DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

1.Some rights need to be placed higher than the government’. Give reason.  
Answer:  
Thought it is the duty of each democratic government to protect the citizen’s rights but sometimes elected governments may not protect or may even attack the rights of their own citizens. That is why some rights need to be placed higher than the government, so that the government cannot violate these.

2. Mention any one exception to the Right to Equality as a Fundamental Right. Give reasons also.  
Answer:  
The State may make any special provision for women and children.  
It is necessary to give special treatment to some weaker sections of the society in order to ensure equal opportunity.

3. What is Public Interest Litigation?  
Answer:  
Under the PIL, any citizen or group of citizens can approach the Supreme Court or a High Court for the protection of public interest against a particular law or action of the government. One can write to the judges even on a postcard. The court will take up the matter if the judges find it in public interest.

4. What are Human Rights?  
Answer:  
Human Rights are those rights, which are inherent in our nature. Without these rights, we cannot live as human beings. Human rights allow us to fully develop and use our human qualities, intelligence, talents and conscience. They allow us to satisfy our spiritual and other needs.

5. Dr Ambedkar called the Right to Constitutional Remedies, “the heart and soul of our constitution”. Give reason.  
Answer:

* It is through this Right that all other Fundamental Rights are safeguarded and arbitrary action of the state is checked.
* Under this Right, a citizen is entitled to move the Supreme Court or any High Court or any other courts so authorised, if his/ her Fundamental Right (or Rights) is encroached upon, abridged or snatched away by the State, an individual or a body of persons. The courts are empowered to issue orders, directions and writs to the concerned to protect the rights of the complainant.

6. Write three Constitutional provisions for the protection of women and children in India.   
Answer:

* The Right to Equality: Under this the State can make special provisions for women and children.
* Right Against Exploitation: Under this traffic in human beings, especially women and children, shall be an offence punishable in accordance with the law.
* Right Against Exploitation: Under this no child below the age of 14 years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any other hazardous employment.

7. “Saudi Arabia is not a democratic country”. Justify. Mention any two rights which are enjoyed by the Indian citizens but not by citizens of Saudi Arabia.  
Or  
Compare the situation of India and Saudi Arabia in terms of right to freedom in both the countries.  
Answer:

* The country is ruled by a hereditary king and the people: have no role in electing or changing  
  their rulers.
* The king selects the legislature as well as the executive. He appoints the judges and can change any of their decisions.
* Citizens cannot form political parties or any political organisations.

Rights enjoyed by Indians but not by Saudi Arabians-

* There is no freedom of religion. Every citizen is required to be Muslim. Non-Muslim residents can follow their religion in private, but not in public.
* Women are subjected to many public restrictions. The testimony of one man is considered equal to that of two women.

8. Mention the restrictions that can be imposed on various forms of freedoms granted by the Constitution.   
Answer:

* Freedom of speech and expression — reasonable restrictions can be imposed on this freedom.
* Restriction on freedom to hold meetings, processions, rallies and demonstrations and reasonable restriction in the interest of public order.
* Restrictions on freedom to form associations and unions in the interest of public order, morality of sovereignty or integrity of India.