

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 which apply (you can select more than 1).
  - a. Access to different advantages, like resources or skills
  - b. Multiple opinions
  - c. One, single opinion
  - d. Instant agreement
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?

*Write short-answer:*

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?
  - a. Amit is guilty, he *cannot* join you.
  - b. Maybe Amit is guilty, he *cannot* join you.
  - c. Maybe Amit is guilty, but I do not know. He can join you.
  - d. Amit is innocent. He can join you.

## 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?
  - a. People accused of crimes can turn out to be innocent
  - b. For the sake of diversity, criminals must be allowed to contest elections
  - c. Elections require people to vote
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?
  - a. All politicians are criminals
  - b. Criminals are more likely to become corrupt politicians
  - c. People accused of crimes can turn out to be innocent
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?

*Write short-answer:*

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)
  - a. Voters have the right to make informed (smart) choices
  - b. Voters need to be angry
  - c. Political candidates cannot hide who they really are