



Fundamental Duties

Bhakti Bhawe

This worksheet is suitable
for classes 7, 8 and 9.

Background: Fundamental Duties of citizens can be found in Part IVA of the Indian Constitution. These were inserted in our Constitution only in 1976 by the 42nd Amendment. Here are two exercises that deal with duties mentioned in Part IVA of the Constitution.

Activity 1

Below are some of the fundamental duties of Indian citizens. Can you complete the text of each duty by finding the word in the word puzzle given below?

1. To abide by the C_____ and respect its ideals and institutions, the national flag and the national anthem.
2. To uphold and protect the s_____, unity and integrity of India.
3. To renounce practices derogatory to the d_____ of women.
4. To value and preserve the rich h_____ of our composite culture.
5. Who is a parent or guardian to provide opportunities for e_____ to his child or, as the case may be, ward between the age of six and fourteen years.
6. To develop the s_____ temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform.

A	S	C	I	E	N	T	I	F	I	C	F	O
M	X	O	C	U	U	L	F	K	J	M	L	S
K	W	N	L	J	R	R	O	Y	N	F	S	O
L	E	S	D	Z	B	Y	M	Q	C	L	I	V
G	P	T	Q	L	T	H	E	D	Q	C	L	E
L	T	I	P	G	H	E	V	I	T	W	T	R
Q	K	T	Q	G	J	R	C	G	T		F	E
E	D	U	C	A	T	I	O	N	P	J	U	I
C	W	T	P	S	C	T	X	I	I	N	I	G
Z	H	I	T	M	N	A	Z	T	N	T	S	N
A	L	O	A	D	B	G	E	Y	F	F	Q	T
L	X	N	R	P	V	E	N	X	J	E	V	Y

Activity 2

Given below are some real examples of citizens who take special efforts to fulfil their fundamental duty. Can you read the story and identify which particular duty they are working so hard on fulfilling?

1. A black cat crossed my path. Now my work won't get done! It's a bad thing to happen! Often a black dot of kajal (kohl) is put on a baby's face to protect the baby from evil eye. There are many such beliefs that we blindly follow without even thinking whether it is rational or not? Sometimes

such superstitious beliefs also take an extreme form such as sacrificing an animal to fulfil a vow. In Maharashtra, for more than 30 years, the 'Maharashtra Anti-superstition Committee' has been working towards eradicating superstitions and acquiring a scientific attitude towards events that happen around us.

2. Neha, an engineer by training, now works for an organization called We, The People Abhiyan. The core of her work lies in spreading awareness about constitutional values. Neha says, "We must take active ownership of our Constitution. The Preamble starts with the words, We, the People of India' that means the responsibility of realizing the constitutional vision, lies with the people of India."

3. On 24th March 2020, in an announcement made nationwide, the Prime Minister declared a complete lockdown for 21 days. The decision brought all businesses to a standstill. The people who migrate from their native places to cities for work and live on daily wages suffered the most. Sayali, along with her friends, worked during the lockdown to help daily wage workers sustain the lockdown period. Once the government allowed special trains to help workers go back home, the situation was very chaotic. Sayali coordinated with the railway ministry day in and day out, and made sure nobody exploited the workers and sold them train tickets at exorbitant prices and she helped thousands of them reach their homes safely. Sayali says, "As citizens, it is our duty to work towards securing justice for all."

4. When we think of Delhi what comes to our mind essentially is the Red Fort, India Gate, Qutub Minar and so on. But do you know that Delhi has more than 1300 monuments? It's a challenge to keep these monuments intact and protect them from getting ruined by weathering and irresponsible behaviour of people. Vikramjit Singh Rooprai, a young man from Delhi and an ardent traveller, got interested in this cause and started the initiative called *Monuments of Delhi*. Starting with heritage walks, heritage photography, Vikram now also runs *Heritage Shala* to help students connect with history, learn and actively own our heritage. – *Based on an article written in The Better India*

5. Many of us must have heard swear/cuss words. Sometimes we also use them to express our anger or frustration. But if we closely look at what they mean, we will realize that most of the swear words are extremely sexist, involve female sexual parts and derogate women. Manish Kumar from Gorakhpur felt for this cause very strongly and he started a movement called *Gaali Band Abhiyan*. Under this Manish started interacting with school kids on swear words and their meanings. The movement started in 2003 and slowly spread to 18 districts in Uttar Pradesh. Manish till date works towards ensuring equality and dignity for women. – *Based on an article published for Chaturang Supplement of Marathi Newspaper Loksatta*

Directive Principles of the State Policy

Background: From the point of view of a citizen, three parts of the Indian Constitution are extremely important. These are

- Part 3 – Fundamental Rights
- Part 4 – Directive Principles of State Policy
- Part 4A – Fundamental Duties

The next four exercises deal with Part 4 of the Constitution. What are the Directive Principles of the State Policy? These are essentially the principles that governments must keep in mind while framing laws and policies. A lot of discussion took place in the Constituent Assembly about the nature of the Directive Principles. Some said, we should make Directive Principles enforceable in a court of law. Others said, let us not make Directive Principles enforceable in a court of law. Future governments will need a lot of resources to fulfill these promises. We must give governments time to gather resources. So it is interesting to read what these Directive Principles of State Policy are. You can read the constitutional text of Part 4 by downloading the copy of the Constitution of India from the link <https://legislative.gov.in/sites/default/files/COI...pdf>

Activity 3

Samvidhan is a 10 episode video series directed by veteran director Shyam Benegal and produced by Rajya Sabha TV. Watch the 4th episode of the *Samvidhan* series. For *this exercise*, focus especially on the content shown between 25 and 40 minutes. These 14 minutes deal with the discussion on directive principles. Watch and answer the questions given below.

1. Who said this?

A. "In the Arthashastra, Kautilya has written that the king shall provide maintenance to the helpless, orphans, sick and dying people, and helpless expectant mothers and children she will give birth to. We should also follow the same in our Constitution."

B. "Every worker, wherever he works best on field or in factory, should get the amount of wages that will help him lead a good life and will secure leisure time for his social and cultural interactions."

C. While introducing Directive Principles in the Constituent Assembly session, one member mentioned that political parties cannot ignore directive principles. He said, "Who should be in power is left to be determined by the people. But the group that captures power will have to respect the directive principles. Their breach may not be answerable in a court of law but will be answerable to the electorate at election time."

2. What did Raj Kumari say? Raj Kumari Amrit Kaur, member of the Constituent Assembly, spoke about the rights of women with regard to marriage. Her suggestion sparked a debate among members at that time. Can you note down two key points she made regarding the rights of women pertaining to marriage?



3. Constituent Assembly member Shri Kazi Syed Karimuddin suggested a correction in the name 'Directive Principles of State Policy'. He said, instead of directive, they should be called _____ Principles of the State Policy.
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4. Professor K. T. Shah, a Constituent Assembly member, made a very funny, yet important comment on directive principles not being justiciable in the court of law. He compared it with a bank cheque. Can you write down what he said?
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Activity 4

In order to materialize the Directive Principles, Central and State governments have come up with various decisions that give shape to the Directive Principles. Following are some of the decisions, schemes related to the same. Can you identify the relevant Article from the copy of the Constitution that you have downloaded for each of the following?

1. In many states of India, senior citizens who travel by government run transport, be it bus or train, get 50% concession on the journey tickets.
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2. Divya works for a multinational company. Before the pandemic, every morning she was seen going to office with her three-year-old daughter. When she was asked about her daughter, she said, "My company has a daycare facility for children of employees. It is such a relief. I can freely work because of this." Did you know that in 2017, Parliament made changes to Maternity Act, 1961 and made it obligatory for workplaces with more than 50 employees to arrange for a daycare facility.
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3. Purna Malavath, at the age of 13 years and 11 months, became the youngest woman in the world to climb the highest peak of Mount Everest. Purna was born in Pakala village of Telangana. She went to a government-run welfare school. Do you know that Central and State governments put aside a share of the budget to run residential schools for children belonging to scheduled caste and tribes? The then Educational Secretary, Praveen Kumar spotted Purna's talent and sent her for a mountain climbing workshop. Further, the social welfare ministry helped her reach the goal.
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4. Under the Integrated Child Development Scheme, anganwadis (the Learning and Development Centre for 0-6 age group) across India provide nutritious food to children, nutritional supplements to pregnant and lactating mothers.
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5. You will observe that in buses and trains some seats are reserved for specially abled (divyang) people. Just like we have Aadhar card for citizens, in recent years, the Central government has come up with a unique disability ID for divyang persons/persons with disabilities. The government claims that this unique ID will save divyang people from the hassle of carrying multiple documents to avail benefits of schemes.
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6. In 1987, the Indian Parliament passed the NALSA Act, also known as the Legal Aid Act. Many times people are afraid to go to court due to lack of money or proper guidance. To prevent this from happening, government provides for free legal aid under this Act. Members of the SC/ST community, women, children, etc., are entitled to get this legal aid. For this, a specific fund is allotted to each district. The recent India Justice Report made by the Tata Trust however depicts that the infrastructure of legal aid needs massive increase to help more and more citizens benefit from this.
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7. During the lockdown, you must have read stories about increasing number of people in villages enrolling themselves for work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGA). MNREGA is a flagship programme of the Central Government aimed at providing livelihoods in rural India. Over the last few years, however, questions have been raised about government making less budgetary provisions for the MGNREGA scheme.
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Activity 5

Over a period of time, the Parliament has come up with various Acts (laws) that give shape to the Directive Principles. Can you find out the names of the Acts for the following Directive Principles?

1. A Directive Principle of State Policy is to organize the working of village panchayats. To give effect to this, in 1992, the Parliament passed a Constitutional Amendment Act. This particular Act is believed to have transformed the working of village panchayats in India with making gram sabha and elections mandatory in every village. Can you find out the name of the Act?
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2. Directive Principles do talk about the wellbeing and development of divyang persons/persons with disabilities. While our Central and State governments did work in this regard even earlier, a firm step was taken in 2016 when the Parliament came up with an Act dedicated to the rights of persons with disabilities. What is this Act called?
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3. In Directive Principles there is a mention of protection of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes from all kinds of exploitation and injustice. To prevent caste based atrocities, the Parliament passed an Act in 1989 making caste based atrocities a criminal offence. Can you find out the full name of this Act?
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4. You must have seen ration shops around you. At these shops subsidized food grains are given to eligible people. Do you know that in 2013, the Parliament came up with an Act that deals with the Right to Food of people. Which Act is this?
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5. In 2019, the Government of India came up with major labour law reforms. Can you state the name of this document that clubbed and replaced the following four laws: (i) the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, (ii) the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, (iii) the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, and (iv) the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976?
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Activity 6: Search, think and write

There was one item listed under Directive Principles of State Policy, of which the government became increasingly convinced that it can no longer be under the Directive Principles but must now be part of the Fundamental Rights. This essentially means the government made this item its priority by putting it in the list of Fundamental Rights. Which item was this? It was deleted from the Directive Principles and added to the Fundamental Rights in 2002?

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Bhakti Bhave has more than seven years of experience in constitution and citizenship education. She is the founder of Constitution and Responsible Citizenship Initiative and works with teachers and citizens on making constitution education simple, interesting and actionable. She can be reached at

<bhaktibhave@crcinitiative.com>.

Answers

- 1) Constitution 2) sovereignty 3) dignity 4) heritage 5) education 6) scientific
- Activity 1**
- To develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform.
 - To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the national flag and the national anthem.
 - To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the national flag and the national anthem.
 - To value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture.
 - To renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women.
- Activity 2**
- Article-45: Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years.
 - Article-41: Right to work, to education and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, oldage, sickness and disablement, and in other cases of undeserved want.
 - Article-39A: Equal justice and free legal aid.
 - Article-39A: (a) that the citizens, men and women equally, have the right to an adequate means of livelihood.
- Activity 3**
- Professor B.N. Rao, the constitutional advisor of the Constituent Assembly.
 - Shri. K. M. Munshi, the Constituent Assembly member from Bombay.
 - Dr. Babasahab Ambedkar, chairman of the drafting committee.
2. Raj Kumari Amrit Kaur said, "Marriage should take place based on consent of man and woman and both of them should have equal rights and say in the marriage."
- Fundamental
 - Prof. K. T. Shah – "Directive Principles look to me like a cheque on a bank payable when able. That is only if the resources at the bank permit."
- Activity 4**
- Article-41: Right to work, to education and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, oldage, sickness and disablement, and in other cases of undeserved want.
 - Article-42: Provision for just and humane conditions of work and maternity relief.

- Activity 5**
- The Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Act, 1992. 2) The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. 3) The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. 4) National Food Security Act, 2013. 5) The Code on Wages, 2019.
- Activity 6**
- Answer: Right to Education.
- Before 2002, Article 45 of the Constitution read as "The State shall endeavour to provide, within a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution, for free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of fourteen years."
 - In 2002, this Article was moved to Fundamental Rights by adding Article 21A that is Right to Education.
 - In place of the original Article 45, the current text of Article 45 that is "Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years. The State shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years." was inserted.
- Activity 7**
- Article-46. Promotion of educational and economic interests of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other weaker sections.
 - Article-45: Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years.
 - Article-41: Right to work, to education and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, oldage, sickness and disablement, and in other cases of undeserved want.
 - Article-39A: Equal justice and free legal aid.
 - Article-39A: (a) that the citizens, men and women equally, have the right to an adequate means of livelihood.