

III. Answer the following.

1. Explain the terms 'prejudice' and 'discrimination'.

Ans- Prejudice comes from the words 'to judge before'. It is forming an unfavourable opinion or feeling about a person or a group of people, without a full examination of the situation.

- Discrimination is making a distinction against a person or thing based on the group, class or category they belong to, rather than basing any action on individual merit.

2. Explain how caste forms a basis for discrimination.

Ans- The India into four main castes - the Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas and the Shudras. Those at the bottom are considered 'untouchable', 'impure' and 'polluting' to other caste groups.

3. What is meant by 'stereotype'? Give an example.

Ans- A stereotype is an oversimplified and unfair belief that a group of people has particular characteristics or that all members of a group are same.

Example - Men are strong and do all the work.

4. Give two examples to show how girls and women are treated unfairly.

Ans- a) Unequal wages for the service or work.
b) Girls are not good at sports.

5. Why does the law prohibit dowry and child marriage?

Ans- Marrying children at a tender age deprives them of opportunities to study and enjoy the joys of children. At a very young age the children are not ready to take of the responsibilities associated with marriage. So, the law prohibits dowry and child marriage.

6. How does the Indian Constitution prevent discrimination?

Ans- Our constitution have made provisions to protect the weaker sections of the people against discrimination.

- The Constitution gives various fundamental rights which means that no one can be discriminated against on the basis of their gender, caste, religion, race or economic status.

- If this right is violated, the citizen can seek its enforcement through a court of law.

- The constitution has also given special concession to women in various fields like a reservation of 33% seats for women in Parliament, education of girl children.

I. True or False?

1. Untouchability no longer exists in India. False
2. A stereotype is an unfair generalisation. True
3. Inequality can form the basis for discrimination. True
4. The law has given the women equal right to inherit property. True
5. The Constitution discourages diversity because it causes discrimination. False

II. Fill in the blanks.

1. When prejudice is expressed in action, it is called discrimination.
2. The practice of untouchability is a criminal offence.
3. The chief architect of the Indian Constitution was Dr B R Ambedkar.
4. The Constitution has granted fundamental rights to all Indians.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Which of these ~~an~~ actions is not born out of prejudice and discrimination?
a) a child with chickenpox not being allowed to play with other children.

2. Which of these is not a stereotype?

Ans- b) Women travelling alone late in the night face more danger than men.

3. Gender inequality means

Ans- a) discrimination against women

4. Which of these does not violate a fundamental right of a citizen of India?

Ans- c) A man is arrested for damaging a national monument

5. A patriarchal society is one where

Ans- a) a man is the head of the family.