

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Supreme Court in the Classroom**  
**Governance & Elections**  
**NCERT 6.2**

**Section 1 – In the Classroom**

You and 2 other friends want to fix your old portable radio. You have lots of electrical equipment, Swati has electronics textbooks and Mozammil's sister is an Electrical Engineer. Each of you brings something different and unique to the table.

1. In this example, why is it useful that your group of friends is diverse? Select all phrases you think apply (you can select more than 1)

**Answers: a & b****Hint: Think back to the Unit 1 – Diversity. Is India uniform or is it composed of a diverse range of communities, with a diverse range of skills?**

2. Amit wants to join you and help you fix your radio. Amit has already fixed broken radios before. Swati does not like Amit because Amit has slapped her younger brother. Do you want Amit to help you fix your radio?

**Answers: Ensure that students explain their reasoning. They must say why they said no/yes to Amit.**

3. Amit says he is innocent. He says, "If I were guilty, our School Principal would have punished me." Divya says that Amit definitely slapped her younger brother. Mozammil says that you should wait until Amit has been found guilty by the Principal before reaching any conclusion. What do you think?

**Answer: No single right or wrong answer. Ensure students discuss their answers and explain why they selected the answer they chose.**

## Section 2 – In the Supreme Court

Definition: To **contest elections** means to be allowed to be voted for. If Mridul contests an election, it means we can vote for her.

The law says that people found guilty of committing crimes cannot contest elections. However, people who have been accused of crimes, but have not yet been found guilty can still contest elections.

4. Karthik says that all people accused of crimes should not be allowed to contest elections, even if the courts have not found them guilty yet. What is one problem with Karthik's view?

**Answer: a**

**Hint: Introduce students to the phrase: 'innocent until proven guilty'**

5. Aadila says that all people should be allowed to contest elections, even if they were criminals in the past. She says that people can change. What is one problem with Aadila's view?

**Answer: b**

**Hint: Tell students about the "criminalisation of politics", i.e. the number of criminal politicians in India is increasing.**

6. In 2018, the Supreme Court said that people can still contest elections if they are accused of crimes, but have not yet been found guilty. Why do you think it said this?

**Answer: Student should identify the presumption of innocence in their own language. They should say something about people being innocent before being found guilty.**

**Hint: Ask students to think about Amit, Divya's brother and the School Principal.**

7. The Supreme Court also said voters have the "right to know" the criminal history of political candidates. It said voters should know if a political candidate has been accused of crimes, even if they have not yet been found guilty. Why is the "right to know" important for democracy? (you can select more than 1 answer)

**Answer: a & c**

**Hint: Go to link, <https://scobserver.clpr.org.in/court-case/electoral-disqualification-case/plain-english-summary-of-judgment>. Read Section titled "Free & fair elections and the fundamental right to know"**