



Study Material for Class 7th

SOCIAL STUDIES

THE STRUCTURE OF OUR EARTH

Key Concepts:-

- ✓ **Geography**:- It is a fixed field of science devoted to the study of the Lands the features, the inhabitants, and the phenomenon of Earth.
- ✓ **Geology**:- It is the study of Earth.
- ✓ **Geologist**:- Scientists who study about the Earth.
- ✓ **Magma**:- The hot molten material p[resent in lower mantle. It comes out on the surface of Earth through volcano.
- ✓ **Uses of Rocks and Minerals**:-
 - Uses in construction of roads and buildings.
 - It is store house of fossils.
 - Chemicals are extracted for making fertilizers.
 - Used in household such as salt.

METAMORPHOSIS:- It is the process of change in physical and chemical composition and appearance of a rock due to extreme temperature and pressure.

Textual Questions:-

Q.1. Write about the difference between Intrusive igneous rocks and extrusive igneous rocks ?

Ans.	Intrusive Igneous Rocks	Extrusive Igneous Rocks
	1. These are formed when magma cools down inside the Earth.	1. These are formed when magma reaches the surface of the Earth.
	2. These are hard and compact.	2. These are fine grained.
	<i>Examples</i> :- Dolerite and Granite.	<i>Examples</i> :- Basalt and Obsidian

Q.2. Difference between Magma and Lava?

Magma	Lava
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Ans.	1. It is the hot molten material present inside the Earth.	1. It is the magma which reaches the surface of the Earth.
	2. Cooling down of magma takes thousands of years.	2. Cooling down of lava is rapid due to the atmosphere on the Earth.

Short Answer Type Questions:-

Q.1. What are Metamorphic Rocks?

Ans. Metamorphic Rocks are those igneous or Sedimentary Rocks which completely change their original form under great pressure and temperature. For example; Limestone changes to Marble , Shale changes to slate.

Q.2. How are Sedimentary rocks formed?

Ans. Sedimentary rocks are formed when rocks roll down , crack and hit each other and are broken down into small fragments. These sediments are carried away by wind and rivers and deposited in low lands, lakes and oceans beds. With the passage of time these layers and ocean beds. With the passage of time these layers are compacted, cemented and hardened to form sedimentary rocks.

Long Answer Type

Q.1. How many types of rocks are there? How are they formed?

Ans. Rocks are classified into three types:-

- a. Igneous Rocks
 - b. Sedimentary Rocks
 - c. Metamorphic Rocks
- a. **Igneous Rocks**:- Igneous rocks are formed by solidification of cooled magma either below or above the surface of the Earth. These rocks are called primary rocks as they are first to be made. Examples, Dolerite , Basalt etc.
 - b. **Sedimentary Rocks**:-Sedimentary rocks are formed by the different process like weathering , transporting , compacting , cementing and hardening of the other rocks. These rocks are made up of small particles known as sediments. These rocks contain fossils.
 - c. **Metamorphic**:- Metamorphic rocks are changed rocks. These are formed when igneous and sedimentary rocks completely change their original form due to high temperature and pressure. For example; Marble , Slate etc.

Q.2. Explain the concept of Rock Cycle?

Ans. Rock cycle is a process in which one type of rock is changed into another type of rock in a cyclic manner. Through this continuous process , older

rocks are transformed into new rocks by means of erosion , deposition , pressure , melting and cooling.

It is an endless process in which rocks are formed, destroyed and formed again. The hot molten magma cools down and forms igneous rocks, these rocks are broken down into sediments and form sedimentary rocks by hardening and compacting. These rocks get again transformed into metamorphic rocks undergoing complete change. Sedimentary and metamorphic rocks gets buried and melt to form magma again. This whole process is called Rock Cycle

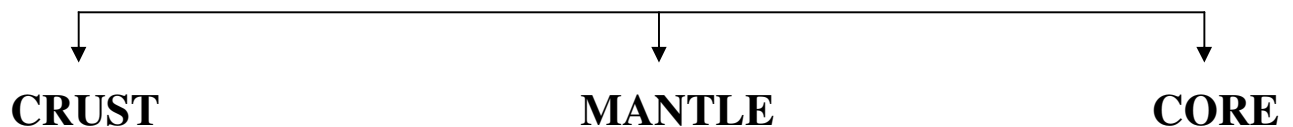
Q.3. Write some uses of minerals?

Ans. Rocks and minerals are very useful to us for many purposes. Some of them are below:-

- i. Rocks provide building materials like granite , sandstone and marble.
- ii. They are the source of fossil fuels like coal and petroleum.
- iii. They are sources of metallic minerals namely iron , gold , copper and manganese.
- iv. They are the sources of many precious stones like gems and diamond.
- v. They are used in household like salt , granite , graphite etc.
- vi. They are used in many industries like steel industries etc.

Recaptulation of the chapter

Layers of Earth



CRUST	MANTLE	CORE
1.Topmost solid layers of Earth	1. Depth upto 2900Km	1. Central part of the Earth.
2.Average thickness about 35 Km.	2.Main minerals found are Iron, manganese , Silicon.	2.Radius is 3500 Km.
3. It is divided into Continental Crust and oceanic crust.	3.Temperature of Upper mantle- 890 ⁰ C Lower mantle-2400 ⁰ C	3.Temperaqtur of outer core-2200 ⁰ c Inner Core-5000 ⁰ C
4. Composition-Soil and Sima.	4. Magma is present in the layer.	4.Composition is Nife. i.e, Iron and Nickle.

Rock Cycle:- Continuous process of rock formation.

Uses of Rocks:-

- Building
- Fuels for power
- Precious stones
- Sources of chemicals
- Sources of metal.

ROCKS

Igneous	Sedimentary	Metamorphic
Word Ignis means fire. Primary rocks made of molten magma.	Made up of sediments which are carried away from different places. Latin word 'Sedimentum' means 'settle' down.	Changed form of pre existing rocks which has undergone Metamorphosis. Greek word 'Metamorphose' meaning 'change' of form.

CHARACTERISTICS OF ROCKS

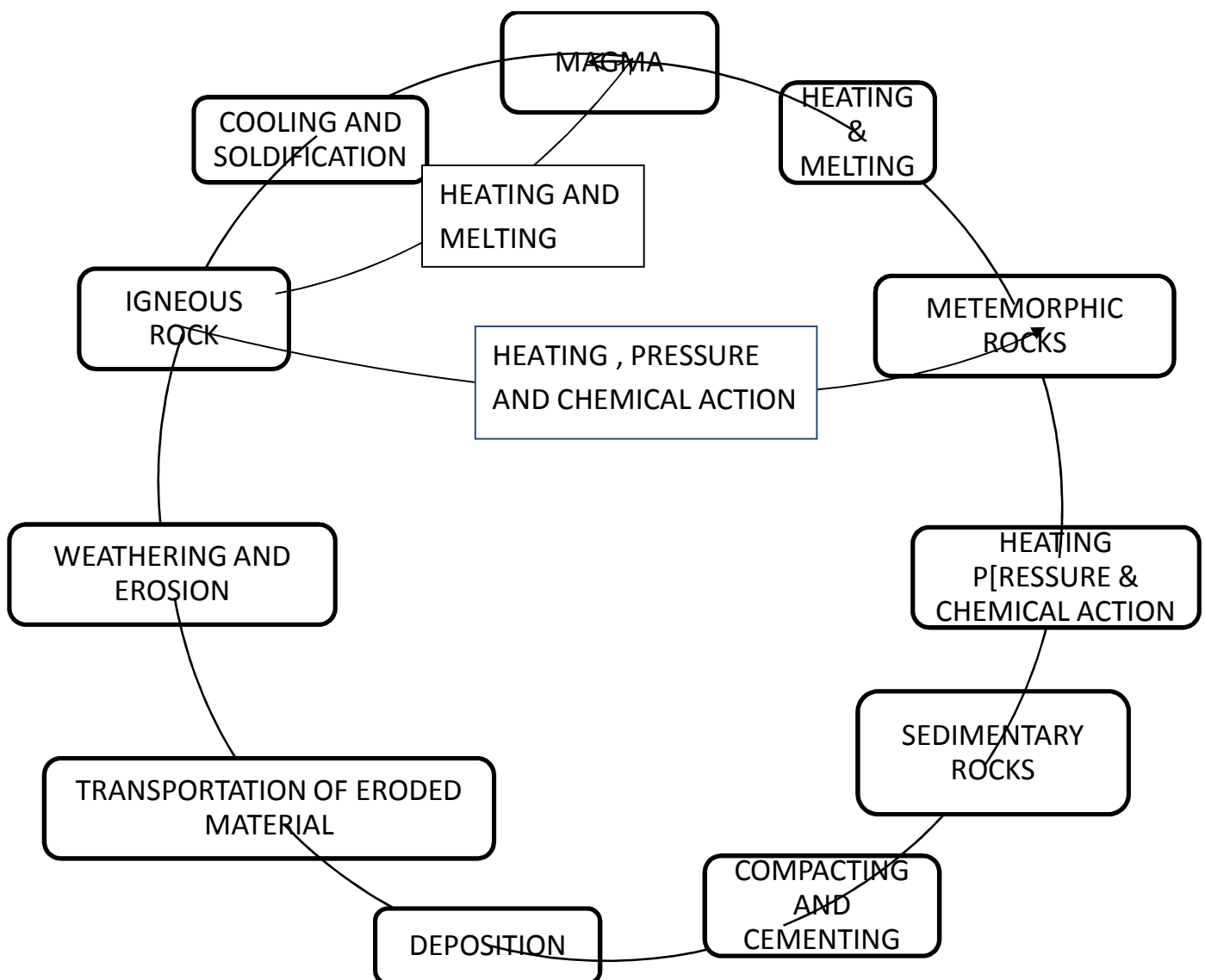
Igneous	Sedimentary	Metamorphic
1. Primary rocks 2.Hard and compact 3.E.g, Basaltic, Dolerite	1.Softer than igneous. 2. Contain fossils. 3. Found in layers. E.g, Sand stone, Lime stone.	1.Very hard. 2. Formation takes a long time. 3. Much more resistant than other two types. E.g, Marble, Slate etc.

Q.4. Why is the rock cycle considered as a cyclic process?

Ans. Rock cycle is considered as a cyclic process as it has to go through various steps to form the rocks and minerals endlessly. The process of formation of rocks keeps on going continuously in which new rocks are formed and old rocks

are destroyed to get renewed. It is a process in which one type of under different conditions.

Rock cycle involves many processes like weathering , transporting , sedimenting , compacting , cementing and again destroying. It is an endless process which begins with the formation of rocks and keeps on going endlessly to form new rocks with different characteristics. In this process, the rocks are broken down, taken to the sea bed by the help of water and are pressed to molten rocks and then pushed back to the surface by volcano or earthquake and it starts over again. Thus the process of formation of rocks is continuous and considered as cyclic.



ROCK CYCLE

SCIENCE

HUMAN DIGESTIVE SYSTEM

The Human digestive system consists of :-

1. Alimentary canal
2. Digestive glands

Alimentary canal:- It is a long tube of about 9 m running from mouth to anus of a human being in which digestion and absorption of food takes place. It is also called as digestive tract. It is divided into the following components:-

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| i. Mouth | iv. Small Intestine |
| ii. Oesophagus | v. Large Intestine |
| iii. Stomach | vi. Anus |

Digestive Glands:- These are the organs involved in digestion process. They secrete various enzymes.

Enzymes are the chemical substances produced in the body of an organism which helps in digestion of food.

- Salivary Glands ➤ Liver ➤ Pancrease

Mouth :- Mouth is the site of mechanical digestion. Food is moved around the mouth by tongue and sluiced and crushed by the teeth.

Teeth:- The teeth break down food into smaller pieces. This is called mastication. An adult human being has 32 teeth. Teeth vary in shape based on their function.

No. of Teeth

Type of teeth	Upper Jaw	Lower Jaw	Total	Function
Incisors	4	4	8	Biting / cutting
Canines	2	2	4	Tearing
Premolars	4	4	8	Chewing/ Grinding
Molars	4	4	8	Chewing/ Grinding

Tongue :- The tongue is fleshy muscular organ attached at the back of the floor of mouth. The surface of the tongue is not smooth; it is quite rough due to the presence of thousands of tiny bumps called taste buds. There are four kinds of taste buds – Salty, Sweet, Sour and Bitter.

The tongue mixes the food with saliva secreted by the salivary glands and is formed into Bolus. Saliva contains an enzyme called salivary amylase, which

starts digesting starch and converts it to maltose sugar. The food is then driven into the oesophagus.

Oesophagus:- Bolus is moved down the oesophagus by the contraction and relaxation of the muscular wall of the oesophagus which is called Peristaltic movements or Peristalsis. No digestion takes place here.

Stomach:- Stomach is a J- Shaped thick walled bag of less. It receives food from oesophagus and passes it to small intestine. The lining of stomach has Gastric Glands. They secrete digestive juice which contains mucus, hydrochloric acid and digestive enzymes like Pepsin.

Functions of Stomach:-

- Highly muscular wall of stomach shows rhythmic contraction. This churns food into fine paste and mixes the digestive juice with it.
- Mucus protects the lining of stomach from the action of enzymes and acids.
- Hydrochloric Acid kills bacteria that enter stomach along with food. It makes food acidic for the action of enzymes.
- The enzymes begin the chemical digestion of proteins of the food.
Food stays in stomach for 2-4 hours. When food leaves stomach, it is half digested and like a thin paste called chyme.

Small Intestine:- The small intestine is about 6m long and is made up of three main parts: the duodenum, jejunum and ileum. The duodenum is about 25 cm long. The digestion of food is completed in the small intestine. It receives bile juice from liver and pancreatic juice from pancreas and also secretes several digestive juices of intestinal glands.

- Bile juice makes the food alkaline and helps in the digestion of fat.
- Pancreatic juice helps in the digestion of protein and carbohydrates.
- Intestinal juice helps in completing the digestion of proteins, carbohydrates and fats.

Functions of small Intestine:-

- Proteins are broken down to amino acids.
- Carbohydrates are broken down to simple sugars such as glucose, fructose.
- Fats are broken down into fatty acids and glycerol.

- Intestinal wall absorbs digested food.

Liver:- Liver is the largest gland in the body. It is reddish brown in colour and lies just below the diaphragm on the right side. Liver is about 2Kg in weight. Its cells make bile juice which is stored in gall bladder.

When food from stomach enters small intestine, bile is released in it which aids in the digestion of fat.

Pancrease:- Pancrease is a pink coloured leaf like gland. It makes about 2 litres pancreatic juice each day. Its enzyme like Amylase , Lipase and trypsin complete the digestion of all the three components of food i.e. , carbohydrate , fats and proteins respectively.

Digestive Enzymes secreted in human digestive system

Gland	Secretion	Site of Action	Enzymes	Action
Salivary glands	Saliva	Mouth	Salivary Amylase	Starch-Sugar(Maltose, Amylose)
Gastric glands	Gastric juice	Stomach	Pepsin	Proteins-polypeptides
Liver	Bile	Duodenum(first part of small intestine)	-	Fat-lipid droplets.
Pancrease	Pancreatic juices	duodenum	Amylase Lipase Trypsin	Amylose-Maltose Lipids-Fatty acids and glycerol Proteins-Polypeptides
Intestinal Glands	Intestinal juices	Small intestine	Maltase Sucrase Lactase	Maltose-Glucose Sucrose-Glucose, fructose Lactose-Glucose, Galactose

ABSORPTION OF DIGESTED FOOD:-

Absorption of food in small intestine:-

The digested food is absorbed mainly in small intestine has the following features:-

- Intestine is very long.
- The lining of intestine is thin to allow rapid entry of substances.

- The inner wall of intestine contains numerous finger like projections called villi.
- The villi increase surface area of intestine to about five times for the absorption of digested food.
- Each villus is supplied by blood vessels.

Absorption in large intestine:-

Large intestine is about 1.5 meters long. It absorbs water and some salts from undigested food.

Assimilation:-

The absorbed nutrients are passed into the blood vessels and transport to different parts of the body. The fate of absorbed nutrients are as follows:-

- Glucose is used as a source of energy by the body.
- Excess of glucose is stored in the cells of liver as glycogen.
- The amino acids are used to build new living material of the cell.
- Fats are stored in the fatty tissues in various parts of the body.

EGESTION OF UNDIGESTED FOOD:-

The semi solid undigested food is pushed out of the anus . This is called Egestion or defecation. The undigested food residue that enters the rectum from large intestine is called the faeces.

Digestive System of Ruminant:-

The animals (such as cow) which eat grass have a special stomach to digest the tough cellulose carbohydrate present in grass. This cellulose can be digested by the action of certain bacteria which are present only in the stomach of animals called Ruminants like cattle(cows, buffaloes) ,goat , sheep , deer , antelope etc. The stomach of a cow is large and consists of four compartments namely:-

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. Rumen | 3. Omasum |
| 2. Reticulum | 4. Abomasum |

A ruminant herbivore eats plants and the matter goes into their first stomach called the rumen. Most of the digestion occurs in this chamber of the stomach. It then goes to the second chamber, reticulum. Here food is converted into pulp and returned to the mouth. This partially digested food in the rumen of a

cow is called Cud. After chewing its and, the ruminants re-swallow the food, which then passes to the second portion of the stomach. The digestion of food than starts in the other two chambers .The food material goes through the intestines and the things not digested is passed off as waste material. The process by which the cud is brought back from the stomach to the mouth and chewed again is called Ruminatation.

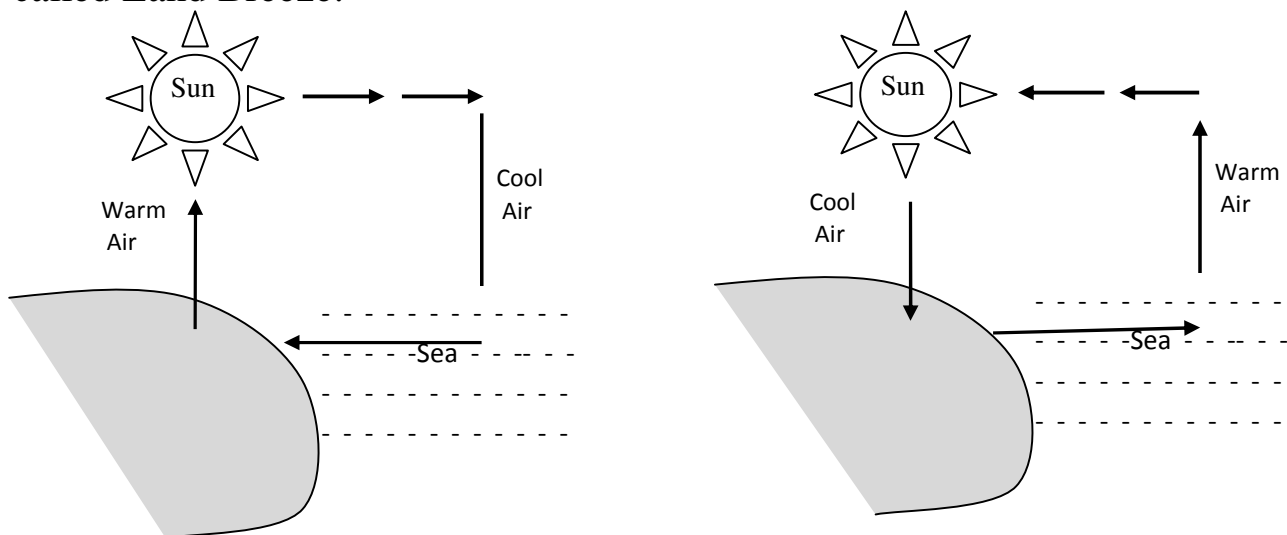
HEAT

Q.1. How land and sea breeze originate.

Ans. Sea breeze and land breeze that blow near the coastal areas are based on the transfer of heat in air by convection currents.

During the day, the land heats up much faster than sea water. So air above the land surface gets warmer and rises up. The cool air above the sea surface moves toward land to fill the space emptied by the rising warm air. This flow of cool air from sea towards the land is called Sea Breeze.

At night, the land cools much faster than the sea. So the air above the land surface is cooler than the air over the sea. The warm air above the sea rises up. The cool air above the land surface moves towards the sea to fill the space emptied by the rising warm air. This flow of air from land towards the air is called Land Breeze.



Q.2. Define conduction. What are the conditions necessary for conduction of heat?

Ans. Heat transfer through two or more objects that are in contact is called conduction. The conditions necessary for conduction of heat are:

- a. The two bodies should be in solid state.
- b. The two bodies should be in contact or touch each other.
- c. Their temperatures should be different (for heat to flow)

Q.3. Why is mercury used in liquid thermometers?

Ans. In most thermometers, mercury is used for the following reasons:-

- a. It expands equally for every degree of rise in temperature.
- b. It doesnot stick to the walls of the glass.
- c. Its boiling point is very high (357 °C) and melting point is low (– 38.83 °C). Therefore it can be used to measure a wide range of temperatures.
- d. Mercury is shiny, which makes it easily visible through the glass.

Q.4. Write the relation between Celsius and Kelvin scales?

Ans. We know that

$$0^{\circ}\text{C} = 32^{\circ}\text{F}$$

$$100^{\circ}\text{C} = 212^{\circ}\text{F}$$

Therefore, the interval of 100 in °C is equal to an interval of 180 in °F.
i.e the ratio of °C to °F is 100 : 180 or 5 :9.

To convert

$$1. \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C to }^{\circ}\text{F} \rightarrow F = \left(\frac{9}{5} \times C\right) + 32$$

$$2. \text{ }^{\circ}\text{F to }^{\circ}\text{C} \rightarrow C = \left(\frac{5}{9}\right) (F - 32)$$

Example 1:- Convert 10°C to °F

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Solution:- } F &= \left(\frac{9}{5} \times C\right) + 32 \\ &= \left(\frac{9}{5} \times 10\right) + 32 \\ &= 50^{\circ}\text{F} \end{aligned}$$

Example 2:- Convert 95°F to °C

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Solution:- } C &= \left(\frac{5}{9}\right) (F - 32) \\ &= \left(\frac{5}{9}\right) (95 - 32) \\ &= \left(\frac{5}{9} \times 63\right) \\ &= 35^{\circ}\text{C} \end{aligned}$$

Example 3:- At what temperature are the readings on the celcius and farenheit scales the same?

Solution:- Let x be the common reading

Then $C = F = X$

Using formula $C = \left(\frac{5}{9}\right)(F - 32)$

Substituting x for c & f we get

$$\rightarrow x = \left(\frac{5}{9}\right)(x - 32)$$

$$\rightarrow x = \frac{5}{9}x - 32 \times \frac{5}{9}$$

$$\rightarrow x - \frac{5}{9}x = -\frac{160}{9}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{9x - 5x}{9} = -\frac{160}{9}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{4x}{9} = -\frac{160}{9} \times \frac{9}{4}$$

$$= -40^{\circ}\text{F}$$

Q.5. Explain the use of a kink in a clinical thermometer?

Ans. Clinical thermometer have a kink in the capillary tube. The kink (bend) doesnot allow the mercury to fall as soon as the thermometer is taken out of the mouth. Due to this we can read, the correct body temperature of the patient.

Q.6. Distinguish between Celcius and Farenheit Scale.

Ans.

Celsius Scale	Fahrenheit Scale
a. This scale was created by Anders Celsius.	a. This scale was created by Gabriel Farenheit.
b. Temperature on this scale is measured in degree Celsius ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	b. Temperature on this scale is measured in degree Farenheit ($^{\circ}\text{F}$)
c. The lower fixed point is taken as 0°C .	c. The lower fixed point is taken as 32°F .
d. The upper fixed point is taken as 100°C .	d. The upper fixed point is taken as 212°F .
e. According to this scale, the normal body temperature is 37°C .	e. According to this scale, the normal body temperature is 98.6°F .

ENGLISH

The Greenhorn & the Mule Egg

Q.1. What did the city man do when he got real sick of working in the big city?

Ans. He quitted his job, packed up his luggage and moved with his wife and kids to Kansas to become a farmer.

Q.2. How did the family react on seeing the mule egg?

Ans. The family was quite thrilled on seeing the mule egg.

Q.3. What happened when the man threw away the mule egg?

Ans. When the man threw away the mule egg into the bushes, all of a sudden a giant jackrabbit bursted out of the tall grass and hopped away.

Q.4. Why did the city man run after the jackrabbit?

Ans. The City man ran after the jackrabbit because he thought it was the baby mule which had hatched from the egg.

Q.5. When the jackrabbit escaped, the man said, “And I’m not sorry it did” why did he say so?

Ans. He Said so because the jackrabbit was running fast and he thought he could never plough that fast.

Q.6. The Neighbour had concluded that the city man was a greenhorn. What might have made the neighbour think of the city man as a greenhorn?

Ans. The neighbour concluded that the city man was a greenhorn because the city man had inadequate knowledge about this new professional i.e. farming and he also asked him that where he could buy a mule from.

Q.7. Do you think the family could adjust and successfully lead a farmer’s life? Justify

Ans. No, it seems unlikely that the family could adjust and successfully lead a farmer’s life because they were greenhorns, they did not even know that mules do not hatch from eggs and they were also unable to differentiate between a baby mule and a jackrabbit.

Summary - Palanquin Bearer's (Sarojini Naidu)

The poem Palanquin Bearer's has been penned by sarojini naidu. It is one of the melodious poem by her in which palanquin bearers are singing a beautiful song while carrying a bride on their shoulders.

In this poem, the poet creates an imagery of a moving palanquin through the use of similes and metaphors. The poem generates images of a royal bride being carried on the palanquin to her husband's house. The poem also describes the beauty of the bride by comparing her with all the delicate things of the nature like flower, birds, star, precious pearl etc. the palanquin bearers are so delighted while carrying the bride on their shoulders because they consider it as their prestigious job.

The poem has a magical touch as the poet has shown the mixed feeling of a bride while leaving her home. The bride is sad because she is leaving her parents but at the same time she is happy also because she is going to start a new journey. In short, the poem depicts the ancient Indian culture in a very graceful manner.

Comprehension

Q1. Who are singing this song? Do you think they are happy doing what they are doing?

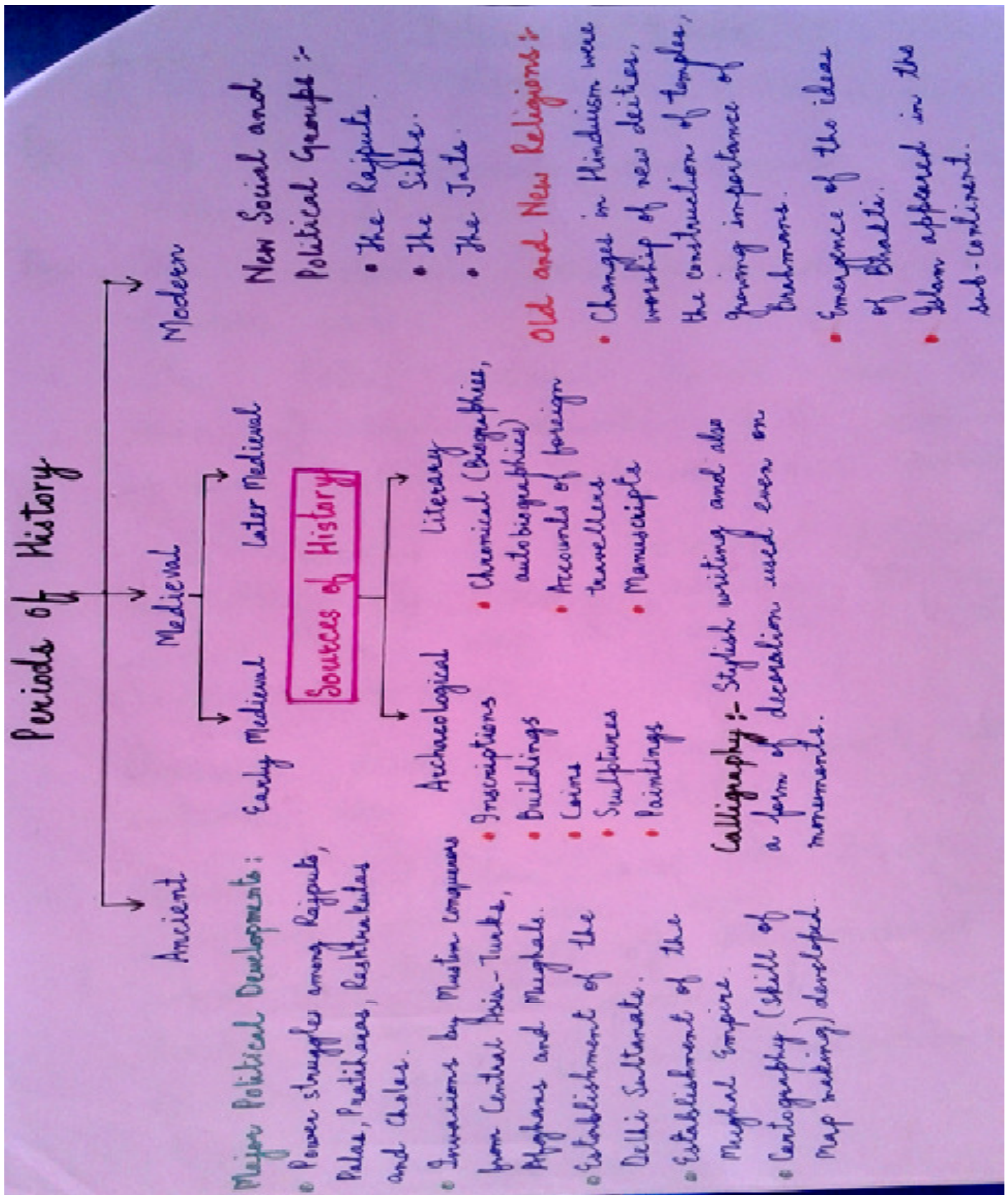
Ans: The Palanquin bearers are singing the song. Yes, they are happy because the word 'gaily' indicates happiness and they also consider it as their prestigious job which is quite evident from the poem.

Q2. Who do you think is sitting in the palanquin? Do you think the palanquin rider is very pretty? What makes you think so?

Ans. A Bride or a royal princess might be sitting in the palanquin. Yes, the poem clearly depicts that the rider is very pretty because she has been compared with flower, bird, pearl, star, and laugh.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

History:



Medieval India:

Long Answer Type Questions:

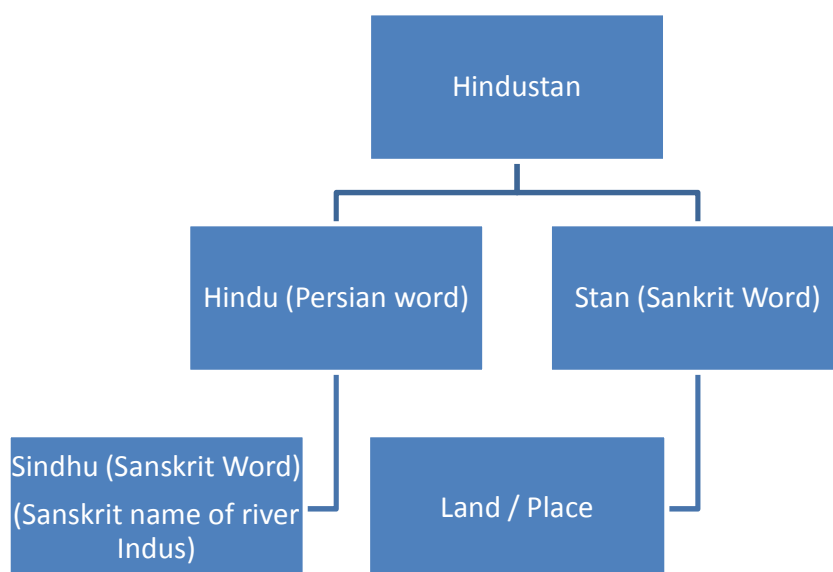
Q. List the historical developments during medieval period.

Ans. The historical developments during medieval period are:

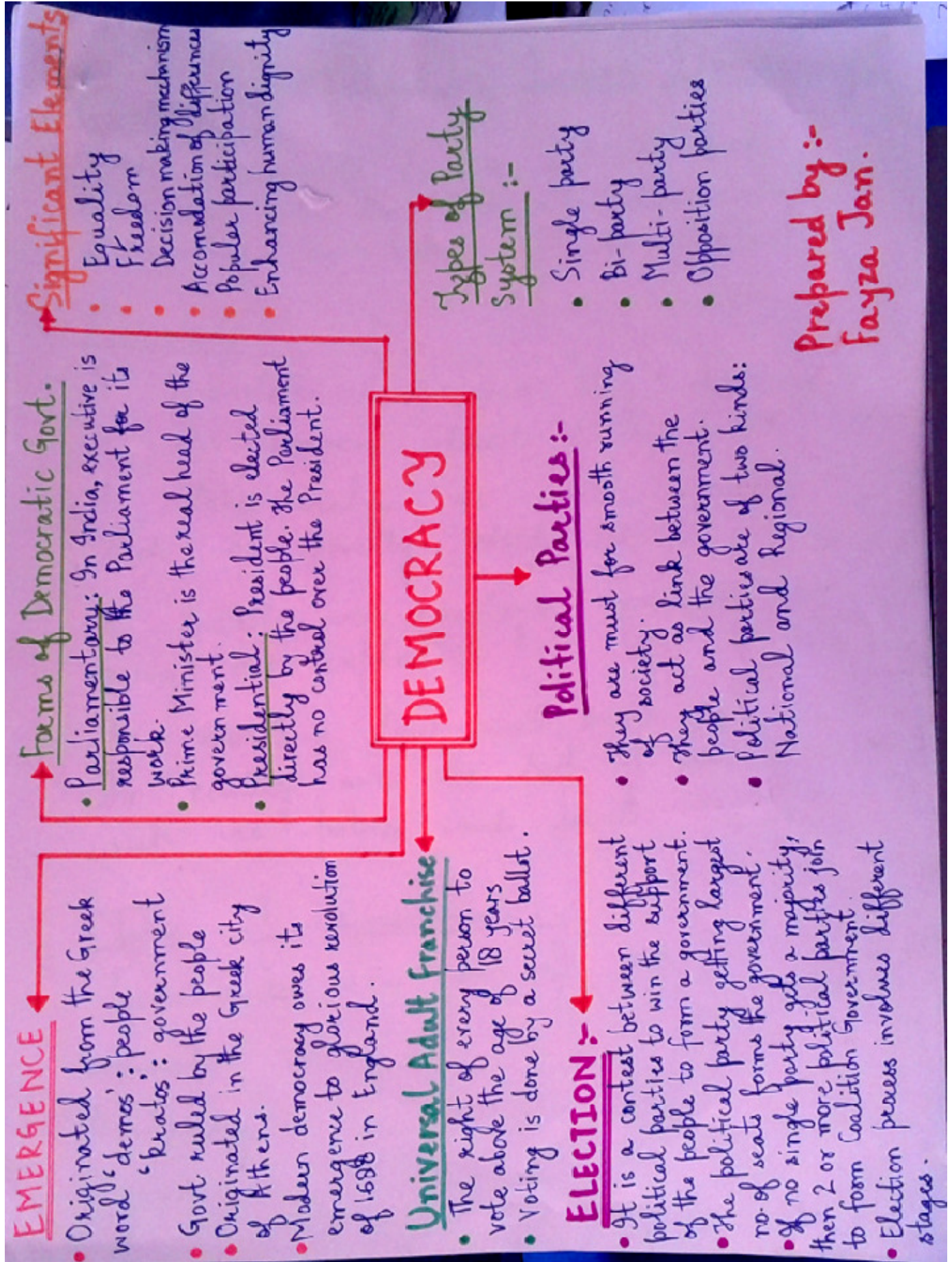
- The later medieval period saw the rise of Muslim dynasties. This resulted in several cultural influences and exchanges.
- The Muslim rulers provided political stability for many centuries. As a result, there was an increase in trade and commerce.
- Overseas trade flourished. Export and import was given impetus.
- Spread of Islam and the Bhakti and sufi movements were some of the important highlights of the medieval period. These movements spread the message of love and universal brotherhood.
- Art and architecture showcased a splendor like never before.

Q. The name Hindustan has been used since medieval times. What does Hindustan stand for?

Ans. Hindustan is derived from old Persian word Hindu which in turn is derived from sindhu – the sankrit word for river Indus and stan/sthan meaning land or place. The old Persian refers to the people living beyond the Indus as Hindus and their land as Hindustan.



The earliest traders from Persia and Middle east referred to the lands lying between Yamuna and Ganga as Hindustan because it was dominated by Hindus.



Equality in Indian Democracy

Government:

A Government is a political body entrusted with the task of administering a country on behalf of its people.

Functions:

- It formulates laws and takes decisions in the common interest of the people.
- It takes action on social issues, such as poverty, child labour, etc.
- It protects a country's resources from being over-exploited.
- It maintains law and order within the country with the help of agencies such as police and courts.

Types of Government:

Governments can be of different types:

- Monarchy
- Aristocracy
- Oligarchy
- Theocracy
- Dictatorship
- Democracy

Different types of government:

Monarchy :

A hereditary form of government by a single ruler (king / queen, emperor). It was the most common form of government during the medieval period.

Examples: Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

Aristocracy:

A hereditary form of government run by noblemen or people of a caste.

Examples: France before the French Revolution, the Kshatriya Rajput kingdoms of medieval India.

Oligarchy:

Government by a small group of people who hold all powers. Examples: Ancient Rome, South Africa when it was ruled only by the whites.

Theocracy:

Government by a group of religious leaders who rule in the name of god and where governance is based on the tenets of that religion. Examples: Iran, Vatican City.

Dictatorship:

Government by a person or group of people, who have seized power by force (often military dictatorship). Examples: Germany under Hitler, current-day Myanmar, Pakistan under the rule of General Zia-ul-Haq.

Democracy:

It is a system of government where people of the country can vote to elect their representatives example India.

Democracy:

The term “Democracy” is derived from 2-Greek words – ‘Demos’ meaning people and ‘Kratos’ meaning rule or government.

Thus in true sense it is a system of government where people of the country can vote to elect their representatives.

In democracy, people have power to elect their leaders. They participate in the process of governance directly. Or through the elected representatives.

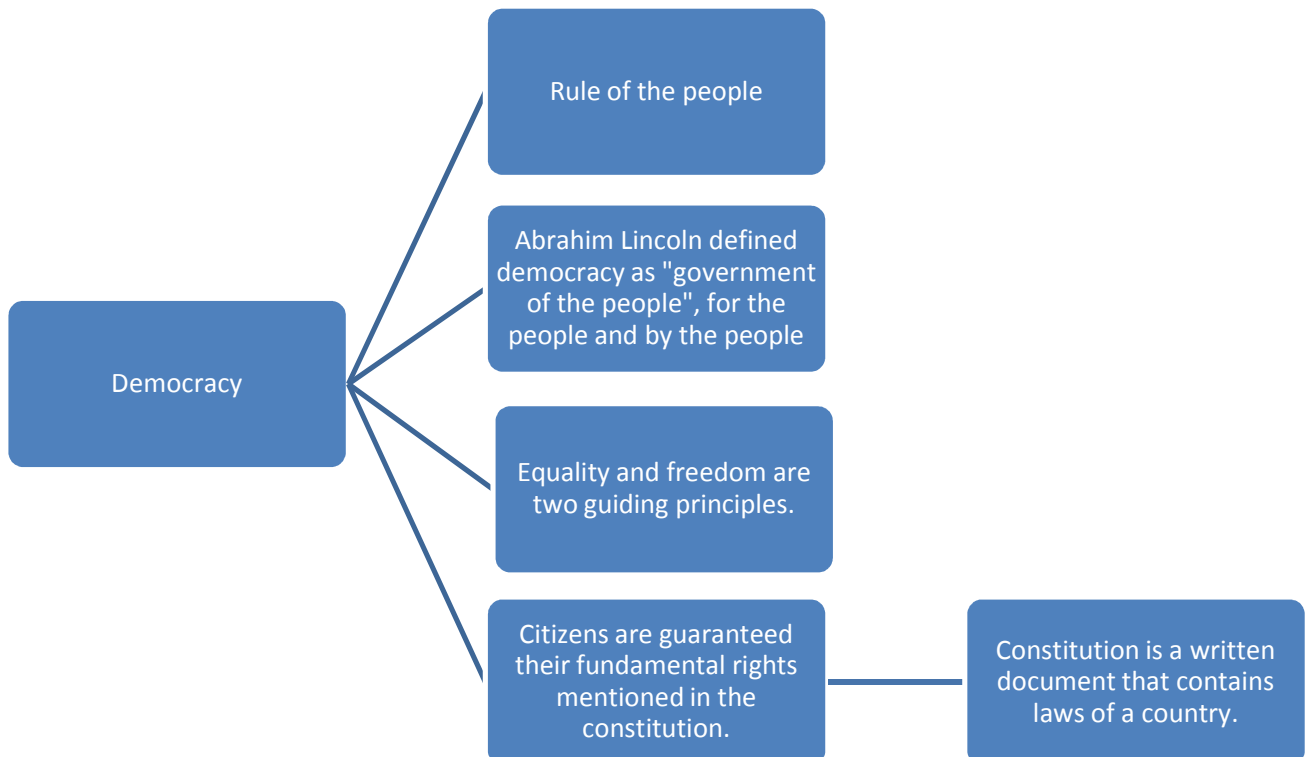
Universal Adult Franchise: (UAF)

- UAF is based on the principle of “one person one vote”.
- All the citizens of India above 18 years have the right to vote without any discrimination of race, caste, religion, colour or gender

Note:

The word ‘Franchise’ is derived from the French word “France” which means ‘free’. Thus franchise means that a person is free to choose his/her representative.

Explain in detail regarding what is democracy with the help of web chart.



Equality Through Welfare Schemes:

The aim of these programmes is to provide better opportunities to all regardless of any caste, class, religious or economic differences.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan – SSA

The SSA seeks to make education accessible to the maximum possible number of children in the age group of 6 – 14 years, especially girls and deprived sections of society.

National Rural Employment Guarantee Act: (NREGA)

It aims to generate employment opportunities for the youth in villages and also help in curbing migration in urban areas.

National Rural Health Mission : (NRHM)

It is supposed to provide better medical facilities to people in villages.

Midday Meal Scheme:

It is one of the important steps for promotion equality.

- The free food led to the increase in the number of enrolments.
- The attendance also improved.
- It also helped in reducing caste discrimination as persons of different castes are employed to cook these meals.
- Moreover, children of all castes have their meals together.

Civil Rights Act – 1964:

- It prohibited discrimination on grounds of race, religion and nationality.

Short Answer Questions:

Q. Which provisions made in the constitution shield people from maltreatment and discrimination?

The provisions that shield people from maltreatment and discrimination are:

- All people are equal in the eyes of law.
- The constitution prohibits discrimination on the basis of caste, class, religion, gender etc.
- The constitution forbids untouchability and its practice in any form.

- To include people with disabilities in the main stream, the government enacted a law in 1955.

Long Answer Type Questions:

Q. Discuss the key elements that make democracy the most popular form of government.

Ans. The key elements that make democracy the most popular form of government are:

- **Equality:** It is the most important element of democracy. Treating everyone equally and upholding the dignity of fellow citizens are core to democracy.
- **Universal Adult Franchise:** All the adult citizens have the right to cast their vote and choose their representatives. It is based on the principle of “One person, one vote” and each vote has equal value.
- Active participation by the citizens, freedom to express one’s opinion, justice etc are the main features of democratic government.
- **Do you agree that universal Adult Franchise is a unique feature that ensures equality amongst citizens? If yes, explain with the help of an example.**
- Yes, we agree that universal Adult Franchise is a unique feature that ensures equality among citizens. It is based on the principle of “one person, one vote”. In this feature of democracy all the citizens above the age of 18 years can cast their vote without any discrimination of caste, class, religion etc.
- **Example:** Kanha and Arti live in slums with their two kids. On the day of elections they went to a government school to cast their vote. There they noticed people belonging to different caste whether rich or poor were standing in the same queue. Both Kanha and Aarti were not aware about democracy but they feel that their vote has equal importance and value.

Towns, Traders and Craftsmen

Capital Cities

- These are court towns and the official seat of the government in a political entity.
- Nobles, officials, royal attendants, scholars and artists, settled here to serve the rulers.

Commercial Centres

- Busy urban centres developed along important trade routes.
- Buyers and sellers gathered here to trade.

TOWNS

Pilgrimage Centres

- People believed that visiting these centres washed away their sins.
- There were different pilgrimage centres for Hindus and Muslims.
- The temple authorities received land grants in which they could collect taxes.

Port Towns

- A port is a place where ships load and unload their goods.
- In the Medieval period, maritime trade and commerce developed at various sea ports.

Merchant Guilds

- Merchants dealing in the same kind of goods formed guilds.
- They controlled the prices, quality and distribution of goods.

Towns, Traders and Craftsmen

Key Concepts:

Heats : Occasional or weekly markets.
Mandi : Wholesale markets.

Classification of Towns:

Towns are classified into various types, according to the nature of their functions.

- Capital towns
- Temple towns
- Pilgrimage towns
- Craft towns
- Commercial towns

Capital Towns:

Capital towns were magnificent and became important as the kings lived and held their royal courts here. As a result, they became policy-making and implementing huk and administrative centres. These towns are also called Administrative centres.

Temple and Pilgrimage Towns:

Temple and Pilgrimage towns gained importance because of the devotees who thronged the towns to worship their deities. Temples became important centres of economic and cultural activity from 8th century AD onwards. Important towns that came up in this way include somnath and Dwaraka in Gujrat, Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh, Kanctipuram, Thanjaveir, and Madurai in Tamil Nadu, Hampi in Karnataka etc.

Craft Towns:

Many towns grew up around centres of crafts. Bidar emerged as an important centre for inlay work in copper and silver, which is also as Bidri. Lahore was an important centre for handicrafts and silk production. Murshidabad was famous for it silk, kanchipuram and Thanjavur were also important centres for weaving.

Commercial Towns:

During the medieval period, trade flourished both within the subcontinent as well as with other countries. A good network of roads also helped boost internal trade. As a result, many towns developed into major trade centres, Peshawar, Multan, Lahore, Ahmadab, Limbodar (Gujrat) , Agra and Delhi were among important trading towns. Many commercial towns also came up in region where arts, crafts, or certain items that were in great demand were produced.

Important towns:

➤ HAMPI:

- Capital of vijaynagar empire.
- Vijayanagar reached the peak of its glory under Raja Krishna Deva Raya.
- The city was well fortified.
- It has excellent monolithic sculptures and movements along with the temples.
- Some famous movements are:
 - The Vithala Temple.
 - The Pampapathi Temple.
- The Karnataka government organizes vijayanagar festival in December every year.
- Vijayanagar empire came to an end in 1565 CE. When its forces were defeated in battle by the combined forces of Bijapur, Golkonda and Ahmadnagar.

➤ NASULIPATNAM:

- It developed as a port city on the coromandal coast in the delta of river Krishna.
- It was known for the production of dyed cotton cloth called chintz.
- Kalamkari was also a famous technique.
- The place got its name for the construction of a gateway to the town decorated with eyes to fish.
- It is one of the earliest known British settlements in India.
- It was British East India companies first trading port on the coromandal coast.

➤ SURAT:

- It is situated on the left bank of the apti in Gujrat.
- It was India's first port under the Mughals.
- It was an important centre of textile trade.
- Today, it has India's thriving diamond polishing industry.
- It is also the hub of synthetic fibres and man-made fabrics.
- It also has a flourishing ship-building industry.
- It lost its importance after Bombay became the chief centre of overseas trade with Europe.