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Government assignment

Do a review of two pages on Chapter Eight:

### Citizen's role in a democracy:

For democracy to improve or deliver, citizens must become informed about issues that can improve their lives. They must be free to come together to express their views and preferences and to see that government responds to citizens. The <sup>barriers</sup> barriers to citizen participation are multiple in every country and based on numerous functions or factors. A symbiotic relationship exists between citizens and democracy, made by the citizens for the citizen govt, made by the citizen for the citizenry is called democracy and involves active participation of people in governments.

### Citizenship:

This involves a relationship between the people and government. Citizens have a set of rights and responsibilities including the right to participate in decisions that affect public welfare. Citizenship of a state is the position or status of being a citizen of a country. Citizenship of a state may be acquired either by birth or naturalisation and probably otherwise.

### Citizen rights:

Citizen rights and liberties are the ground of the state which enables men to live and develop fully. These rights are not absolute since they are limited by the rights of others in the state. Rights entails some duties and responsibilities on the citizens, which may therefore be defined as a privilege conferred by law upon a person or group. When a privilege is expressed within the state then it becomes civil rights.

## Democracy:

The word democracy is derived from the Greek word "demos" meaning people and "kratos" meaning rule that is "rule by the people". Democracy first originated from Ancient Greece where in the city-state, free to meet frequently in assemblies which had the power to make laws. The Greek democracy was a limited institution in that it excluded labourers from exercising political rights. Abraham Lincoln, perceived democracy as the government for the people and by the people. According to him democracy is a government of the people when it is designed to represent the common will of the people within a state and that it is a government by the people when its ideological undercurrents is grounded in the people's culture. Since there is no single definition of democracy however, what can be deduce from the ~~various definitions of democracy~~ are (1) Existence of rule of law (2) freedom of press (3) independent and impartial judiciary etc.

## Duties and responsibilities of a citizen in democracy:

- 1) A citizen in democracy should have the duty to vote.
- 2) A good citizen must have a duty to obey the law.
- 3) Must refrain from uttering destructive criticism.
- 4) A good citizen must refrain from interference with the rights of other members.

## Conclusion:

In conclusion democracy is a system of govt where the citizens directly elect the government by voting.

