

**STD – VI**  
**SOCIAL STUDY**

**KEY ELEMENTS OF A DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT (CIVICS)**

**ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:-**

Q1. How did Abraham Lincoln define democracy?

Ans. The great President of the U.S.A Abraham Lincoln defined democracy in the following words - "Democracy is a government of the people, by the people and for the people."

Q2. Mention one purpose for which rallies may be held.

Ans. In a democratic country rallies may be held:-

- To criticize the government.
- To protest against the government policies.
- To force the government to fulfil the demands of the people.
- To pressurize the government to make laws for the welfare of citizen of the nation.

Q3. Why does our constitution say that India is a Republic?

Ans. Our constitution says that India is a Democratic Republic because the country is governed by a President elected by the people of the country. He/she is an elected head of state.

Q4. Why do democratic countries hold elections at a regular interval?

Ans. Democratic countries hold elections at regular intervals because:

- This gives power to the people to change a government that cannot satisfy their aspirations.
- The people participate in forming government by voting for their representatives.
- These representatives make laws for the country.
- The government is elected for a fixed period of time.
- Thus the citizens have the right to change the government by voting out the unpopular representatives.

Q5. Why does our constitution have provision for reservations?

Ans. Our constitution has provisions for reservations because in a democracy everybody has the right to get justice, fair treatment and equal opportunity. Therefore, our constitution grants some special benefits for schedule castes, schedule tribes, women and educationally and socially backward classes.

If any person faces discrimination he or she can seek justice in a court of law.

This is to bring everyone at par with each other.

Q6. What is meant by "secular" in the Preamble?

Ans. The Preamble proclaims India to be secular because of two reasons:-

- There is no official religion of India.
- All religions are treated and respected equally.

Q7. Give four features to prove that India is a democracy.

Ans. India is a democratic republic because:-

- Elections are held at regular intervals and all citizens above 18 years can vote.
- In a democratic country, the people can criticise the government.
- They can express their views through different media such as television and newspaper.
- In a democratic country people have freedom to practice the religion of their choice.
- All Indian citizens are equal before law.