

## **Dokchory Learns About The Panchayat**

**1) Here are some words from the text and their meanings. Test your understanding by matching the words on the left with their meanings on the right.**

- a) Institution – manner of governing or ruling.**
- b) Elections – angry dispute, unfriendly relations with someone.**
- c) Sincerity – organisation or society.**
- d) Differently abled – the exercise through which we vote for new leaders.**
- e) Schemes – the money citizens of a country have to pay the government to help it do different kinds of work.**
- f) Substantial – plans.**
- g) Rural – large in size or amount.**
- h) Tax – relating to a village or the countryside.**
- i) Quarrel – having a physical or mental condition that makes it difficult for a person to do all the work that other people do.**
- j) Governance – devotion to a purpose.**

**Ans:-** a) Institution – organisation or society.

b) Elections – the exercise through which we vote for new leaders.

c) Sincerity – devotion to a purpose.

d) Differently abled – having a physical or mental condition that makes it difficult for a person to do all the work that other people do.

e) Schemes – plans.

f) Substantial – large in size or amount.

g) Rural – relating to a village or the countryside.

h) Tax – the money citizens of a country have to pay the government to help it do different kinds of work.

i) Quarrel – angry dispute, unfriendly relations with someone.

j) Governance – manner of governing or ruling.

**2) Complete the following sentences with information from the text :**

**a) Dokchory studies in Class .....**

**Ans:-** VIII.

**b) The name of her school is .....**

**Ans:-** Disangmuk Janajati High School.

**c) Her father's name is .....**

**Ans:-** Konke Mili.

**d) He works in the .....**

**Ans:-** Panchayat .

**e) Dokchory goes to school by .....**

**Ans:-** Bicycle.

**f) She loves the ride because she .....**

**Ans:-** Gets to know new things everyday.

**g) To contest the Panchayat elections, one has to be ..... years old.**

**Ans:-** 21.

**3) Answer the following questions to understand the text better :**

**a) What was the meaning of Panchayat long ago ?**

**Ans:-** Long ago, Panchayat meant a system of governance by five elderly men called Panch Gramin Pramukh.

**b) What is the meaning of Panchayat now ?**

**Ans:-** Nowadays a Panchayat is an institution constituted by elected members. It is responsible for the development of villages.

**c) What kind of work is done by the Panchayat ?**

**Ans:-** The Panchayat builds and repairs roads, bridges, houses for the poor people and so on.

**d) From where does the Panchayat get money to perform all its work ?**

**Ans:-** The Panchayat raises a little money from taxes and it gets an annual grant from the Panchayat and Rural Development Department of the government. The local MLA and Ministers also contribute.

**e) How did the Panchayat help Dhaniram ?**

**Ans:-** The Panchayat helped Dhaniram by providing him with a house.

**f) How did Dhaniram spend the cold December nights ?**

**Ans:-** Dhaniram spent the cold December nights on the open veranda of the school.

**4) You have just read about Panchayat. Using information from the lesson, fill in the table below :**

## **The Panchayat**

**a) Meaning :-**

**b) Minimum age to contest :-**

**c) Powers of a Panchayat :-**

**d) Kinds of work a Panchayat does :-**

**e) Sources of money :-**

**Ans:- a) Meaning :-** The Panchayat is an institution constituted by elected members. It is responsible for the development of villages.

**b) Minimum age to contest :- x**

**c) Powers of a Panchayat :-** The Panchayat raises taxes and does development work for the locality.

**d) Kinds of work a Panchayat does :-** A Panchayat builds and repairs roads, bridges, houses for the poor and so on.

**e) Sources of money :-** Taxes on vehicles, river ghats, bazars and boats, etc. and grant from the Panchayat and Rural Development Department of the government.

**5) The morning assembly of Disangmukh Janajati High School begins at 8.45 every day. Each student of the school has to deliver a speech according to a roster prepared by the school authorities.**

**When Dokchory's turn came, she gave the following speech.**

**Good morning !**

**Respected Principal, teachers, parents and my dear friends. I am Dokchory. Today I am going to talk about the Father of our nation, Mahatma Gandhi, who is also known as Bapu. His full name is Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi. Gandhiji was born on 2 October, 1869 Porbandar, Gujarat in India.**

**He was a great freedom fighter who led India in its fight against the British rule. Gandhiji died on 30 January, 1948. His life story is a source of inspiration for all of us.**

**Imagine that your turn to deliver a speech for the morning assembly is tomorrow. Prepare your own speech using Dokchory's example, and present it in the class.**

**– You teacher will ask each student to deliver the speech one by one.**

**Ans:-** Good Morning !

Respected Principal, teachers, parents and my dear friends. Today I am going to talk about Gopinath Bordoloi who was known as Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi was the first chief minister of Assam. He resisted the move to amalgamate Assam with the then East Bengal and saved us from becoming Pakistan.

**6) Discuss in small groups :**

**a) If you want to help the needy, would it be fine to do it immediately ? Why or why not ?**

**Ans:-** It would not be fine to help the needy immediately because the need should be found out and a permanent solution should be chalked out. And for this time is necessary.

**b) How would you like to help a person with special needs ? Share your ideas in your group.**

**Ans:-** Before helping a person with special needs we should consider his particular need. We should also see in which field the person is skilled.

**(c) Did Konke Mili plan the right thing to help Dhaniram ? Give more suggestions.**

**Ans:-** Yes, Konke Mili has planned rightly. Specialists may also be engaged for their professional gain.

**7) Dokchory will work for the Panchayat when she finishes school. Write a paragraph on what you will do for your village or town when you grow up.**

**Ans:-** When I grow up I shall try to do my best to solve the problem of flood that does great harm to our village every year.

**8) In class VII you learned about Reported Speech and Reporting Verbs. In this lesson, we see more of such sentences.**

**Look at this sentence from the lesson :**

**She said to her father, “What is a Panchayat ?”**

**The reported clause starts with a ‘wh’ question. Wh words are who, when, whom, whose, what, where, which, why and how. A wh-question is changed into the indirect form by using the question word at the beginning of the reported clause.**

**e.g. She asked her father What a Panchayat was.**

**Let’s practice changing other questions into the reported form :**

**a) She said to her father, “What kind of work do you do ?”**

**Ans:-** She asked her father What kind of work he did.

**b) She said to her father, “Where do you get all the money from ?”**

**Ans:-** She asked her father Where they got all the money from.

**c) She said to her father, “Is that enough to do so much work ?”**

**Ans:-** She asked her father if that was enough to do so much work.

**d) She asked him, “Why don’t you build a house for poor Dhaniram ?”**

**Ans:-** She asked him why they didn’t build a house for poor Dhaniram.

**e) She said to him, “What is a Panchayat ?”**

**Ans:-** She asked him what a Panchayat was.

**Now read this sentence. It is another type of reported sentence :**

**a) She said to her father, “Do something for the old man.”**

**Here the reported clause is an Imperative sentence. In an Imperative sentence, the subject, which is usually the second person ‘you’ , is generally left unwritten.**

**b) Do something for the old man. (= You do something for the old man. )**

**There are other types of imperatives such as negative and emphatic imperatives. For example, the imperative sentences.**

**c) Come in please.**

**Can be turned into :**

**Negative : Don’t come in, please.**

**Emphatic : Do come in, please.**

**Find out how much you have understood. Change the following imperative sentences into their negative and emphatic forms :**

**a) Repair the roads.**

**Ans:- Negative :- Don’t repair the roads .**

**Emphatic :- Do repair the roads.**

**b) Build a house for Dhaniram.**

**And:- Negative :- Don’t build a house for Dhaniram.**

**Emphatic :- Do build a house for Dhaniram.**

**c) Work for local development.**

**Ans:-** Negative :- Don't work for local development.

**Emphatic :-** Do work for local development.

**d) Close the door, please.**

**Ans:- Negative :-** Don't close the door, please.

**Emphatic :-** Do close the door, please.

**e) Please wash your hands.**

**Ans:- Negative :-** Please, don't wash your hands.

**Emphatic :-** Please, do wash your hands.

**9) Say the words in the box aloud :**

**Panchayat**

**Child**

**Dokchory**

**Much**

**Change**

**Panch**

**Did you notice that they all have the sound ch ?**

**Now, find other words from the lesson which have similar ch sound in them. Write them in your notebook. Add a few more and practice saying them aloud.**

**Ans:-** Child



Change

Much

Touch

Church

Charge

Chat

Hatch

Inch

Lichee

Sketch

**10) Here is a crossword puzzle for you to find out the adjectives (describing words) in the puzzle to fill up the blanks on the right. One is done for you.**

**a) ..... verandah.**

**Ans:- Open.**

**b) ..... grant.**

**Ans:- Annual.**

**c) ..... roads.**

**Ans:- Rural.**

**d) ..... institution.**

**Ans:- Tiny.**

**e) ..... things.**

**Ans:- Good.**

**f) ..... change.**

**Ans:- Social.**

**g) ..... questions.**

**Ans:- Important.**

**h) ..... cold.**

**Ans:- Bitter.**