



SUBJECT: Political Science

CHAPTER:- ELECTORAL POLITICS

WEEK-9th Nov to 13th November

No.of Blocks-1

SUBTOPICS

1. Need for elections
2. Election Process

Instructional Aids- NCERT pdf, You tube videos, Flow charts, concept map

Web Link of the chapter- <https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?iess4=3-5>

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=h4eBSAZleik>
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=7RZBnlpveco>
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=YQb9w1gRSQQ>

Learning Outcomes; Each student will be able to:

- Analyse the need for elections in a democracy
- Examine the different stages of the election process

What are elections?

It is a mechanism by which people can choose their representatives at regular intervals and change them if they wish to do so.

**YOU CAN EITHER
VOTE BY VOTING OR
VOTE BY NOT VOTING.
IF YOU DON'T VOTE,
SOMEONE ELSE'S
VOTE COUNTS MORE.
IT'S MATH.**



**OCCUPY
PRAGMATISM**

WHY DO WE NEED ELECTIONS?

Elections are a democratic way of selecting representatives.

They ensure that the representatives rule as per the wishes of the people.

Elections help voters to choose representatives who will make laws for them, form the government and take major decisions.

The voters can choose the party whose policies will guide the government.

A state would face anarchy without elections.

No stable and welfare state would exist without elections.

An autocracy, monarchy or dictatorship would prevail without elections.

IMPORTANCE OF ELECTION

- Elections are the pillars of the country, which are essential and vital for the state to run smoothly.
- Citizens must actively participate in the process of elections because they are choosing their representatives.
- All the citizens who are 18 years and above are eligible have the right to vote for selecting the representative body of the country.
- The process of elections shows the choices and preferences of the citizens of the country.



Minimum Conditions of a democratic election

First, everyone should be able to choose. This means that everyone should have one vote and every vote should have equal value.

Second, there should be something to choose from. Parties and candidates should be free to contest elections and should offer some real choice to the voter.

Third, the choice should be offered at regular intervals. Elections must be held regularly after every few years.

Fourth, the candidate preferred by the people should get elected.

Fifth, elections should be conducted in a free and fair manner where people can choose as they really wish.

Is it good to have political competition?

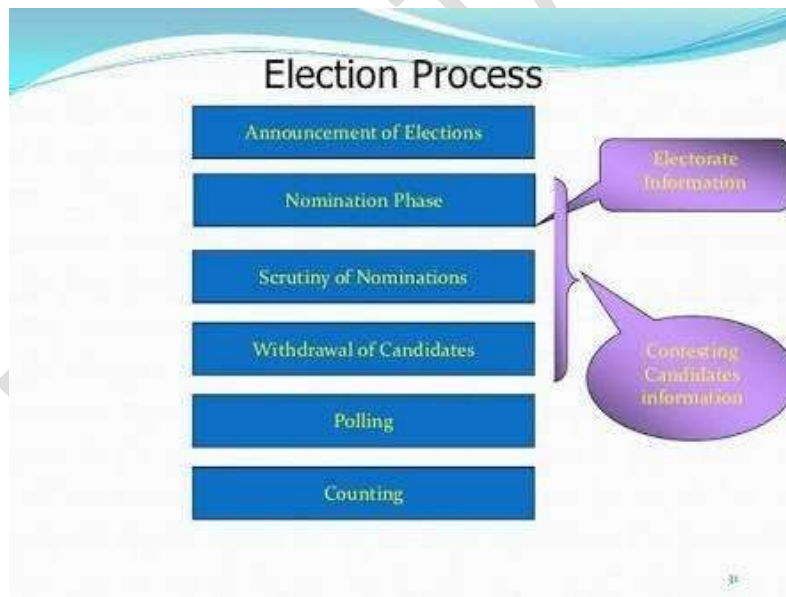
Demerits

1. It creates a sense of disunity and factionalism in every locality.
2. Different political parties and leaders often level allegations against one another.
3. Parties and candidates often use dirty tricks to win elections.

MERIT

Political competition may cause divisions and some ugliness, but it finally helps to force political parties and leaders to serve the people.

DIFFERENT STAGES OF AN ELECTION IN INDIA



ELETORAL CONSTITUENCIES

First of all, the whole country is divided into different areas for purpose of elections. These areas are called electoral constituencies

The voters who live in an area elect one representative.

VOTERS LIST

Once the constituencies are decided, the next step is to decide who can and who cannot vote. In a democracy, the list of those who are eligible to vote is prepared much before the election and given to everyone.

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

Every person who wishes to contest an election has to fill a nomination form by the due date, which the election commission fixes. Every candidate has to give some money as security deposit along with nomination form.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN

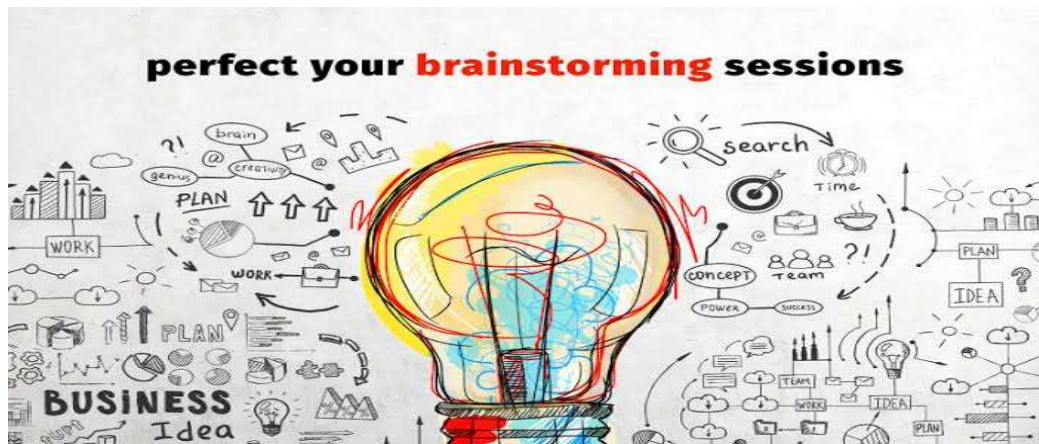
Election campaigns take place for a two-week period between the announcement of the final list of candidates and the date of polling. During this period, the candidates contact their voters, political leaders address election meetings and political parties mobilise their supporters.

POLLING AND COUNTING OF VOTES

The final stage of an election is when the voters cast or poll their votes. That day is called the election day. Every person whose name is on the voters list can go to a nearby polling booth. Once the voter gets inside the booth, the election officials identify him, put a mark on his finger and allow him to cast his vote. There are electronic voting machines (EVMs) which are used to record votes. The machine shows the names of the candidates and the party symbols. What the voter has to do is to press the button against the name of the candidate he wants to give his vote. Once the polling is over, all the EVMs are sealed and taken to a secure place. On a fixed date, all the EVMs from a constituency are opened and the votes secured by each candidate are counted. The candidate who secures the highest no. of votes from a constituency is declared elected.

Checkpoint

- **Why do people choose not to vote?**
 - They may feel that their votes will not influence local or national government or they may not trust political institutions.
 - They may believe that conditions will remain fine even if they do not vote.
 - Western voters in presidential elections may feel that the election has been decided by eastern and central states before they can vote.



ASSIGNMENT

- Q1. Is there a democratic way of selecting representatives without elections?
- Q2. How do we distinguish democratic elections from any other election? Give examples.
- Q3. Why do the candidates nominating their names for elections required to give a detailed statement of their property?
- Q4. Are election campaigns necessary for democracy? Discuss