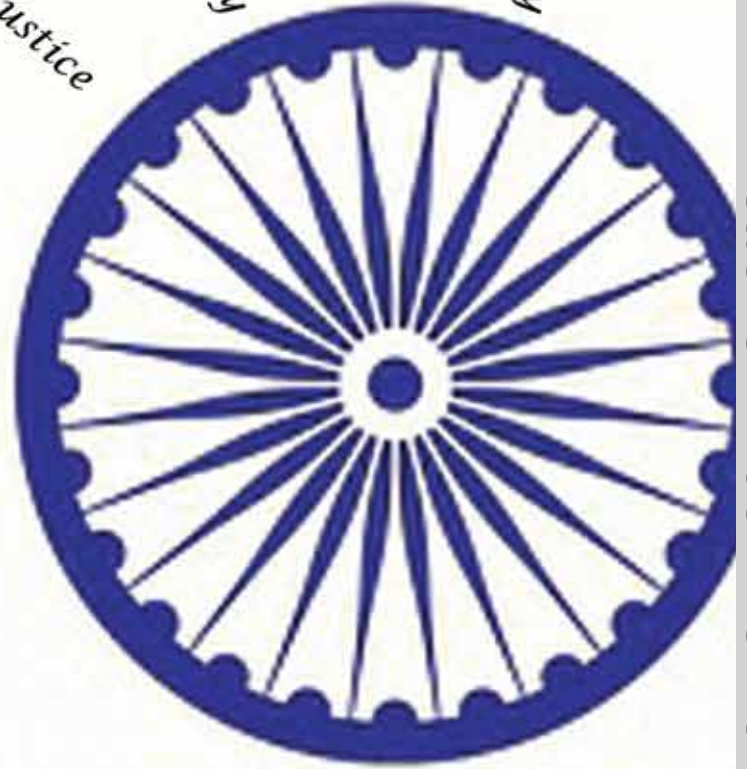




सत्यमेव जयते

Justice
Fraternity
Equality
Liberty



Know your Constitution

Bhakti Bhave

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

Activity 1

Samvidhan is a 10 episode series made by Rajya Sabha TV (now Sansad TV) and is directed by renowned Filmmaker Shyam Benegal. Watch the condensed version of this series at the link given below and answer the following questions.

Samvidhaan – The Making of the Constitution of India (Condensed Version)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PvULrpX0HtA>

1. Watch and listen to the discussions in the video carefully and complete the table given below.
2. Towards the end of the video, you get to see the original copy of the Constitution of India. You will see that the Constitution has several paintings on its pages? Note down a minimum of three paintings that you see.

Topic of discussion	Who said it?	What did the member say?
Right to vote		
Reservation in public employment		
Fundamental duties		
Right against discrimination		
Women's rights		

Activity 2

The Constituent Assembly of the Indian Constitution had 15 women members. Given below are selected portions of speeches by two women members. Read these portions and select a suitable title for each from the box.

Note: For the purpose of adapting the speeches to the learning level of students, selected sentences have been chosen from each speech and have been put together in a paragraph. For the full speech, refer to the given link.

https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/publication_electronic/Selected%20Women%20Speech_Final.pdf

1. Responsibility lies with people to make the Constitution work
2. Beyond Constitution: Need for a campaign against untouchability
3. Freedom from bonded and forced labour
4. Justice for women in India

A. Shrimati Hansa Mehta (Bombay: General): Sir, I consider it a proud privilege to speak in support of this historic resolution so ably moved by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru. It will warm the heart of

many a woman to know that free India will mean not only equality of status but equality of opportunity. It is true that a few women in the past and even today enjoy high status and have received the highest honour that any man can receive. But these women are few and far between. There are thousands of women today who are denied even ordinary human rights. The women's organization to which I have the honour to belong has never asked for reserved seats, for quotas, or for separate electorates. What we have asked for is social justice, economic justice and political justice.



Your title: _____

- B. Shrimati Hansa Mehta (Bombay: General): Mr. President Sir, it is with a sigh of relief that we have come to our journey's end. On the floor of this House and even outside, questions have been asked whether the Constitution is good and how long it is going to last. It is very difficult to reply to this question. It is for the future electors (voters) to elect the right kind of persons who will work the Constitution in the interests of the people. The responsibility, therefore, lies with the people.

Your title: _____

- C. Shrimati Dakshayani Velayudan (Madras: General): Mr. President, I have great pleasure in commending Clause 11. It is unfortunate that a section of the people of this land will have to work without getting any remuneration whatsoever, even for their daily maintenance and the people who work in the fields or in other places will have to go back to their homes without getting a single pie. They don't have the right to demand wages even though they work day and night. So this clause when it comes into existence will give relief to a great number of people who are subjected to economic exploitation.



Your title: _____

- D. Shrimati Dakshayani Velayudan (Madras: General): Mr. Vice-President Sir, we cannot expect a Constitution without a clause relating to untouchability because the Chairman of the Drafting Committee himself has experienced it. We find that there is a vast change in the outlook and attitude of the people today towards untouchables. When this Constitution is put into practice, what we want is not to punish the people for acting against the law, but what is needed is that there should be proper propaganda done by both the central and provincial governments. Then only there will be the improvement that we want.

Your title: _____

Activity 3

Let's look at a copy of the Constitution and understand how it is structured. For this you will need a copy of the Constitution of India and then find answers to the questions given below. For a digital copy of the Constitution, follow these instructions.

1. Go to <https://legislative.gov.in/>
 2. You will find a tab of the Constitution of India on the right.
 3. Click on that tab, you will land on a page which has the Constitution of India in different languages.
 4. Download a copy of the Constitution.
 5. Once you have the copy with you, look at the index and answer the following questions.
- A. How many parts does the Constitution of India have?
 - B. How many articles are there in the Constitution of India?
 - C. How many schedules does the Constitution of India have?
 - D. Which part of the Indian Constitution consists of the fundamental rights of citizens?
 - E. Which part of the Constitution consists of the fundamental duties of citizens?
 - F. Which schedule talks about the rights and responsibilities of municipalities in India?

Activity 4

The Preamble to the Constitution of India is the first page of the Indian Constitution and a page that our textbooks have in the beginning. In the word search given below, can you find eight words from the text of the preamble?

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

Activity 5



Read the following passages and choose the correct answers from the list given below.

Democratic, Secular, Justice, Sovereign, Dignity, Fraternity, Liberty, Equality

1. In Khabata village, every four years, elections take place. Residents of Khabata elect their leaders, who look after the development of the village. On the first Sunday of every month, the elected leaders and residents hold a meeting to discuss issues and decide where the money gathered through taxes should be spent.

Khabata village recently received an award for the best _____ local government.

2. Simunia is a small region surrounded by large mountains. In Simunia, majority of the population practices Simali religion. It is the official religion of the Government of Simunia. Around seven percent of the population practices Christianity. In public transport, Simalians (people who follow Sim) get 50 percent discount on bus fares, Christians do not have this facility. There are many such differences in laws for Simalians and non Simalians.

Based on what you have read so far, you can safely conclude that Simunia is not a _____ country.

3. Recently the Supreme Court passed a verdict that from 2021 onwards, women too can appear for exams and be selected for posts at the National Defence Academy. The National Defence Academy is a defence training institute that supplies officers to the Indian army, airforce and navy. Till 2021, only men were allowed to appear for the exams to join the National Defence Academy.

While giving its decision, the court said that this practice is a violation of the Principle of _____ in our constitution and hence needs to be corrected.

4. Before independence, it was the British government that decided how India would function, but post independence, this changed. India became a _____ nation. This meant that now no external control could be exercised over India. India was to be governed solely by Indians and no external authority.

5. In Lakshmi's house, her elder brother and father decide everything. Lakshmi and her mother need the men's permission even to step out. Lakshmi goes to school, but after she comes back, she needs to be at home and help her mother. Lakshmi says, "Clearly, in my family, I don't have _____ and _____ to the extent that my brother has. Bhaiyya doesn't need to ask permission for anything."

6. Kavita, a social worker and a resident of a posh society in Pune, says, "It is shameful to see how people give their waste to the wastepicker of the society. Despite guidelines that waste needs to be segregated, people simply dump baby diapers, leftover food, plastic bottles and what not in one bag. Wastepickers are also human beings like us and they have a right to live life with respect and _____ too.

Activity 6

Now since you have understood that the Constitution of India has parts, articles and schedules, let us see what they mean? Read the following explanations and guess which word from the box it suits best.

Article(s)	
Schedule(s)	Part(s)

- Just like our textbook consists of chapters, the Constitution of India consists of _____. Each _____ deals with a particular topic. For example in _____ 2, information about citizenship in India is given.
- _____ is a sub-point mentioned in a part. The Constitution of India has in all 395 articles. In the fundamental rights, _____ 14 talks about equality before law.
- _____ are like attachments to the Constitution. The 8th _____ deals with languages, whereas the 12th _____ talks about the responsibilities of the Panchayats.

Activity 7

Look at Part 3 of the Constitution of India and fill in the blanks

1. Article 14	_____ before law.
2. Article _____	Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.
3. Article _____	Abolition of untouchability.
4. Article 19	Protection of certain rights regarding _____ of _____.
5. Article 21	Protection of life and personal _____.
6. Article _____	Freedom of conscience, free profession and practice of religion.
7. Article 32	_____ for enforcement of rights given by this part.

Activity 8

Read these real life examples and connect them to the fundamental rights mentioned in Part 3 of the Constitution. State the exact fundamental right and article that each example deals with.

- Sunita belongs to the Valmiki community. In North India, the Valmiki community is considered as lower caste. Sunita works as a housemaid in Ghaziabad. She says, "Most houses have a separate steel glass for me. It is also kept separate in the kitchens so that everyone knows what community I belong to."

- B. A Bollywood superstar was accused of killing five people with his car. These people were sleeping on the footpath. It was alleged that the superstar was drunk while he was driving. The police filed a case and the superstar was arrested for further investigation. The superstar’s fans questioned his arrest. Our constitution says, doesn’t matter, what your status is, the law is the same for all.
- C. A government hospital in Maharashtra advertised for a job. One of the conditions for the job was that the female applicant would have to get her husband's permission for the job. A woman named Maya Devi applied for the job and got it. After a while, her husband withdrew permission and Mayadevi had to quit her job. Mayadevi went to court against this condition.
- D. Many years ago, a political party in Mumbai staged a big agitation against foreigners (people from other states) usurping local jobs. The agitation started turning violent and people from other states fled to their own state out of fear.
- E. Learning from lessons of lockdown during the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Government of India came up with a reform called One Nation One Ration Card. This basically means that one can avail groceries on the basis of a ration card anywhere in the country. During the pandemic it was observed that daily wage workers struggled to get rice, dal and groceries at ration shops as they had their ration cards registered in their hometowns. The government says this move will strengthen food security measures of our country.

Note: Look forward to a worksheet on the Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles in February 2022.

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Answers

Activity 4: Democratic, Secular, Justice, Sovereign, Dignity, Fraternity, Liberty, Equality

Activity 7

Article 14 Equality before law

Article 15 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth

Article 17 Abolition of untouchability

Article 19 Protection of certain rights regarding freedom of speech, etc.

Article 21 Protection of life and personal liberty

Article 25 Freedom of Conscience, free profession and practice of religion

Article 32 Remedies for enforcement of rights given by this part

Activity 8

A. Article 17 – Abolition of Untouchability

B. Article 14 – Equality before Law

C. Article 15 – No discrimination on the basis of caste, religion, race sex and place of birth.

D. Article 19 – Freedom of movement throughout the country.

E. Article 21 – Right to Life