

Power Sharing in Democracies: Belgium and Sri Lanka

Political Science · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. What is the primary focus of Chapter 1, 'Power-sharing'?

- A) The history of European monarchies
- B) How democracies handle demands for power-sharing**
- C) The economic policies of developing nations
- D) The military strategies of ancient civilizations

2. In a democracy, where does all power not rest according to the text?

- A) With the citizens
- B) With the judiciary
- C) With any one organ of the government**
- D) With the executive branch

3. Which two countries are used as case studies to understand power-sharing?

- A) India and Pakistan
- B) Belgium and Sri Lanka**
- C) Germany and France
- D) USA and Canada

4. What is the definition of 'Ethnic' provided in the text?

- A) A social division based on shared religion
- B) A social division based on shared culture**
- C) A social division based on shared economic status
- D) A social division based on shared political ideology

5. In Belgium, what percentage of the population speaks Dutch and lives in the Flemish region?

- A) 40 percent
- B) 59 percent**
- C) 1 percent
- D) 80 percent

6. What percentage of people speak French in Brussels, the capital of Belgium?

- A) 20 percent
- B) 40 percent
- C) 80 percent**
- D) 59 percent

7. What was a significant problem concerning Brussels in Belgium?

- A) Dutch speakers were a majority in the capital but a minority in the country.
- B) French speakers were a minority in the capital but a majority in the country.
- C) Dutch speakers were a majority in the country but a minority in the capital.**
- D) French speakers were a majority in the country but a minority in the capital.

8. What is the approximate population of Sri Lanka mentioned in the text?

- A) Half the population of Haryana
- B) About two crore**
- C) One crore
- D) Significantly more than Belgium

9. What are the two major social groups in Sri Lanka based on language?

- A) Sinhala-speakers and German-speakers
- B) Tamil-speakers and French-speakers
- C) Sinhala-speakers and Tamil-speakers**
- D) Dutch-speakers and Tamil-speakers

10. What percentage of the population in Sri Lanka are Sinhala-speakers?

- A) 18 percent
- B) 74 percent**
- C) 13 percent
- D) 7 percent

11. What is the definition of 'Majoritarianism' provided in the text?

- A) A belief that minorities should rule by disregarding the majority.
- B) A belief that the majority community should rule by disregarding the minority.**
- C) A belief in equal rule for all communities.
- D) A belief that power should reside with a single leader.

12. When did Sri Lanka emerge as an independent country?

- A) 1956
- B) 1948**
- C) 1980s
- D) 2009

13. What was the main consequence of the 1956 Act in Sri Lanka regarding language?

- A) Tamil was declared the only official language.
- B) Sinhala was declared the only official language.**
- C) Both Sinhala and Tamil were declared official languages.
- D) English was declared the only official language.

14. What did the Sri Lankan Tamils demand by the 1980s?

- A) Equality in education and jobs
- B) Regional autonomy
- C) An independent Tamil Eelam (state)
- D) All of the above**

15. What does 'Civil war' mean according to the text?

- A) A war between two different countries
- B) A violent conflict between opposing groups within a country**
- C) A conflict resolved through peaceful negotiations
- D) A war fought only by soldiers

16. How did the Belgian leaders approach regional differences and cultural diversities?

- A) They ignored them to maintain national unity.
- B) They tried to impose a single culture.
- C) They recognised them and amended their constitution to accommodate them.**
- D) They divided the country into linguistic regions.

17. Between which years did the Belgian leaders amend their constitution four times?

- A) 1950s and 1960s
- B) 1970 and 1993**
- C) 1948 and 1956
- D) 1990s and 2000s

18. What is a key feature of the Belgian model regarding the central government?

- A) The number of Dutch and French-speaking ministers is unequal.
- B) The number of Dutch and French-speaking ministers is equal.**
- C) Only French-speaking ministers are appointed.
- D) Only Dutch-speaking ministers are appointed.

19. What is the 'community government' in Belgium responsible for?

- A) Economic development and infrastructure
- B) Cultural, educational, and language-related issues**
- C) National defense and foreign policy
- D) Judicial appointments and legal rulings

20. What did the Belgian model help to avoid?

- A) Economic prosperity
- B) Civic strife and possible division of the country**
- C) International conflict
- D) Religious tensions