

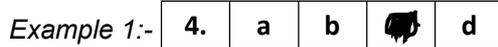


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English 1 (Home Language) – Grade 8

Welcome to your Conquesta Olympiad. When you have decided which of the answers is correct, scratch out the letter in the matching square on your answer sheet. Example:- If the answer to question 4 is c, then scratch out the letter c in the square containing c next to the number 4 (see example 1 below). If you've made a mistake and b should have been the answer, neatly cross out the mistake and then scratch out b (see example 2 below).



Read the information below for questions 1 – 10.

A democracy means 'rule by the people'. The name is used for different forms of government, where the people can take part in the decisions that affect the way their community is run. In modern times, there are different ways in which this can be done:-

- a) The people meet to decide about new laws and make changes to existing laws. This is called 'direct democracy'.
- b) The people choose their leaders by an electing process. Elections are either held periodically, or when an officeholder dies. These leaders take decisions about laws. This is commonly called 'representative democracy'.
- c) Sometimes people can propose new laws, or changes to existing laws. Usually, this is done by means of a referendum (where people vote yes or no to a proposal), which requires a certain number of supporters.

After people hold an election, the candidate with the most votes gets elected. Very often, the elected politicians belong to a political party. Instead of choosing a person, people vote for a party, who then pick the candidates.



Not everyone can vote in an election. Only people who are citizens are entitled to suffrage (the vote). Some groups may be excluded, such as prisoners.

Long ago, the ancient Greeks, in the city of Athens, developed this kind of government. Everyone who was a citizen lived in one area. Slaves, women, foreigners and children could not vote. The Assembly consisted of all eligible voters, and would talk about what kinds of laws they wanted and would vote.

The Council would suggest the laws, and members were chosen by drawing and would change every year. For some offices, the Athenian citizens would choose a leader by writing the name of their favourite candidate on a piece of stone or wood, and the person with the most votes became the leader.

1. Which of the following statements is the correct definition of democracy?

- (a) A system in which ordinary citizens can elect representatives to cabinet.
- (b) A system in which only candidates chosen by political parties may vote.
- (c) A system in which the people cannot propose laws of a country.
- (d) A system in which citizens must be educated in order to vote.

2. Which of the following is not a principle of democracy?

- (a) Ruling party decided by the majority.
- (b) Free and fair elections.
- (c) Not all people are equal.
- (d) Human rights for all.

3. What does the word 'officeholder' mean in the context of the passage?

- (a) Someone who works in an office.
- (b) A person who holds public office.
- (c) The Chief Executive Officer of a private company.
- (d) A Chairperson of a Board of Trustees.

4. Which type of sentence is the underlined opening statement of paragraph 2?

- (a) A simple sentence.
- (b) A compound sentence.
- (c) A complex sentence.
- (d) A phrase.

5. What is the synonym for 'eligible' in the context of voting rights?

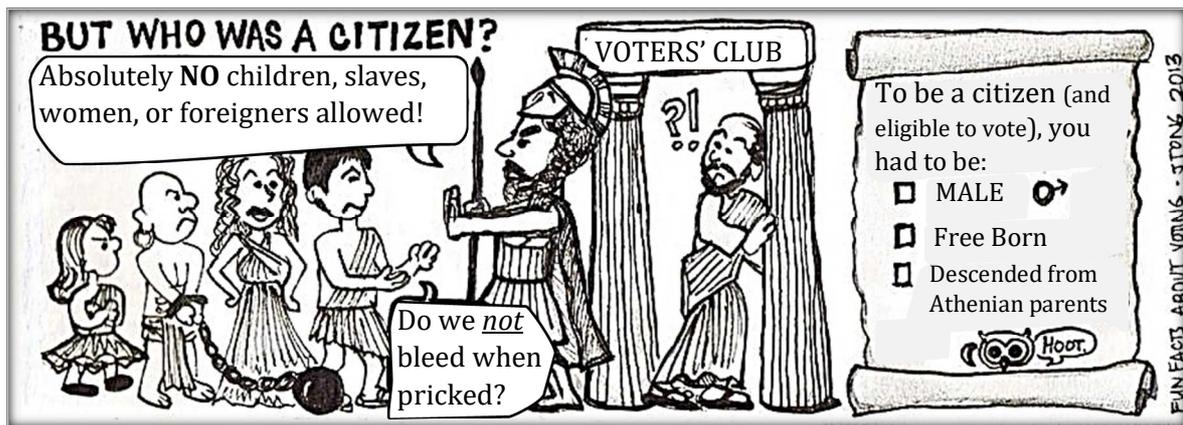
- (a) Qualified.
- (b) Suitable.
- (c) Desirable.
- (d) Popular.



Notes to remember:

A simple sentence contains only one main (independent) clause.
 A compound sentence has two main clauses.
 A complex sentence has a subordinate (dependent) clause and a main (independent) clause.
 A phrase forms part of a clause and has no verb.
Close-ended questions require a 'yes' or 'no' answer.
Open-ended questions need more detail.
Rhetorical questions don't need an answer.

Refer to the cartoon below for questions 6 – 10.



6. **'BUT WHO WAS A CITIZEN?'** What type of question is this?
 - (a) A multiple choice question.
 - (b) A close-ended question.
 - (c) An open-ended question.
 - (d) A rhetorical question.

7. The word **'NO'**, in the first speech bubble, is capitalised and written in bold. Which option below is **incorrect**?
 - (a) The soldier is giving an instruction.
 - (b) The soldier is emphasizing that voting rights cannot be changed.
 - (c) The soldier is demonstrating power and authority.
 - (d) The soldier is enforcing the law.

8. Which of the non-qualifying voters in the queue asks, **"Do we not bleed when pricked?"**?
 - (a) The foreigner.
 - (b) The child.
 - (c) The slave.
 - (d) The woman.

9. What is the function of the apostrophe in the sign **'VOTERS' CLUB'**?
 - (a) It indicates a plural.
 - (b) It shows a letter is missing.
 - (c) It shows possession.
 - (d) It emphasizes that only voters may join this club.

10. What do the punctuation marks **(?!)** underneath the sign **'VOTERS' CLUB'** indicate about the thoughts of the citizen who is about to cast his vote?
 - (a) They indicate his confusion as to why these people may not vote.
 - (b) They indicate his anger at the fact that they are being excluded.
 - (c) They indicate that he is shouting at the Roman officer.
 - (d) They indicate that he is too cowardly to voice his thoughts to the Roman officer.



Use the extract below, which explains how France became a democracy, to answer questions 11 – 17 that follow on Page 3.

France celebrates Bastille Day on **July 14th**. This day remembers the end of the **French monarchy** and the beginning of the **French Revolution**. This is when a large group of people in France rebelled against their king and queen (Louis XVI and his wife, Marie Antoinette).



The French had good reason to rebel. The corrupt king and queen's actions were causing the poor to go hungry and the **wealthy**, middle-class merchants and **businessmen** were tired of not having their concerns heard. By the late 1780s, people in France were fed up and so they began speaking out and met in groups to demand that new laws be made. King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette tried to quiet everyone. The citizens eventually rebelled.

The **Bastille** (see the visual on the right) was a **prison** in Paris, where the king and queen locked up people who didn't agree with them.



On **July 14, 1789**, the **French Revolution** began when a large group **stormed** the Bastille. The Revolution lasted for 10 years and brought some great changes (along with many deaths). While democracy wasn't established for several decades, the Revolution served as a turning point for how France was governed.

In 1880, nearly 100 years after the storming, **Bastille Day** became a national holiday. Today, most locals in France have festive dances and big firework displays on **Bastille Eve**, and on **Bastille Day** there are parades, **bands** and more dancing!