

Ages 15–16 · Civics

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

A Key terms: match each term to its meaning

Write the letter of the correct meaning in the box next to each term.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| 1 Power sharing | ☐ | A The belief that the majority community should rule a country in whatever way it wants, disregarding the wishes of minorities. |
| 2 Majoritarianism | ☐ | B A government formed by two or more political parties coming together. |
| 3 Community government | ☐ | C An arrangement in which each organ of government can limit the others, so none has unlimited power. |
| 4 Prudential reason | ☐ | D Dividing power among organs of government, levels of government, social groups and political parties or groups. |
| 5 Horizontal distribution of power | ☐ | E A reason based on careful calculation of gains and losses, such as reducing conflict. |
| 6 Checks and balances | ☐ | F In Belgium, a government elected by people of one language community, wherever they live, dealing with cultural, educational and language matters. |
| 7 Coalition government | ☐ | G Sharing of power among organs of government at the same level: legislature, executive and judiciary. |

B Quick quiz

Circle the best answer, write its letter, then explain your choice in a few words.

- 1 In which part of Belgium do the Dutch-speaking people form a minority?**

- a) The Flemish region
b) Brussels
c) Wallonia
d) The whole country

Answer: _____ Why? _____

- ## 2 What did the 1956 Act in Sri Lanka do?

- a) Made Tamil an official language
b) Created a federal system
c) Recognised Sinhala as the only official language
d) Gave Belgium independence

Answer: _____ Why? _____

- 3 Which of these is a prudential reason for power sharing?**

- a) People have a right to be consulted
b) It is the very spirit of democracy
c) Citizens gain a stake in the system
d) It reduces the chance of conflict between groups

Answer: Why?

- 4 Sharing power among the legislature, executive and judiciary is called:**

- a) Horizontal distribution of power b) Vertical division of power
c) Community government d) Coalition government

Answer: Why?

- 5 Power shared among the Union, State and local governments in India is an example of:**

- a) Checks and balances
b) Majoritarianism
c) Vertical (federal) division of power
d) Power shared among social groups

Answer: Why?

Power Sharing: CBSE Class 10 Civics Lesson Slides (India)

Answer key for teachers · Ages 15–16 · Civics

A Key terms

1 Power sharing	D	Dividing power among organs of government, levels of government, social groups and political parties or groups.
2 Majoritarianism	A	The belief that the majority community should rule a country in whatever way it wants, disregarding the wishes of minorities.
3 Community government	F	In Belgium, a government elected by people of one language community, wherever they live, dealing with cultural, educational and language matters.
4 Prudential reason	E	A reason based on careful calculation of gains and losses, such as reducing conflict.
5 Horizontal distribution of power	G	Sharing of power among organs of government at the same level: legislature, executive and judiciary.
6 Checks and balances	C	An arrangement in which each organ of government can limit the others, so none has unlimited power.
7 Coalition government	B	A government formed by two or more political parties coming together.

B Quick quiz

1 b) Brussels

About 59% of Belgians speak Dutch, but in the capital, Brussels, about 80% speak French and only about 20% speak Dutch.

2 c) Recognised Sinhala as the only official language

The 1956 Act recognised Sinhala as the only official language, one of several measures that made many Sri Lankan Tamils feel alienated.

3 d) It reduces the chance of conflict between groups

Prudential reasons are about better outcomes, such as less conflict and more stability. The other options are moral reasons.

4 a) Horizontal distribution of power

The three organs work at the same level of government, so this is horizontal distribution, also known as a system of checks and balances.

5 c) Vertical (federal) division of power

Dividing power between higher and lower levels of government is called vertical, or federal, division of power.