

**Class 10**  
**SST**

**Pol Science**

**Chapter 1**  
Power sharing

**Short / Long answer type questions**

**1. How is the ethnic composition of Belgium very complex? Explain.**

Ans:- (i) Of the country's total population, 59 per cent live in the Flemish region and speak the Dutch language.  
(ii) Another 40 per cent of people live in the Wallonia region and speak French.  
(iii) Remaining 1 per cent of the Belgians speak German.  
(iv) In the capital city Brussels, 80 percent people speak French while 20 percent are Dutch speaking.

**2. Describe any three majoritarian measures adopted by the Sri Lankan Government to establish Sinhala supremacy.**

Ans:- Sri Lankan Tamils felt alienated because:-  
(i) Government adopted majoritarian measures to establish Sinhala supremacy. In 1956, an Act was passed to recognise Sinhala as the only official language thus disregarding Tamil.  
(ii) The governments followed preferential politics that favoured Sinhala applicants for university positions and government jobs.  
(iii) A new constitution stipulated that the state shall protect and foster Buddhism  
(iv) Sri Lankan Tamils felt that none of the major political parties led by the Buddhist Sinhala leaders was sensitive to their language and culture.

**(3) " sharing of powers makes a country more powerful and united." Do you agree with this statement and why?**

Ans:- (i) prudential reasons:-  
(a) It helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups. Since social conflict often leads to violence and political instability.  
(b) It is a good way to ensure the stability of political order.  
(c) Imposing the will of the majority, community over others may look like an attractive option in the short run, but in the long run it undermines the unity of nation.  
(ii) Moral reasons:-  
(a) Power sharing is the very spirit of democracy. A democratic rule involves sharing power with those affected by its exercise and who have to live with its effect.  
(b) People have the right to be consulted on how they are to be governed.  
(c) A legitimate government is one where citizens through participation, Acquire a stake in the system.