



<https://ebookncert.com/>

NCERT Civics (Political Science) Class 10th

Chapter 1: Power Sharing

Overview On Power Sharing

Introduction to Power Sharing

1. Continuation of Democracy Study:

- This chapter builds upon the study of democracy from the previous year.

2. Distribution of Power in Democracy:

- No single organ (*Legislature, Executive, Judiciary*) holds all power.
- Intelligent sharing of power is essential for democracy.

Case Studies on Power Sharing

1. Stories from Belgium and Sri Lanka:

- These countries demonstrate different approaches to power-sharing.
- The cases highlight challenges in accommodating diverse social groups.

2. Lessons from Belgium and Sri Lanka:

- Help understand how democracies handle power-sharing demands.
- Show the importance of inclusive governance in a democracy.

Significance of Power Sharing

1. Key Takeaways on Power Sharing:

- Essential for maintaining democracy and preventing conflicts.
- Ensures representation and participation of all communities.

2. Forms of Power Sharing (Explored in Future Chapters):

- Different models of power-sharing will be discussed in detail in the next two chapters.

Overview of Belgium and Sri Lanka

1. Resuming the Tour of Democracy:

- Continuation from the previous year's exploration of democracy.
- Focus on the concept of power-sharing in a democratic system.

2. Core Idea of Democracy:

- In a democracy, all power does not rest with a single organ of government.
- There is an intelligent sharing of power among the legislature, executive, and judiciary.

3. Focus of the Chapter:

- Examines how democracies handle demands for power-sharing.
- Discusses examples from Belgium and Sri Lanka to illustrate power-sharing challenges and solutions.

4. Purpose of the Stories:

- Stories from Belgium and Sri Lanka provide insights into:
- The importance of power-sharing in democracy.
- General conclusions about its necessity.

5. Preview of Upcoming Content:

- Introduces various forms of power-sharing.
- Sets the stage for a detailed discussion in the subsequent two chapters.

Belgium and Sri Lanka

Belgium

1. Geographical Details:

- Belgium is a small country in Europe, smaller in area than the state of Haryana.
- Shares borders with France, the Netherlands, Germany, and Luxembourg.
- Population: Slightly over one crore, about half the population of Haryana.

2. Ethnic Composition:

- 59% live in the Flemish region and speak Dutch.

- 40% live in the Wallonia region and talk to French.
- 1% talk to German.
- In Brussels:
 - a. 80% speak French.
 - b. 20% speak Dutch.

3. Community Tensions:

- The French-speaking minority was rich and powerful.
- The Dutch-speaking majority resented their delayed access to economic development and education.
- Tensions arose in the 1950s and 1960s, especially in Brussels, where:
 - a. Dutch-speaking people comprised the majority of the country but were a minority in the capital.

Sri Lanka

1. Geographical Details:

- Island nation near Tamil Nadu.
- Population: Approximately two crore, similar to Haryana.

2. Ethnic Composition:

- **Major social groups:**
 - a. Sinhala-speakers: 74%.
 - b. Tamil-speakers: 18%.
- **Tamil sub-groups:**
 - a. Sri Lankan Tamils: 13%, native to the country.
 - b. Indian Tamils: Descendants of plantation workers brought during the colonial period.
 - c. Sri Lankan Tamils are concentrated in the north and east.

- **Religious composition:**
 - a. Most Sinhalas are Buddhists.
 - b. Most Tamils are Hindus or Muslims.
 - c. 7% Christians (both Tamil and Sinhala).

Comparative Analysis: Belgium vs. Sri Lanka

1. Potential Conflict in Belgium:

- The Dutch-speaking majority could impose its will on the French and German-speaking minorities.
- Conflict could escalate, leading to the partition of Belgium, especially over Brussels.

2. Potential Conflict in Sri Lanka:

- The Sinhala majority enjoyed greater dominance and could impose its will on the Tamil-speaking minority.
- Such imposition could fuel inter-ethnic conflicts.

3. Additional Key Concept:

- Ethnic Definition:
 - a. A social division based on shared culture.
 - b. Members of an ethnic group believe in common descent due to similarities in physical type, culture, or both.
 - c. Religion or nationality may not necessarily align with ethnicity.

MCQ's on NCERT Civics Class 10 Chapter 1 Topic

– Belgium and Sri Lanka

Here are top exam oriented mcq's type questions that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

Question 1. What is the geographical location of Belgium?

- a) In North America
- b) In Asia
- c) In Europe
- d) In Africa

Answer: c) In Europe

Question 2. Belgium shares its borders with which countries?

- a) France, Germany, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands
- b) France, Spain, Italy, and Portugal
- c) Germany, Poland, Austria, and Switzerland
- d) Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and Finland

Answer: a) France, Germany, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands

Question 3. The population of Belgium is slightly over:

- a) Two crore
- b) One crore
- c) Five crores
- d) Ten lakh

Answer: b) One crore

Question 4. What percentage of Belgium's population lives in the Flemish region and speaks Dutch?

- a) 40%
- b) 59%
- c) 1%
- d) 80%

Answer: b) 59%

Question 5. In Belgium, what is the ethnic composition of Brussels?

- a) 20% French-speaking, 80% Dutch-speaking
- b) 50% Dutch-speaking, 50% French-speaking
- c) 80% French-speaking, 20% Dutch-speaking
- d) 100% German-speaking

Answer: c) 80% French-speaking, 20% Dutch-speaking

Question 6. What was the primary cause of tensions in Belgium during the 1950s and 1960s?

- a) Economic decline in the Flemish region
- b) Delay in economic development and education for the Dutch-speaking majority
- c) Religious differences between Catholics and Protestants
- d) Border disputes with neighbouring countries

Answer: b) Delay in economic development and education for the Dutch-speaking majority

Question 7. Where is Sri Lanka located geographically?

- a) Near Tamil Nadu, India
- b) Near Myanmar, Southeast Asia

- c) Near the Maldives, Indian Ocean
- d) Near Pakistan, South Asia

Answer: a) Near Tamil Nadu, India

Question 8. What is the approximate population of Sri Lanka?

- a) One crore
- b) Two crore
- c) Five crore
- d) Ten crore

Answer: b) Two crore

Question 9. What percentage of Sri Lanka's population is Sinhala-speaking?

- a) 18%
- b) 74%
- c) 13%
- d) 7%

Answer: b) 74%

Question 10. The Tamil-speaking population in Sri Lanka can be categorized as:

- a) Sinhala Tamils and Buddhist Tamils
- b) Sri Lankan Tamils and Indian Tamils
- c) Northern Tamils and Southern Tamils
- d) Hindu Tamils and Muslim Tamils

Answer: b) Sri Lankan Tamils and Indian Tamils

Question 11. What percentage of Sri Lanka's population comprises Christians (both Tamil and Sinhala)?

- a) 18%
- b) 7%
- c) 13%
- d) 74%

Answer: b) 7%

Question 12. Most Sinhalas in Sri Lanka follow which religion?

- a) Hinduism
- b) Buddhism
- c) Islam
- d) Christianity

Answer: b) Buddhism

Question 13. Which group is primarily concentrated in the northern and eastern parts of Sri Lanka?

- a) Sinhala Buddhists
- b) Indian Tamils
- c) Sri Lankan Tamils
- d) Muslim Tamils

Answer: c) Sri Lankan Tamils

Question 14. What was the potential conflict in Belgium?

- a) The dominance of the French-speaking community
- b) The dominance of the Dutch-speaking community

- c) Inter-religious disputes
- d) Ethnic conflicts among Tamils and Sinhallas

Answer: b) The dominance of the Dutch-speaking community

Question 15. In Sri Lanka, inter-ethnic conflict arose due to:

- a) Equal political representation of Tamils and Sinhallas
- b) The dominance of the Sinhala majority over Tamils
- c) Border disputes with India
- d) Economic struggles between Sri Lankan Tamils and Indian Tamils

Answer: b) The dominance of the Sinhala majority over Tamils

Question 16. What is the definition of ethnicity according to the content?

- a) A social division based on religion
- b) A social division based on nationality
- c) A social division based on shared culture and belief in common descent
- d) A social division based on language only

Answer: c) A social division based on shared culture and belief in common descent

Question 17. What could have been the result of unresolved tensions in Belgium?

- a) Partition of Belgium, especially over Brussels
- b) An alliance with neighbouring countries
- c) Civil war between Dutch-speaking and French-speaking regions
- d) Complete dominance of German-speaking communities

Answer: a) Partition of Belgium, especially over Brussels

Question 18. In Sri Lanka, the Tamil-speaking community primarily consisted of:

- a) Buddhists
- b) Hindus and Muslims
- c) Christians
- d) Jews

Answer: b) Hindus and Muslims

Question 19. What distinguishes Sri Lankan Tamils from Indian Tamils in Sri Lanka?

- a) Sri Lankan Tamils are descendants of plantation workers.
- b) Sri Lankan Tamils are native to the country, while Indian Tamils were brought during the colonial period.
- c) Indian Tamils primarily reside in the north, while Sri Lankan Tamils reside in the south.
- d) Indian Tamils are part of the Sinhala community.

Answer: b) Sri Lankan Tamils are native to the country, while Indian Tamils were brought during the colonial period.

Majoritarianism in Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka's Independence and Initial Policies

1. Independence and Majoritarianism:

- Sri Lanka became an independent country in 1948.

- Sinhala leaders sought to secure dominance in government due to their majority.
- The government adopted majoritarian measures to establish Sinhala supremacy.

2. Majoritarian Measures:

- 1956 Act: Declared Sinhala as the only official language, disregarding Tamil.
- Preferential policies favoured Sinhala applicants for university positions and government jobs.
- The constitution mandated the state to protect and foster Buddhism.

Impact on Sri Lankan Tamils

1. Feeling of Alienation:

- Sri Lankan Tamils felt alienated due to:
 - a. Insensitivity to their language and culture.
 - b. Discrimination in political rights, education, jobs, and opportunities.
- Major political parties led by Buddhist Sinhala leaders ignored Tamil interests.

2. Strained Relations:

- Increasing alienation led to strained relations between the Sinhala and Tamil communities.

Tamil Resistance and Conflict

1. Tamil Demands and Struggles:

- Sri Lankan Tamils demanded:
- Tamil as an official language.
- Regional autonomy.
- Equal opportunities in education and employment.
- Their demands for autonomy in Tamil-populated provinces were repeatedly denied.

2. Political Organisations and Tamil Eelam:

- By the 1980s, Tamil political organisations demanded an independent Tamil Eelam in northern and eastern Sri Lanka.

3. Civil War:

- Distrust between communities escalated into widespread conflict and civil war.
- Thousands were killed, and many families became refugees or lost livelihoods.
- The civil war caused severe setbacks to Sri Lanka's social, cultural, and economic life.
- The civil war ended in 2009.

Key Concept

1. Majoritarianism:

- The belief is that the majority community can rule the country as it wishes, disregarding the wishes and needs of the minority.

MCQ's on NCERT Civics Class 10 Chapter 1 Topic

– Majoritarianism in Sri Lanka

Here are top exam oriented mcq's type questions on Majoritarianism in Sri Lanka that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

Question 1. When did Sri Lanka emerge as an independent country?

- a) 1947
- b) 1948
- c) 1950
- d) 1956

Answer: b) 1948

Question 2. What measures did the Sinhala leaders take to establish their dominance?

- a) Promoting equal opportunities for all communities
- b) Adopting majoritarian policies favouring the Sinhala community
- c) Establishing Tamil as the second official language
- d) Forming a coalition government with Tamil leaders

Answer: b) Adopting majoritarian policies favouring the Sinhala community

Question 3. Which Act passed in 1956 disregarded Tamil as an official language?

- a) Tamil Recognition Act
- b) Sinhala Supremacy Act
- c) Official Language Act
- d) Language Equality Act

Answer: c) Official Language Act

Question 4. What did the 1956 Act recognize as the only official language of Sri Lanka?

- a) Tamil
- b) English
- c) Sinhala
- d) Pali

Answer: c) Sinhala

Question 5. What policies did the Sri Lankan government follow to favour the Sinhala community?

- a) Preferential policies in education and jobs
- b) Establishing Tamil universities
- c) Implementing equal rights for all communities
- d) Providing special economic benefits to Tamils

Answer: a) Preferential policies in education and jobs

Question 6. What was stipulated in the new constitution of Sri Lanka to further Sinhala dominance?

- a) Protection of Tamil culture
- b) Adoption of Buddhism as a state religion
- c) Equal representation for all ethnic groups
- d) Establishment of Tamil Eelam

Answer: b) Adoption of Buddhism as a state religion

Question 7. How did the Sri Lankan Tamils feel about the government policies?

- a) Empowered and supported
- b) Alienated and discriminated against
- c) Respected and valued
- d) Equal beneficiaries of all policies

Answer: b) Alienated and discriminated against

Question 8. What demands were made by the Sri Lankan Tamils?

- a) Independence for Sinhala regions
- b) Recognition of Tamil as an official language and regional autonomy
- c) Abolition of the Buddhist constitution
- d) Full integration into the Sinhala culture

Answer: b) Recognition of Tamil as an official language and regional autonomy

Question 9. What specific rights did Sri Lankan Tamils feel were denied to them?

- a) Equal political rights
- b) Opportunities in education and jobs
- c) Recognition of their language and culture
- d) All of the above

Answer: d) All of the above

Question 10. What was the Tamil demand for autonomy primarily related to?

- a) Western provinces
- b) Northern and eastern provinces

- c) Central provinces
- d) Southern provinces

Answer: b) Northern and eastern provinces

Question 11. What major demand led to the formation of political organizations by Tamils in the 1980s?

- a) Creation of an independent Tamil Eelam
- b) Recognition of Sinhala as the only language
- c) Adoption of Buddhism as a state religion
- d) Equal representation in Sinhala regions

Answer: a) Creation of an independent Tamil Eelam

Question 12. What was the outcome of the growing distrust between the Sinhala and Tamil communities?

- a) Peaceful resolution of disputes
- b) Widespread conflict and civil war
- c) Recognition of Tamil as the official language
- d) Integration of Tamil and Sinhala communities

Answer: b) Widespread conflict and civil war

Question 13. When did the civil war in Sri Lanka end?

- a) 1980
- b) 1999
- c) 2009
- d) 2015

Answer: c) 2009

Question 14. What were the consequences of the civil war in Sri Lanka?

- a) Thousands of deaths
- b) Families displaced as refugees
- c) Loss of livelihoods and setbacks to the country's social, cultural, and economic life
- d) All of the above

Answer: d) All of the above

Question 15. What is majoritarianism?

- a) A system where minority communities have greater control over governance
- b) A belief that the majority community should rule the country by disregarding the minority's needs
- c) Equal representation for all communities in governance
- d) A policy promoting religious equality

Answer: b) A belief that the majority community should rule the country by disregarding the minority's needs

Question 16. Which of the following best illustrates majoritarianism in Sri Lanka?

- a) Equal political representation for Tamils and Sinhalas
- b) Recognition of Tamil culture and language
- c) Favoritism toward Sinhala community in governance and education
- d) Autonomous governance for Tamil regions

Answer: c) Favoritism toward Sinhala community in governance and education

Question 17. What role did Buddhism play in the context of majoritarianism in Sri Lanka?

- a) It was sidelined by the government policies.
- b) It was promoted and protected by the state.
- c) It became a secondary religion to Tamil Hinduism.
- d) It had no influence on the political landscape.

Answer: b) It was promoted and protected by the state.

Question 18. Why did the Tamil demands for autonomy remain unfulfilled?

- a) Lack of political representation by Tamil leaders
- b) Repeated denial by the Sinhala-dominated government
- c) Lack of support from international organizations
- d) Disinterest among Tamil communities

Answer: b) Repeated denial by the Sinhala-dominated government

Question 19. What was the primary cause of alienation among Sri Lankan Tamils?

- a) Equal representation in governance
- b) Discrimination in jobs and education
- c) Inclusion of Tamil in the constitution
- d) Preferential treatment for Tamil-speaking people

Answer: b) Discrimination in jobs and education

Accommodation in Belgium

The Belgian Model

1. Recognition of Diversity:

- Belgian leaders acknowledged regional differences and cultural diversities.
- The constitution was amended four times (1970–1993) to ensure peaceful coexistence.

2. Innovative Power-Sharing Model:

- Unique arrangement, unlike any other country.
- Aimed at accommodating all communities within a unified nation.

3. Key Features of the Belgian Model:

- **Central Government:**
 - a. Equal number of Dutch and French-speaking ministers.
 - b. Special laws require majority support from each linguistic group.
 - c. No single community can make unilateral decisions.
- **State Governments:**
 - a. Significant powers transferred to State Governments.
 - b. State Governments are not subordinate to the Central Government.
- **Brussels Government:**
 - a. Separate government with equal representation for Dutch and French communities.
 - b. French-speaking people accepted this due to Dutch equal representation in the Central Government.
- **Community Government:**
 - a. Third type of government elected by linguistic communities

(Dutch, French, German-speaking).

b. Handles cultural, educational, and language-related issues.

4. Outcomes of the Model:

- Avoided civic strife and possible division along linguistic lines.
- Chosen as a model of cooperation; Brussels became the headquarters of the European Union.

Comparative Analysis of Belgium and Sri Lanka

1. Belgium's Approach:

- Emphasis on **respecting diverse communities** and their interests.
- Resulted in **mutually acceptable power-sharing arrangements.**
- Fostered unity by accommodating differences.

2. Sri Lanka's Approach:

- The majority community (Sinhala) imposed its dominance.
- Refusal to share power undermined unity, leading to civil strife.

Key Terms and Learnings

1. Civil War Definition:

- A violent conflict between opposing groups within a country, resembles war in intensity.

2. Lessons from Belgium and Sri Lanka:

- **Belgium:** Unity can be achieved by respecting and sharing power among different communities.
- **Sri Lanka:** Dominance by a majority community can lead to division and conflict.

Why power sharing is desirable?

1. Reasons for Power Sharing:

- **Prudential Reasons for Power Sharing:**
 - a. Power sharing **reduces the possibility of conflict** between social groups
 - b. Prevents **violence and political instability** caused by social conflicts.
 - c. Ensures the **stability of the political order.**
 - d. Imposing the majority's will may seem effective in the short term but undermines the **unity of the nation** in the long run.
 - e. The **tyranny of the majority** is oppressive for minorities and often harms the majority itself.
- **Moral Reasons for Power Sharing:**
 - a. Core of Democracy: Power sharing is the essence of democratic governance.
 - b. Democracy requires sharing power with those **affected by its exercise** and who live under its effects.
 - c. People have the **right to participate and be consulted** on how they are governed.
 - d. A legitimate government gains its legitimacy when citizens, through participation, **acquire a stake in the system.**

2. Distinction Between Prudential and Moral Reasons:

- **Prudential vs. Moral Reasons:**
 - a. Prudential Reasons:**
 - i. Based on careful calculation of **gains and losses**.
 - ii. Emphasizes **better outcomes** through power sharing.
 - b. Moral Reasons:**
 - i. Emphasizes the **value of the act** of power-sharing itself.
- Stresses the importance of democratic ideals and participation.

3. Definition

- **Prudential:**
 - a.** Based on **prudence** (careful calculation of benefits and risks).
 - b.** Contrasted with decisions based solely on **moral considerations**.

MCQ's on NCERT Civics Class 10 Chapter 1 Topic – Accommodation in Belgium

Here are top exam oriented mcq's type questions on "Accommodation in Belgium" that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

Question 1. Between which years did Belgium amend its constitution four times?

- a) 1960-1980
- b) 1970-1993
- c) 1980-2000
- d) 1993-2010

Answer: b) 1970-1993

Question 2. What is the unique feature of the Belgian model?

- a) Complete dominance of the central government
- b) Equal representation of Dutch and French-speaking ministers in the central government
- c) Abolishment of state governments
- d) No role for linguistic groups in governance

Answer: b) Equal representation of Dutch and French-speaking ministers in the central government

Question 3. Which laws in Belgium require the support of a majority of members from each linguistic group?

- a) Religious laws
- b) Educational laws
- c) Special laws
- d) Economic laws

Answer: c) Special laws

Question 4. What powers were given to the state governments in Belgium?

- a) Limited powers subordinate to the central government
- b) Equal powers, independent of the central government
- c) Only cultural and linguistic powers
- d) No powers were given to the state governments

Answer: b) Equal powers, independent of the central government

Question 5. What is the composition of the Brussels government?

- a) Dominated by Dutch-speaking representatives
- b) Dominated by French-speaking representatives
- c) Equal representation of Dutch and French-speaking communities
- d) No representation of linguistic groups

Answer: c) Equal representation of Dutch and French-speaking communities

Question 6. What is the third type of government in Belgium called?

- a) Central government
- b) State government
- c) Community Government
- d) Regional government

Answer: c) Community Government

Question 7. What powers does the community government in Belgium have?

- a) Cultural, educational, and language-related issues
- b) Defense and foreign affairs
- c) Economic and industrial policies
- d) Judicial and law enforcement

Answer: a) Cultural, educational, and language-related issues

Question 8. Why was Brussels chosen as the headquarters of the European Union?

- a) Because of its historical significance
- b) Due to its successful power-sharing model

- c) Because it is a French-speaking region
- d) Due to its geographical location in Eastern Europe

Answer: b) Due to its successful power-sharing model

Question 9. What does Belgium teach us about power-sharing?

- a) Majority dominance leads to unity
- b) Respect for all communities ensures unity
- c) Centralized power is the best approach
- d) Cultural diversity should be suppressed

Answer: b) Respect for all communities ensures unity

Question 10. What does the Sri Lankan example highlight about power-sharing?

- a) Power sharing strengthens the majority
- b) Imposing majority rule undermines national unity
- c) Avoiding power-sharing ensures stability
- d) Suppressing minorities leads to long-term peace

Answer: b) Imposing majority rule undermines national unity

Question 11. What was the main contrasting feature between Belgium and Sri Lanka's approach to governance?

- a) Belgium ignored cultural diversity, while Sri Lanka respected it
- b) Belgium respected diversity, while Sri Lanka imposed majority dominance
- c) Both countries adopted majoritarian measures
- d) Both countries encouraged cultural suppression

Answer: b) Belgium respected diversity, while Sri Lanka imposed majority dominance

Question 12. What is a key benefit of power sharing according to prudential reasons?

- a) Reducing the possibility of social conflicts
- b) Ensuring majority dominance
- c) Increasing centralized control
- d) Avoiding participation of minorities

Answer: a) Reducing the possibility of social conflicts

Question 13. What is the moral reason for power sharing in a democracy?

- a) It reduces political instability
- b) It ensures better economic outcomes
- c) It upholds the spirit of democracy
- d) It promotes cultural diversity

Answer: c) It upholds the spirit of democracy

Question 14. What does the tyranny of the majority refer to?

- a) Rule by consensus
- b) Oppression of the minority by the majority
- c) Equal representation of all groups
- d) Economic advantages for the majority

Answer: b) Oppression of the minority by the majority

Question 15. Why is power sharing considered the very spirit of democracy?

- a) It centralizes governance
- b) It allows citizens to participate and have a stake in the system
- c) It ensures the majority community controls governance
- d) It prevents the formation of regional governments

Answer: b) It allows citizens to participate and have a stake in the system

Question 16. What type of reasons emphasize the positive outcomes of power-sharing?

- a) Economic reasons
- b) Moral reasons
- c) Prudential reasons
- d) Political reasons

Answer: c) Prudential reasons

Question 17. What happens in the long run if the majority imposes its will over others?

- a) It strengthens the unity of the nation
- b) It undermines the unity of the nation
- c) It leads to economic growth
- d) It ensures cultural harmony

Answer: b) It undermines the unity of the nation

Question 18. What is the definition of “prudential”?

- a) Based on moral considerations
- b) Based on careful calculation of gains and losses
- c) Focused on short-term benefits
- d) Driven by cultural beliefs

Answer: b) Based on careful calculation of gains and losses

Question 19. What is one of the main elements of the Belgian power-sharing model?

- a) Dominance of the central government over all regions
- b) Decentralization of powers to state governments
- c) Equal representation for all religions in the central government
- d) Focus only on economic issues

Answer: b) Decentralization of powers to state governments

Question 20. How is the linguistic group representation ensured in Belgium's central government?

- a) Dutch-speaking ministers dominate
- b) Equal representation of Dutch and French-speaking ministers
- c) French-speaking ministers dominate
- d) No fixed representation for any linguistic group

Answer: b) Equal representation of Dutch and French-speaking ministers

Question 21. Why did the French-speaking people accept equal representation in Brussels?

- a) They were the majority in the country
- b) The Dutch-speaking community accepted equal representation in the central

government

- c) They wanted to avoid a civil war
- d) Brussels was already dominated by French-speaking people

Answer: b) The Dutch-speaking community accepted equal representation in the central government

Question 22. What role does the 'community government' play in Belgium?

- a) Handles cultural, educational, and language-related issues
- b) Controls defense and foreign affairs
- c) Supervises economic policies
- d) Focuses on international trade

Answer: a) Handles cultural, educational, and language-related issues

Question 23. Which of the following is NOT true about the Belgian power-sharing model?

- a) Central government laws need the support of majority members from each linguistic group
- b) State governments are subordinate to the central government
- c) Community governments are based on linguistic groups
- d) Brussels has equal representation of both communities

Answer: b) State governments are subordinate to the central government

Question 24. What is the primary purpose of the Belgian power-sharing arrangement?

- a) To promote economic development
- b) To avoid civic strife and division on linguistic lines
- c) To ensure religious harmony
- d) To promote international trade relations

Answer: b) To avoid civic strife and division on linguistic lines

Question 25. What does the term 'special laws' refer to in the Belgian context?

- a) Laws that only apply to the Brussels region
- b) Laws requiring approval from majority members of each linguistic group
- c) Laws governing only community governments
- d) Laws focusing on international policies

Answer: b) Laws requiring approval from majority members of each linguistic group

Question 26. What made the Belgian model unique compared to other countries?

- a) Total dominance of one linguistic group
- b) Innovative power-sharing mechanisms accommodating all communities
- c) Complete focus on central governance
- d) Isolation of minority communities

Answer: b) Innovative power-sharing mechanisms accommodating all communities

Question 27. What did Belgian leaders realize was essential for national unity?

- a) Suppression of minority communities
- b) Respecting the interests of different communities and regions
- c) Dominance of the majority community
- d) Avoiding power-sharing arrangements

Answer: b) Respecting the interests of different communities and regions

Question 28. What does Sri Lanka's experience teach us about majoritarianism?

- a) It strengthens national unity
- b) It undermines national unity and leads to conflict
- c) It ensures long-term political stability
- d) It fosters cultural harmony

Answer: b) It undermines national unity and leads to conflict

Question 29. What is a key lesson from the story of Belgium?

- a) Imposing majority rule is an effective governance method
- b) Power sharing respects diversity and ensures unity
- c) Centralized power is essential for a stable democracy
- d) Linguistic diversity should be discouraged

Answer: b) Power sharing respects diversity and ensures unity

Question 30. Which of the following terms best describes Sri Lanka's governance approach?

- a) Inclusive democracy
- b) Majoritarianism
- c) Federalism
- d) Linguistic equality

Answer: b) Majoritarianism

Question 31. What is a prudential reason for power sharing?

- a) It undermines the majority community's role
- b) It reduces the possibility of social conflict
- c) It focuses only on moral considerations
- d) It eliminates minority participation in governance

Answer: b) It reduces the possibility of social conflict

Question 32. What is a moral reason for power sharing?

- a) It ensures political stability
- b) It respects the spirit of democracy
- c) It increases economic growth
- d) It promotes centralization of power

Answer: b) It respects the spirit of democracy

Question 33. Why is the tyranny of the majority harmful?

- a) It benefits only the majority
- b) It oppresses the minority and often affects the majority adversely
- c) It strengthens the democratic system
- d) It promotes cultural diversity

Answer: b) It oppresses the minority and often affects the majority adversely

Question 34. What is a key argument against imposing majority rule?

- a) It ensures short-term peace but long-term instability
- b) It eliminates the role of central government
- c) It focuses only on minority issues
- d) It always promotes cultural harmony

Answer: a) It ensures short-term peace but long-term instability

Question 35. How does power-sharing contribute to a legitimate government?

- a) By ensuring minority groups are excluded from governance
- b) By enabling citizen participation and giving them a stake in governance
- c) By promoting centralized decision-making
- d) By focusing solely on economic policies

Answer: b) By enabling citizen participation and giving them a stake in governance

Question 36. What is meant by the term 'prudential'?

- a) Decisions based on cultural traditions
- b) Decisions based on careful calculation of gains and losses
- c) Decisions focused on moral considerations alone
- d) Decisions ignoring minority concerns

Answer: b) Decisions based on careful calculation of gains and losses

Question 37. What is the definition of 'civil war'?

- a) Conflict between two nations
- b) Violent conflict between groups within a country
- c) Peaceful protest against a government
- d) Struggle for regional autonomy

Answer: b) Violent conflict between groups within a country

Question 38. What does ‘tyranny of the majority’ imply in a democracy?

- a) Respect for minority rights
- b) Oppressive rule by the majority
- c) Equal representation of all communities
- d) A peaceful coexistence of linguistic groups

Answer: b) Oppressive rule by the majority

Khalil’s Dilemma

Power Sharing in Lebanon

1. Diversity in Lebanon:

- Lebanon is a modern, cosmopolitan country with a diverse population from various communities.
- Khalil’s parents belong to different communities: his father is an Orthodox Christian, and his mother is a Sunni Muslim.

2. Civil War and Its Consequences:

- A bitter civil war occurred among Lebanon’s communities, causing loss of lives, including Khalil’s uncle.
- The war highlighted the need for power-sharing agreements to ensure peace.

3. Power Sharing Pact in Lebanon:

- The leaders agreed on a communal power-sharing arrangement:
 - a. President:** Maronite Catholic Christian.
 - b. Prime Minister:** Sunni Muslim.
 - c. Deputy Prime Minister:** Orthodox Christian.
 - d. Speaker of Parliament:** Shi'a Muslim.
- Christians agreed not to seek French protection, and Muslims agreed not to unify with Syria.

4. Significance of the Pact:

- The agreement was based on the nearly equal population of Christians and Muslims at the time.
- Even though Muslims are now in the majority, the agreement continues to be respected as it ensures peace and stability.

Criticism of the System

1. Challenges and Criticisms:

- Khalil, a politically ambitious individual, criticizes the system:
 - a.** He believes the system restricts people from contesting top positions based on their community.
 - b.** Advocates for a 'normal' democracy where elections determine leaders without communal restrictions.

2. Lessons from the System:

- Elders who witnessed the bloodshed of civil war argue that the present system guarantees peace by avoiding communal dominance.

Vetal's Question and Implications

1. Vetal's Question on Power Sharing:

- Vikram is asked whether Lebanon should:
 - a. Adopt regular democratic rules as Khalil suggests.
 - b. Retain the current communal power-sharing system.
 - c. Devise an alternative system for Lebanon's governance.

Broader Themes and Concepts

1. Importance of Power Sharing:

- The Lebanese example underscores that power-sharing arrangements can maintain peace in socially diverse countries.

2. Contextual Application of Democracy:

- Khalil's criticism reflects the tension between universal democratic principles and context-specific solutions like Lebanon's communal pact.

3. Trade-Offs in Governance:

- Lebanon's system shows the trade-off between fairness and stability, prioritizing peace over individual aspirations.

MCQ's on NCERT Civics Class 10 Chapter 1 Topic

– Khalil's Dilemma

Here are top exam oriented mcq's type questions on "Khalil's Dilemma" that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

Question 1. What is the mode of transportation for Vikram and Vetal in the story?

- a) Car
- b) Bicycle
- c) Motorbike
- d) Train

Answer: c) Motorbike

Question 2. What is Vetal's primary purpose for telling Vikram stories?

- a) To entertain him
- b) To keep him awake while driving
- c) To distract him from the journey
- d) To test his knowledge

Answer: b) To keep him awake while driving

Question 3. Where is the story narrated by Vetal set?

- a) Baghdad
- b) Beirut
- c) Damascus
- d) Cairo

Answer: b) Beirut

Question 4. Who is Khalil in the story?

- a) A politician in Lebanon
- b) A man from a mixed religious background

- c) A Maronite Christian leader
- d) A Muslim scholar

Answer: b) A man from a mixed religious background

Question 5. Which of the following positions in Lebanon is reserved for the Sunni Muslim community?

- a) President
- b) Prime Minister
- c) Deputy Prime Minister
- d) Speaker

Answer: b) Prime Minister

Question 6. What is the sect of Catholic Christians that the President of Lebanon must belong to?

- a) Sunni Muslim
- b) Shi'a Muslim
- c) Orthodox Christian
- d) Maronite Catholic

Answer: d) Maronite Catholic

Question 7. Who holds the position of Deputy Prime Minister in Lebanon's power-sharing agreement?

- a) Sunni Muslim
- b) Orthodox Christian
- c) Shi'a Muslim
- d) Maronite Catholic

Answer: b) Orthodox Christian

Question 8. What is the position reserved for Shi'a Muslims in Lebanon?

- a) President
- b) Prime Minister
- c) Deputy Prime Minister
- d) Speaker

Answer: d) Speaker

Question 9. What was the agreement between Christians and Muslims in Lebanon after the civil war?

- a) Christians would seek French protection
- b) Muslims would unify with Syria
- c) Both communities agreed to avoid foreign alliances
- d) The constitution was rewritten to favour one group

Answer: c) Both communities agreed to avoid foreign alliances

Question 10. When was the power-sharing agreement in Lebanon formulated?

- a) After independence
- b) During the French mandate
- c) After the Civil War
- d) After unification with Syria

Answer: c) After the Civil War

Question 11. Why was this power-sharing system implemented in Lebanon?

- a) To maintain Christian dominance
- b) To prevent French intervention
- c) To ensure peace and avoid future conflicts
- d) To promote economic development

Answer: c) To ensure peace and avoid future conflicts

Question 12. What change in demographics has occurred since the power-sharing agreement was established?

- a) Christians have become the majority
- b) Muslims are now in the clear majority
- c) Shi'a Muslims dominate the government
- d) There has been no demographic change

Answer: b) Muslims are now in the clear majority

Question 13. Why does Khalil dislike the Lebanese power-sharing system?

- a) It is biased towards Muslims
- b) It prevents him from achieving the top position
- c) It allows too much foreign intervention
- d) It does not focus on economic issues

Answer: b) It prevents him from achieving the top position

Question 14. What type of democracy does Khalil prefer for Lebanon?

- a) One based on elections with no communal restrictions
- b) One with a fixed representation for each community
- c) One dominated by the majority religion
- d) One controlled by foreign powers

Answer: a) One based on elections with no communal restrictions

Question 15. What argument do Khalil's elders give to justify the current system?

- a) It guarantees peace by preventing conflict
- b) It ensures Christian dominance
- c) It aligns with international democratic practices
- d) It strengthens the economy

Answer: a) It guarantees peace by preventing conflict

Question 16. What is a potential downside of a "regular" democracy in Lebanon, as hinted in the story?

- a) It might undermine peace and reignite conflict
- b) It would reduce international support
- c) It would favour Christians over Muslims
- d) It would centralize power excessively

Answer: a) It might undermine peace and reignite conflict

Question 17. What does the term 'civil war' refer to in the context of Lebanon?

- a) A war between Lebanon and Syria
- b) A violent conflict within Lebanon among different communities

- c) A war fought against foreign invaders
- d) A rebellion led by Khalil's family

Answer: b) A violent conflict within Lebanon among different communities

Question 18. What is the story's broader message about power-sharing systems?

- a) They are always unfair and unnecessary
- b) They are a practical solution to avoid conflict in diverse societies
- c) They favour majority communities
- d) They lead to economic prosperity

Answer: b) They are a practical solution to avoid conflict in diverse societies

Question 19. What challenge does Khalil face as a result of his mixed religious background?

- a) He is forced to adopt one parent's religion
- b) He is excluded from the highest political positions
- c) He is pressured to leave Lebanon
- d) He is targeted by foreign powers

Answer: b) He is excluded from the highest political positions

Question 20. If Lebanon adopted Khalil's proposed system, what might be a possible consequence?

- a) Complete unity among all communities
- b) Renewed conflict and political instability
- c) Equal representation of all groups
- d) Unification with Syria

Answer: b) Renewed conflict and political instability

Forms of Power-Sharing

Understanding the Concept of Power Sharing

1. Opposition to Undivided Political Power:

- Earlier belief: All governmental power should reside in one person or group for quick decisions.
- Modern belief: Democracy supports dispersed power to avoid political instability.

2. Democracy and Power Sharing:

- A fundamental principle of democracy: People are the source of all political power.
- Respect for diverse groups and views ensures stability and inclusion.
- In a democracy, political power should be distributed among as many citizens as possible.

Forms of Power Sharing

1. Horizontal Distribution of Power:

- Power is shared among the legislature, executive, and judiciary.
- Ensures no organ exercises unlimited power.
- System of checks and balances: Each organ checks the functioning of the others.
- Example: Judges, though appointed by the executive, can check laws made by the legislature.

2. Vertical Division of Power:

- Power shared among different levels of government:
 - a.** General government: Governs the entire country (e.g., Union Government in India).
 - b.** Provincial governments: Govern regions (e.g., State Governments in India).
- Constitution lays down powers at each level (federal division of power).
- Example: Municipalities and Panchayats operate under State Governments.

3. Power Sharing Among Social Groups:

- Power is shared among religious and linguistic groups.
- Example: Community government in Belgium.
- Reserved constituencies ensure representation for weaker sections and women.
- Ensures minority communities have a fair share in governance.

4. Power Sharing Among Political Parties, Pressure Groups, and Movements:

- Competition among political parties prevents the concentration of power.
- Example: Coalition governments where multiple parties share power.
- Pressure and interest groups (e.g., traders, farmers) influence decision-making.

Examples of Power-Sharing Types

1. Horizontal Power Sharing:

- Bombay High Court ordered to Maharashtra government to improve children's living conditions.
- Represents judiciary checking executive actions.

2. Power Sharing Among Social Groups:

- Ontario State Government's settlement with Aboriginal people reflects sharing power with diverse groups.
- Based on mutual respect and cooperation.

3. Power Sharing Among Political Parties:

- Russia's Union of Right Forces and Liberal Yabloko Movement forming a coalition for elections.
- Represents sharing power among political parties.

4. Vertical Power Sharing:

- Nigeria's state finance ministers demand revenue transparency from the federal government.
- Reflects power-sharing among different levels of government.

Key Learnings

1. Benefits of Power Sharing:

- Prevents tyranny of the majority.
- Ensures representation for diverse communities.
- Promotes stability, peace, and democracy.

2. Application of Power Sharing:

- Examples like *Belgium, India, and Canada* show how power-sharing adapts to societal needs.
- Essential for maintaining unity and respecting diversity.

MCQ's on NCERT Civics Class 10 Chapter 1 Topic

– Forms of Power-Sharing

Here are top exam oriented mcq's type questions on "Forms of Power-Sharing" that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

Question 1. What idea did power-sharing emerge in opposition to?

- a) The idea of divided governance
- b) The notion of undivided political power
- c) The concept of democracy
- d) The need for quick decision-making

Answer: b) The notion of undivided political power

Question 2. What is one basic principle of democracy mentioned in the content?

- a) Centralization of power
- b) People are the source of all political power
- c) Quick decision-making
- d) Absolute authority of the executive

Answer: b) People are the source of all political power

Question 3. Why is power-sharing considered essential in a democracy?

- a) To concentrate decision-making
- b) To give quick solutions to societal issues
- c) To give diverse groups a voice in public policies
- d) To ensure absolute rule of the majority

Answer: c) To give diverse groups a voice in public policies

Question 4. What is the distribution of power among different organs of government called?

- a) Federal division of power
- b) Horizontal distribution of power
- c) Vertical division of power
- d) Social division of power

Answer: b) Horizontal distribution of power

Question 5. Which system ensures a balance of power among various institutions?

- a) Centralized governance
- b) Checks and balances
- c) Federal division of power
- d) Coalition government

Answer: b) Checks and balances

Question 6. In the horizontal distribution of power, which organs of government are involved?

- a) Parliament, Panchayat, and Municipality
- b) Executive, Legislature, and Judiciary
- c) Local, State, and Central Governments
- d) Religious and linguistic groups

Answer: b) Executive, Legislature, and Judiciary

Question 7. What is the term for power-sharing among governments at different levels?

- a) Horizontal distribution of power
- b) Vertical division of power
- c) Community governance
- d) Reserved constituencies

Answer: b) Vertical division of power

Question 8. What is the general government for the entire country called in India?

- a) State Government
- b) Federal Government
- c) Union or Central Government
- d) Panchayat Government

Answer: c) Union or Central Government

Question 9. Which power-sharing system exists at levels below the State Government?

- a) Horizontal distribution
- b) Panchayat and Municipality governance

- c) Coalition government
- d) Reserved representation

Answer: b) Panchayat and Municipality governance

Question 10. What type of power-sharing is represented by the Bombay High Court ordering the Maharashtra State Government to improve conditions in children's homes?

- a) Horizontal distribution of power
- b) Vertical division of power
- c) Social group power-sharing
- d) Coalition government

Answer: a) Horizontal distribution of power

Question 11. Which type of power-sharing is shown in the land claim settlement in Ontario with the Aboriginal community?

- a) Horizontal distribution of power
- b) Vertical division of power
- c) Power-sharing among social groups
- d) Political party coalition

Answer: c) Power-sharing among social groups

Question 12. What does the unification of Russia's two political parties into a coalition represent?

- a) Horizontal distribution of power
- b) Power-sharing among political parties

- c) Federal division of power
- d) Social representation

Answer: b) Power-sharing among political parties

Question 13. The demand by Nigerian state finance ministers for the federal government to declare its income sources exemplifies which type of power-sharing?

- a) Vertical division of power
- b) Horizontal distribution of power
- c) Coalition governance
- d) Reserved representation

Answer: a) Vertical division of power

Question 14. What does community government in Belgium represent?

- a) Power-sharing among governments at different levels
- b) Power-sharing among social groups
- c) Horizontal distribution of power
- d) Federal division of power

Answer: b) Power-sharing among social groups

Question 15. What is the purpose of reserved constituencies in India?

- a) To promote coalition governments
- b) To prevent political competition

- c) To give weaker sections a fair share of power
- d) To centralize decision-making

Answer: c) To give weaker sections a fair share of power

Question 16. What is a key feature of political party competition in democracies?

- a) Power remains concentrated in one party
- b) Power is shared among parties through alliances or coalitions
- c) Elections are held without any contenders
- d) Only one ideology is represented

Answer: b) Power is shared among parties through alliances or coalitions

Question 17. How do pressure groups share power in democracies?

- a) By directly controlling the government
- b) By influencing decision-making and participating in committees
- c) By competing in elections
- d) By forming alliances with political parties

Answer: b) By influencing decision-making and participating in committees

Question 18. Why is power-sharing considered essential in diverse societies?

- a) It ensures quick decision-making
- b) It prevents the alienation of minority communities
- c) It allows the majority community to dominate
- d) It centralizes governance for better control

Answer: b) It prevents the alienation of minority communities

Question 19. What is a coalition government?

- a) A government formed by different levels of governance
- b) A government formed by multiple political parties sharing power
- c) A government formed by a single dominant party
- d) A government led by social pressure groups

Answer: b) A government formed by multiple political parties sharing power

Question 20. What is the long-term benefit of political party competition in democracies?

- a) It keeps power concentrated
- b) It ensures that power is shared across various groups
- c) It eliminates opposition
- d) It discourages minority participation

Answer: b) It ensures that power is shared across various groups

Next & Previous Topics of NCERT/CBSE Political Science (Civics) Class 10 Chapter 1: Power-sharing

Topics No.	Topics Name
1	Belgium and Sri Lanka
2	Majoritarianism in Sri Lanka

3

Accommodation in Belgium

4

Khalil's Dilemma

5

Forms of Power-sharing