

EXAM-DAY · 90-MIN REVISION CARD

Constitution: Why and How?

Print this · Fold it · Carry to the exam-hall gate · Revise once · Then walk in.

FORMULAS & KEY RESULTS

Definition: a constitution = the body of fundamental rules and principles by which a society is governed; the SUPREME law.

Four FUNCTIONS: (1) Allocates power, (2) Limits government, (3) Expresses aspirations/identity, (4) Provides basic framework + builds trust.

Authority rests on: made by Indians + fair process (consensus) + just content + people's consent.

Constituent Assembly: formed 1946; first met Dec 1946; indirectly elected by Provincial Assemblies.

Key people: Dr Rajendra Prasad = President of Assembly; Dr B.R. Ambedkar = Chairman, Drafting Committee; B.N. Rau = Constitutional Adviser.

Objectives Resolution: moved by Jawaharlal Nehru on 13 Dec 1946 — laid down the guiding ideals.

ADOPTED 26 Nov 1949 (Constitution Day) · IN FORCE 26 Jan 1950 (Republic Day). Do NOT swap these!

Preamble keywords: Sovereign · Socialist · Secular · Democratic · Republic → Justice · Liberty · Equality · Fraternity.

Constitution > ordinary law: harder to amend, source of govt's own authority, cannot be overridden by an Act.

TOP 5 PYQ PATTERNS

1 Explain four functions of a constitution (with examples)

4 marks · 85% of years

Allocate / Limit / Aspirations / Framework — one explained line + one Indian example each.

2 How was the Indian Constitution made / Constituent Assembly

6 marks · 70% of years

Composition (indirectly elected, Prasad President, Ambedkar drafting) + process (3 yrs, consensus, Objectives Resolution) + dates + why it has authority.

3 Why should we accept the authority of the Constitution?

4 marks · 60% of years

Supreme law + fair inclusive process + just content + builds trust. Four distinct reasons.

4 VSA: adoption/commencement dates, key personalities

1 mark · 90% of years

Adopted 26 Nov 1949; in force 26 Jan 1950; Ambedkar=Drafting Committee; Prasad=President; Nehru=Objectives Resolution.

5 Preamble passage — identify ideals and explain

4 marks · 45% of years

Quote the keyword, state which ideal (Justice/Liberty/Equality/Fraternity or Sovereign/Secular etc.), explain in one line with an Indian instance.

90-MIN REVISION FLOW

0-15 min

Write the four functions of a constitution from memory, each with one Indian example. Self-check against the four-function wheel.

15-30 min

Draw the timeline from Govt of India Act 1935 to commencement on 26 Jan 1950. Fill in every date and personality without looking.

30-45 min

Recite the Preamble keywords (Sovereign-Socialist-Secular-Democratic-Republic → Justice-Liberty-Equality-Fraternity) and write a one-line meaning for each ideal.

45-60 min

Write a 4-point answer to 'Why should we accept the authority of the Constitution?' from memory: supreme law / fair process / just content / builds trust.

60-75 min

Take the 15-MCQ Quick Drill under a 20-minute timer. Target >= 12/15.

75-90 min

Review every wrong answer and re-read the matching notes-slide. Memorise the two dates that students always swap (26 Nov 1949 vs 26 Jan 1950). Done.

Confidence, not anxiety. You've practised this all year. Trust your steps. Don't change strategy on exam morning.
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