Elections

Standard difficulty · 20 questions · 40 marks · Time: 37 minutes

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: ____ / 40

Write full answers in Sections B and C. Answers are on the last page — try every question first!

Section A — Choose the correct answer — 8 × 1 = 8 marks

1. The scientific study of elections is called:
   (a) demography **(b)** philately **(c)** geology **(d)** psephology

2. How does the two-round system work?
   (a) over 50% needed, or the top two face a runoff
   (b) the President picks the winner
   (c) seats are drawn by lottery
   (d) the oldest candidate wins

3. What does the Delimitation Commission deal with?
   (a) the anti-defection law **(b)** conducts elections across India
   (c) redraws constituencies **(d)** decides defection cases

4. What is the cVIGIL app used for?
   (a) reporting Model Code violations **(b)** voter registration and services
   (c) forms and electoral rolls **(d)** help for voters with disabilities

5. Which of these is chosen by indirect election?
   (a) a panchayat **(b)** a gram sabha decision
   (c) the President **(d)** the Lok Sabha

6. In a single transferable vote election with 2,300 valid votes and 4 seats, the quota is (votes ÷ (seats + 1)) + 1, ignoring any fraction. What is the quota?
   (a) 461 votes **(b)** 384 votes **(c)** 462 votes **(d)** 576 votes

7. Under the two-round system, three parties get 30%, 60% and 10%. Is a second round needed?
   (a) No, one party has over 50% **(b)** Yes, every election needs two rounds
   (c) Yes, no party has over 50% **(d)** No, the smallest party wins

8. The Election Commission was set up in 1950; the voting age was lowered from 21 to 18 in 1988. How many years apart were these?
   (a) 38 years **(b)** 39 years **(c)** 48 years **(d)** 35 years

Section B — Short answer — 8 × 2 = 16 marks

9. What is the difference between direct and indirect elections?

10. Explain how each system works: (a) First-Past-The-Post (b) the two-round system

11. What does each deal with? (a) the 52nd Amendment (b) the Speaker or Chairman

12. Direct or indirect election? (a) the Rajya Sabha (b) a panchayat

13. Under proportional representation, a house of 43 seats is shared by vote: party P gets 38%, Q 30%, and others 32%. About how many seats do P and Q get (to the nearest whole number)?

14. One MP represents 15 lakh people and another 6 lakh. How many times more people does the first represent (to one decimal place), and what is done to fix this?

15. Which came first, and by how many years? (a) the first Delimitation Commission was formed (1952) (b) the last Delimitation Commission was formed (2002)

16. What is each app used for: (a) cVIGIL (b) ERONET

Section C — Longer answers — 4 × 4 = 16 marks

17. Why are regular elections important in a democracy?

18. Match each with its use: (a) Sugam (b) cVIGIL (c) Voter Helpline. Choose from: reporting Model Code violations; voter registration and services; managing election vehicles.

19. A Vidhan Parishad election uses the single transferable vote: 8,000 valid votes, 5 seats. (a) What is the quota? (b) What happens to the candidate with the fewest votes? (c) Name one other body elected this way.

20. Compare proportional representation and single transferable vote: how does each work, and give one advantage of each.

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Answer key

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Q	Answer	Working
1	**(d) psephology**	—
2	**(a) over 50% needed, or the top two face a runoff**	—
3	**(c) redraws constituencies**	—
4	**(a) reporting Model Code violations**	—
5	**(c) the President**	—
6	**(a) 461 votes**	2,300 ÷ 5 = 460; + 1
7	**(a) No, one party has over 50%**	the largest share is 60%
8	**(a) 38 years**	1988 − 1950 = 38
9	**In direct elections citizens vote themselves; in indirect elections elected representatives choose the leaders.**	—
10	**(a) the candidate with the most votes wins (b) over 50% needed, or the top two face a runoff**	—
11	**(a) the anti-defection law (b) decides defection cases**	—
12	**(a) indirect (b) direct**	—
13	**P about 16, Q about 13**	38% and 30% of 43
14	**2.5 times; delimitation redraws constituencies to even out population.**	15 ÷ 6
15	**The first Delimitation Commission was formed, by 50 years**	2002 − 1952
16	**(a) reporting Model Code violations (b) forms and electoral rolls**	—
17	**They keep representatives accountable, give people a voice, make the government legitimate and treat every vote equally.**	—
18	**(a) managing election vehicles (b) reporting Model Code violations (c) voter registration and services**	—
19	**(a) 1,334 votes (b) they are eliminated and their votes pass to voters' next preferences (c) the Rajya Sabha (or the President)**	8,000 ÷ 6 + 1

Q	Answer	Working
20	**proportional representation: seats shared by vote share; single transferable vote: voters rank candidates and votes transfer. Advantages, e.g. simple and quick, or fair to smaller parties.**	—