound to be independent and it is bound to be a republic ... Now, some friends have raised the question: "Why have you not put in the word 'democratic' here.?" Well, I told them that it is conceivable, of course, that a republic may not be democratic but the whole of our past is witness to this fact that we stand for democratic institutions. Obviously we are aiming at democracy and nothing less than a democracy. What form of democracy, what shape it might take is another matter. The democracies of the present day, many of them in Europe and elsewhere, have played a great part in

the world's progress. Yet it may be doubtful if those democracies may not have to change their shape somewhat before long if they have to remain completely democratic. We are not going just to copy, I hope, a certain democratic procedure or an institution of a so-called democratic country. We may improve upon it. In any event whatever system of government we may establish here must fit in with the temper of our people and be acceptable to them. We stand for democracy. It will be for this House to determine what shape to give to that democracy, the fullest democracy, I hope. The House will notice that in this Resolution, although we have not used the word "democratic" because we thought

it is obvious that the word "republic" contains that word and we did not want to use unnecessary words and redundant words, but we have done something much more than using the word. We have given the content of democracy in this Resolution and not only the content of democracy but the content, if I may say so, of economic democracy in this Resolution. Others might take objection to this Resolution on the ground that we have not said that it should be a Socialist State. Well, I stand for Socialism and, I hope, India will stand for Socialism and that India will go towards the constitution of a Socialist State and I do believe that the whole world will have to go that way.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

On what kind of socialism did Nehru give stress to ?



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

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court and met there and took the oath, which is called the Oath of the Tennis Court, that they continued meeting in spite of Kings, in spite of the others, and did not disperse till they had finished the task they had undertaken. Well, I trust that it is in that solemn spirit that we too are meeting here and that we, too, whether we meet in this chamber or other chambers, or in the fields or in the market-place, will go on meeting and continue our work till we have finished it. Then my mind goes back to a more recent revolution which gave rise to a new type of State, the revolution that took place in Russia and out of which has arisen the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, another mighty country

which is playing a tremendous part in the world, not only a mighty country but for us in India, a neighbouring country. So our mind goes back to these great examples and we seek to learn from their success and to avoid their failures. Perhaps we may not be able to avoid failures because some measure of failure is inherent in human effort. Nevertheless, we shall advance, I am certain, in spite of obstructions and difficulties, and achieve and realise the dream that we have dreamt so long ... We say that it is our firm and solemn resolve to have an independent sovereign republic. India is bound to be sovereign, it is bound to be independent and it is bound to be a republic ... Now, some friends have

raised the question: "Why have you not put in the word 'democratic' here.?" Well, I told them that it is conceivable, of course, that a republic may not be democratic but the whole of our past is witness to this fact that we stand for democratic institutions. Obviously we are aiming at democracy and nothing less than a democracy. What form of democracy, what shape it might take is another matter. The democracies of the present day, many of them in Europe and elsewhere, have played a great part in the world's progress. Yet it may be doubtful if those democracies may not have to change their shape somewhat before long if they have to remain completely democratic. We are not going just to

copy, I hope, a certain democratic procedure or an institution of a so-called democratic country. We may improve upon it. In any event whatever system of government we may establish here must fit in with the temper of our people and be acceptable to them. We stand for democracy. It will be for this House to determine what shape to give to that democracy, the fullest democracy, I hope. The House will notice that in this Resolution, although we have not used the word "democratic" because we thought it is obvious that the word "republic" contains that word and we did not want to use unnecessary words and redundant words, but we have done something much more than using the word. We have given the

content of democracy in this Resolution and not only the content of democracy but the content, if I may say so, of economic democracy in this Resolution. Others might take objection to this Resolution on the ground that we have not said that it should be a Socialist State. Well, I stand for Socialism and, I hope, India will stand for Socialism and that India will go towards the constitution of a Socialist State and I do believe that the whole world will have to go that way.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

Name the document that Nehru introduced on 13 Dec.1946. Give on guarantee he gave to the citizens of India.



[View Text Solution](#)

12. Explain Mahatma Gandhi's views on the national language of India.



[View Text Solution](#)

13. Within the constituent assembly of India the language issue was intensely debated. Examine the views put forward by the members of the assembly on this issue.



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14. Read the following passage and answer the question that follows:

“For the success of democracy one must train oneself in the art of self discipline. In democracies one should care less for himself and more for others. There can't be any divided loyalty. All loyalties must exclusively be centered round the state. If in a democracy, you create rival loyalties or you create a system in which any individual or a group, instead of suppressing his extravagance cares not for larger or other interests, then democracy is doomed.” In the light of the above

passage highlight the values which a loyal citizen of a democratic country should uphold.



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