

CLASS VIII

SUBJECT : CIVICS

WORKSHEET

TOPIC: UNDERSTANDING SECULARISM

1. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Choose the correct answer:

- i. The most important aspect of secularism is its
 - (a) separation of religion from state power
 - (b) separation of politics from religion
 - (c) separation of one community from another
 - (d) mixing of religion with state power

- ii. The government cannot force Sikhs to wear a helmet while driving two wheelers because
 - (a) Sikhs are very powerful
 - (b) They do not obey government rules.
 - (c) They look handsome in pagri
 - (d) Wearing a pagri is a very important part of Sikh religion

- iii. In American secularism, there is a (a)
strict separation between religion and the state
 - (b) loose separation between religion and the state
 - (c) strict mingling of religion with the state
 - (d) strict rule that contracts all religions

- iv. Which one is a correct statement with regards to Saudi Arabian?
 - (a) Non-Muslims can gather in a public place for prayer.

(b) They cannot build a temple, church etc.

(c) They can live in their own way

(d) None of these

2. FILL IN THE BLANK

i. The intervention of the state can also be in the term of

ii. In the united States of America, most children in government schools have to begin their school day reciting the 'Pledge of

. ' iii. The Indian State is not ruled by a group and nor does it any one religion.

iv. The most important aspect of secularism is its separation of religion frompower.

v. Government schools don't celebrate any festivals in the school premises.

3. WRITE TRUE AND FALSE

i. In Indian secularism the state is not strictly separate from religion.

ii. Wearing a pagri is central to a Sikh's religious practice. iii.

Government schools can promote any one religion.

iv. The Indian Constitution does not grant religious communities to set up their own schools and colleges.

v. In Indian secularism, the State cannot intervene in religion.

3. MATCHING

SKILL

Column A

- i The Indian State
- ii The force used by a legal authority
- iii The practice of untouchability
- iv. Jews
- v. Muslims

Column B

- a) Abolished
- b) Skull cap
- c) Secular
- d) Headscarf
- e) Coercion

Short Questions: -

- Q1. How American constitution ensures that America is a secular state?
- Q2. What do you mean by the statement “The tyranny of majority could result in discrimination”?
- Q3. Why is it important to have separate state and religion?
- Q4. How other countries deal with separating religion from state?
- Q5. How India works to prevent domination of religion in majority?
- Q6. What are the objectives of a secular state?
- Q7. Can there be different views of the people of same religion?

ANSWER KEY:

Ans 1.i) (a) separation of religion from state power

ii) (b) They cannot build a temple, church etc.

iii) (a) strict separation between religion and the state

iv) (b) They cannot build a temple, church etc.

2. Answer Key- (i) – support (ii) - allegiance (iii) – religious, support
(iv) –state (v) – religious

3. Answer Key-1-T, 2- T , 3-F, 4-F, 5- F

4. Answers Key - i-d, ii-e, iii-a, iv-b, v-c

SHORT QUESTIONS

1.Ans: i) First Amendment of US constitution bans Legislature from making Laws that “Prohibits the Free exercise of Religion” ii) They cannot declare any religion as official religion iii) There is separation of State and Religion

iv) State and Religion cannot interfere in Matters of each other

v) Children start their day in school with “Pledge of alliance”

2.

Ans: i) The majority can prevent minority from practising their religion

ii) Tyranny of majority can result in discrimination

iii) it can result in the coercion and even killing of minority people

iv) Any domination by majority is violation of Democratic rights

v) It is violation of Fundamental rights

3. Ans: i) Majority religious group can use its power and financial resources to discriminate others

ii) Tyranny of majority can result in discrimination

iii) it can result in the coercion and even killing of minority people

iv) Any domination by majority is violation of Democratic rights

v) It is violation of Fundamental rights vi) So it is

important to separate State and religion

4.

Ans: i) In Feb 2004, France passed a Law banning students from wearing any religious or political symbols

ii) Many people from Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco resisted it

iii) In 1960's France faced shortage of workers iv) They gave

Visa to immigrants to work

v) Daughters of these immigrants wore head scarfs vi)

They were expelled for that

5.

Ans: i) India is not run by a religious group

ii) India does not support any particular religion

iii) Govt. spaces like police station, courts etc. are not supposed to display support to any one religion iv) State does not interfere in religion

v) It only interferes if there is a case of discrimination vi) It

interferes when there is violation of Fundamental rights

6.Ans: The Objectives a secular state wants to achieve are-

- i) One religious community does not dominate other
- ii) Some members do not dominate the members of the same religious community
- iii) State does not enforce any particular religion
- iv) It does not take away the religious freedom of people

7.Ans: i) Yes there can be differences within one religion.

For Example-

- ii) In Hindu religion there are differences between the Vaishnavas (worshippers of Lord Vishnu) Gauriya Vaishnavism worshippers of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu and Shaivism (worshippers of Lord Shiva)
- iii) In Muslims people are Shiya and Sunni
- iv) In Jains people are Shwetambar and Digambar
- v) In Buddhism people are Hinayana and Mahayana
- vi) In Christianity there are Catholics and Protestants.

These are the various differences which exist within the same religion.