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ІМЕНІ ТАРАСА ШЕВЧЕНКА**

**НАВЧАЛЬНО-НАУКОВИЙ ІНСТИТУТ
МІЖНАРОДНИХ ВІДНОСИН**

АНГЛІЙСЬКА МОВА

Методичні рекомендації для здобувачів 1 курсу першого
(бакалаврського) рівня освіти
(опрацювання граматики та лексики)
(частина 2)

Навчально-наукового інституту міжнародних відносин

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Англійська мова: Методичні рекомендації для здобувачів 1 курсу першого (бакалаврського) рівня освіти (опрацювання граматики та лексики) (частина 2) - К., 2026. 77 с.

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Начальниця навчально-методичного відділу із забезпечення якості освіти

Національної академії образотворчого мистецтва і архітектури

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Передмова

Методичні рекомендації призначені для здобувачів 1 курсу першого (бакалаврського) рівня вищої освіти та укладені відповідно до вимог навчальної програми. Вони можуть використовуватися як під час аудиторних занять, так і в процесі самостійної роботи здобувачів.

Призначення методичних рекомендацій полягає в удосконаленні знань і формуванні практичних умінь уживання лексичних і граматичних засобів у писемному та усному мовленні.

REVISION OF UNITS 1-2

1. Before watching – discuss questions:

- 1) When people say that a country is “powerful,” what do they usually mean by that?
- 2) Do you think power in international politics is mainly military, economic, or something else? Why?
- 3) Who do you believe has the most influence in the world today: states, international organisations, or corporations?
- 4) Can a country be powerful without using force? Give an example if possible.
- 5) How do rules and institutions affect the behaviour of powerful states?
- 6) Is global politics better described as cooperation or competition?
- 7) In your opinion, does any single actor truly “rule the world” today?

2. Watch the video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6BrHIw1Iotg> . Divide it into three parts, after each part pause and discuss:

Part 1 – Traditional power & states

1. How does the video explain the traditional understanding of power in international relations?
2. Which actors are presented as the main holders of power in the traditional system?
3. What role do military and economic capabilities play in defining state power?

Part 2 – Institutions, rules and cooperation

4. Why were international institutions created according to the video?
5. How do rules and norms influence the behaviour of states?
6. What tension does the video highlight between state sovereignty and international cooperation?

Part 3 – Technology and new power dynamics

7. How has technological development changed the way power is exercised globally?
8. Which non-state actors gain influence through technology, according to the video?
9. Why does the video suggest that control over information can be a source of power?

Part 4 – Climate change and future power

10. How is climate change presented as a political and strategic issue rather than only an environmental one?
11. In what ways can climate policy increase or decrease a country's international influence?
12. What does the video suggest about the future distribution of power in a climate-affected world?

3. After watching – discuss using your critical thinking:

Power and traditional actors

1. To what extent does the video confirm or challenge the traditional state-centred view of power in international relations?
2. Do military and economic power still provide a reliable basis for global influence in the 21st century? Why or why not?

Institutions, rules and sovereignty

3. According to the video, do international institutions limit powerful states or mainly reflect their interests?
4. How convincing is the argument that cooperation through institutions is necessary despite the loss of absolute sovereignty?
5. Can rules and norms be considered a form of power in themselves? Explain your reasoning.

Technology as a source of power

6. How does the rise of technology and digital platforms redefine who holds power globally?
7. Should technology companies be treated as political actors? Why or why not?
8. In what ways does control over information influence political decision-making and public opinion?

Climate change and future power dynamics

9. Why does the video frame climate change as a geopolitical rather than purely environmental issue?
10. How might leadership in climate policy become a new source of international influence?
11. Could climate vulnerability weaken traditionally powerful states? Give reasons.

4. Choose the correct answer to the questions based on the video:

1. How is power initially defined in the video?

- A. As the ability to dominate militarily
- B. As control over territory and borders
- C. As the ability to influence outcomes
- D. As economic superiority alone

2. Which actors are presented as the primary holders of power in the traditional international system?

- A. International organisations
- B. Multinational corporations
- C. Sovereign states
- D. Civil society networks

3. According to the video, why did states historically rely on military and economic power?

- A. Because international institutions did not exist
- B. Because these tools allowed direct coercion and deterrence
- C. Because diplomacy was ineffective
- D. Because norms were universally shared

4. What main purpose do international institutions serve in the video's argument?

- A. To eliminate conflict between states
- B. To replace state authority
- C. To regulate interaction and facilitate cooperation
- D. To enforce moral values

5. What tension does the video highlight regarding international institutions?

- A. Institutions weaken all states equally

- B. Institutions benefit only weaker states
- C. States depend on institutions while seeking to preserve sovereignty
- D. Institutions prevent power competition

6. How does the video describe the role of rules and norms in international politics?

- A. As neutral guidelines with no political impact
- B. As tools that shape and legitimise behaviour
- C. As obstacles to cooperation
- D. As irrelevant to powerful states

7. Which development is presented as significantly altering global power dynamics?

- A. The spread of democracy
- B. Technological innovation and digitalisation
- C. Population growth
- D. Territorial expansion

8. According to the video, why does control over information constitute a form of power?

- A. It guarantees economic growth
- B. It replaces military force
- C. It shapes narratives, opinions, and political agendas
- D. It ensures legal authority

9. Which actors gain influence as a result of technological change?

- A. Only nation-states
- B. Environmental organisations
- C. Technology companies and digital platforms
- D. Traditional military alliances

10. How is climate change framed in the video?

- A. As a purely environmental concern
- B. As a long-term but secondary issue
- C. As a geopolitical and strategic challenge
- D. As unrelated to power relations

11. Why can climate leadership increase a state's international influence?

- A. It guarantees economic dominance
- B. It strengthens military alliances
- C. It enhances legitimacy and agenda-setting power
- D. It removes dependence on institutions

12. What risk does climate vulnerability pose to traditionally powerful states?

- A. Loss of cultural influence
- B. Reduced technological innovation
- C. Economic and political destabilisation
- D. Diplomatic isolation only

13. What overall conclusion does the video reach about global power?

- A. Power is evenly distributed among all states
- B. One dominant actor controls global politics
- C. Power is distributed, contested, and multi-dimensional
- D. Power is declining in importance

14. Which factor is suggested to be crucial for future power?

- A. Territorial expansion
- B. Population size
- C. Adaptability to global challenges

D. Military expenditure

15. How does the video redefine power in international politics?

A. As the exclusive ability to use force

B. As economic dominance

C. As a combination of coercion, persuasion, and strategic leadership

D. As legal authority within institutions

5. Decide whether the statement is True or False and justify your answer

1. States are presented in the video as the only relevant actors in international politics.
2. Military and economic power are described as traditional foundations of state influence.
3. The video suggests that traditional power has completely lost its relevance today.
4. International institutions were created to eliminate competition between states.
5. Rules and norms influence state behaviour by shaping expectations and legitimacy.
6. Powerful states have no influence over how international institutions function.
7. Technological development has shifted power towards control over information and data.
8. Technology companies are portrayed as politically neutral actors.
9. Control over information can affect public opinion and political agendas.
10. Climate change is described only as an environmental issue with limited political impact.
11. Leadership in climate policy can enhance a country's international legitimacy.
12. Climate vulnerability may weaken even traditionally powerful states.
13. According to the video, power in international politics is fixed and stable.
14. The video argues that future power will depend on adaptability to global challenges.
15. The overall message of the video is that no single actor truly rules the world.

6. Use the appropriate form of the word(s) in brackets. Pay attention to tense, aspect, voice (Active/Passive) and meaning

1. In classical IR theory, power _____ traditionally _____ as the ability of states to coerce others. (*define*)
2. International institutions _____ initially _____ to prevent conflict and stabilise cooperation. (*create*)
3. In recent decades, influence _____ increasingly _____ by non-state actors operating beyond national borders. (*exercise*)
4. Military power _____ long _____ as the dominant source of influence, but it _____ gradually _____ by other forms of power. (*recognise / challenge*)
5. Rules and norms _____ often _____ to legitimise actions that might otherwise be contested. (*use*)
6. Many international rules _____ by powerful states long before weaker actors are able to shape them. (*design*)
7. Technological power _____ increasingly _____ with the control of data, algorithms, and digital infrastructure. (*associate*)
8. Public opinion _____ constantly _____ through information flows that _____ by digital platforms. (*shape / regulate*)
9. Technology companies _____ never formally _____ as political actors, yet their influence _____ impossible to ignore. (*classify / become*)
10. Climate change _____ increasingly _____ as a security issue rather than merely an environmental concern. (*frame*)
11. States that _____ leadership in climate policy _____ more likely _____ as legitimate global actors. (*demonstrate / perceive*)
12. If climate risks _____ not adequately _____, traditional power structures _____ likely _____ fundamentally altered. (*address / be*)

13. Sovereignty _____ often _____ when states _____ required _____ within binding institutional frameworks. (*limit / require*)
14. Agenda-setting _____ best _____ as a form of power through which political outcomes _____ indirectly _____. (*describe / influence*)
15. The video suggests that global power _____ never _____ fixed but _____ constantly _____ in response to new challenges. (*be / renegotiate*)

7. Match the idiom with the picture



make headway



stand (hold) one's ground



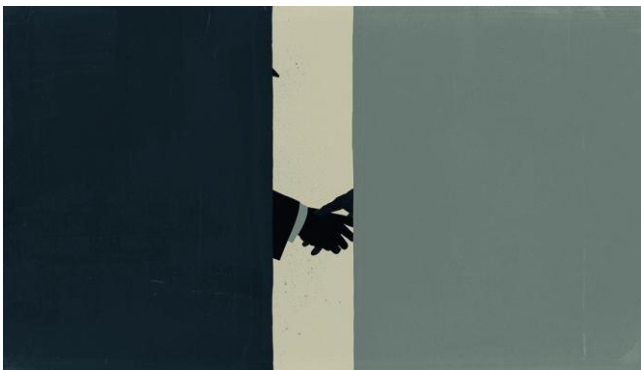
**make common cause
(with sb)**



spin



spin doctor



break the ice



common ground



think tank



come to terms (with sb)



off the record

UNIT 3 DEMOCRACY AND ITS IMPACT ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

1. Read the information which can help you to answer the questions from Lead-in:

Democracy is often described as a political system, but in reality, it is much more than a form of government. It is a complex moral, social, and intellectual structure that depends on the character of citizens, the quality of education, the strength of institutions, and the respect for law and justice. Throughout history, political leaders and thinkers have tried to explain why some states are stable and free while others become authoritarian or collapse into disorder. Their conclusions repeatedly point to the same idea: democracy lives not in constitutions alone, but in people –in their awareness, participation, responsibility, and values. The quotations by *Thomas Jefferson*, *Dwight D. Eisenhower*, *Franklin D. Roosevelt*, *Reinhold Niebuhr*, and *Margaret Thatcher* explore different sides of the same reality. They discuss belonging, civic duty, education, human nature, justice, liberty, and the rule of law. Together, these ideas form a philosophical foundation of democratic society and show that freedom is never automatic –it must be supported, protected, and constantly renewed by both citizens and institutions. Democracy fails when citizens become indifferent, when education weakens, when justice is ignored, or when law loses authority. These thinkers remind us that freedom is not preserved by chance –it is protected through conscious human action.

1. ***“That government is the strongest of which every man feels himself a part.”*** –
Thomas Jefferson.

Jefferson’s idea challenges the traditional understanding of political strength. Normally, strength is associated with military power, economic influence, or strict control. Jefferson, however, proposes a psychological and moral dimension of strength. A government is truly strong not when it can force obedience, but when it does not need to rely on force because people willingly support it. When citizens feel they are part of the system, they develop trust. Trust reduces conflict between society and state. Laws are respected not because of punishment, but because people see them as legitimate. Citizens

cooperate with institutions, pay taxes, serve their communities, and defend their country when necessary. This voluntary cooperation creates stability far more durable than control through fear. Belonging also promotes responsibility. If people feel excluded, they say, “This is not my problem.” But if they feel involved, they think, “This is our country, our future.” This mindset encourages civic behaviour: voting, public dialogue, community service, and participation in social initiatives. Democracy then becomes a shared project rather than a distant structure. Jefferson’s statement also implies a warning. Governments that ignore public voices may appear strong, but their strength is superficial. Without public trust, authority becomes fragile. Social unrest, polarization, and political crises grow where citizens feel invisible. History repeatedly shows that systems collapse when the connection between people and government breaks. Thus, Jefferson presents inclusion not as an idealistic goal but as a practical necessity. The emotional bond between citizens and state is the invisible foundation of national resilience.

2. “Politics ought to be the part-time profession of every citizen who would protect the rights and privileges of free men.” – Dwight Eisenhower

Eisenhower expands the idea of belonging into active responsibility. Democracy does not survive through passive citizenship. If people treat politics as something distant or unpleasant, they leave power to a narrow group. Over time, this creates imbalance, corruption, and loss of freedoms. Calling politics a “part-time profession” means that civic engagement must be a regular element of life. Citizens should follow public events, understand policies, vote thoughtfully, and speak out when rights are threatened. Democracy assumes that sovereignty belongs to the people, but sovereignty is meaningless if citizens do not exercise it. This idea also addresses the fragility of rights. Freedoms do not disappear overnight. They erode slowly when people stop paying attention. Small restrictions, misinformation, or manipulation can weaken democratic structures step by step. Active citizens serve as a defence system. They question decisions, demand transparency, and hold leaders accountable. Furthermore, civic involvement builds political maturity. When individuals engage in discussions and

decision-making, they learn to consider different perspectives. They understand complexity, recognize compromises, and develop tolerance. Politics, therefore, is not only governance –it is a social learning process that strengthens democratic culture. Eisenhower’s message is clear: democracy without participation becomes a shell. Freedom requires guardians, and those guardians are ordinary citizens.

3. *“The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education.” – Franklin D. Roosevelt*

Roosevelt shifts the focus from political structures to intellectual foundations. Laws, elections, and institutions can exist on paper, but without educated citizens they lose their protective power. Democracy depends on people’s ability to understand issues, evaluate information, and make responsible decisions. Education becomes a shield that guards society from manipulation and ignorance. An uneducated society is vulnerable to demagoguery. Charismatic leaders can exploit fear, prejudice, or economic insecurity to gain support. When citizens lack critical thinking skills, they may accept simple slogans instead of complex realities. Education, therefore, is not only about professional knowledge; it is about intellectual independence. It teaches people to ask questions, analyse arguments, and resist emotional manipulation. Education also creates social cohesion. Schools and universities expose individuals to diversity of ideas, cultures, and perspectives. This helps develop tolerance and respect. Democracy requires coexistence among different groups, and education reduces hostility based on misunderstanding. It shapes not only informed voters but also responsible neighbours and colleagues. Moreover, education encourages long-term thinking. Democratic decisions often involve balancing present needs with future consequences. Educated citizens are better prepared to consider economic sustainability, environmental protection, and social equality. In this way, education safeguards democracy by strengthening rational, informed, and ethical participation in public life.

4. ***“Man’s capacity for justice makes democracy possible, but man’s inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary.” – Reinhold Niebuhr***

Niebuhr presents a realistic and balanced view of human nature. Humans are capable of empathy, fairness, and cooperation. These qualities make social life and democratic decision-making possible. People can recognize others’ rights and work toward common goals. However, humans are also driven by self-interest, pride, and fear. Groups may seek dominance, leaders may abuse power, and majorities may ignore minorities. Because of these tendencies, democracy becomes necessary as a system that limits power and distributes authority. Democracy is not built on blind optimism but on cautious realism. Checks and balances, separation of powers, and legal restrictions exist because no person or group can be fully trusted with unlimited authority. Democracy assumes that power can corrupt, so it builds mechanisms to control it. Independent courts, free media, and civil society organizations serve as correctives when injustice appears. Niebuhr’s idea explains why democracy is morally superior to authoritarian systems. Dictatorship assumes that a leader can be perfectly wise and just, but history shows that concentrated power often leads to oppression. Democracy, by contrast, recognizes human imperfection and seeks to prevent its worst consequences through institutional design.

5. ***“Being democratic is not enough... countries must also have a deep love of liberty and an abiding respect for the rule of law.” – Margaret Thatcher***

Thatcher distinguishes between formal democracy and genuine freedom. Elections alone do not guarantee justice. A majority can make harmful or discriminatory decisions. Therefore, democracy must be guided by principles that stand above momentary public opinion. The rule of law ensures stability and fairness. Laws must apply equally to all, including political leaders. When laws are selective or manipulated, trust disappears. Citizens feel insecure, and society becomes unstable. The rule of law protects individuals from arbitrary power and creates predictable conditions for social and economic life. Liberty, in Thatcher’s view, is a cultural value as much as a political right. People must respect others’ freedoms even when they disagree. Freedom of speech, religion, and

personal choice require tolerance and self-restraint. Democracy without a culture of liberty can turn into populism, where emotional majorities suppress minority voices. Thus, Thatcher emphasizes that democracy is not only a procedure but a moral order based on legal equality and respect for individual dignity.

Conclusion

The five quotations considered together construct a multidimensional understanding of democracy that goes far beyond institutional arrangements or electoral procedures. They reveal democracy as a dynamic moral, intellectual, and social ecosystem that can function only when several interdependent elements operate simultaneously. These elements include civic participation, political responsibility, education, awareness of human imperfection, commitment to justice, respect for liberty, and adherence to the rule of law. Each thinker illuminates one essential dimension of this system, and only when these dimensions interact does democracy become stable and resilient.

First, democracy is shown to depend on a psychological and emotional connection between citizens and the state. When individuals feel that they belong to the political community, they develop trust, and trust is the invisible force that holds democratic systems together. Without it, laws appear imposed rather than accepted, and authority becomes fragile. Belonging transforms governance from a structure of control into a shared enterprise. Citizens cease to be passive recipients of decisions and become co-authors of collective life. This sense of ownership strengthens social cohesion and reduces the need for coercion, making political stability sustainable rather than artificial.

Second, democracy demands active civic engagement. Rights and freedoms do not defend themselves; they require vigilant citizens who are willing to monitor power, question decisions, and participate in public dialogue. Political passivity creates a vacuum that can be filled by corruption, manipulation, or authoritarian tendencies. Participation, therefore, functions as a protective mechanism. It not only safeguards liberties but also deepens democratic culture, teaching individuals to respect diversity, accept compromise, and think beyond narrow personal interests. In this way, civic involvement shapes both political outcomes and civic character.

Third, education emerges as the intellectual backbone of democracy. A society that cannot analyse information critically becomes vulnerable to propaganda and emotional manipulation. Education empowers citizens with knowledge and reasoning skills that allow them to make informed choices. It also nurtures values such as tolerance, responsibility, and empathy, which are essential for peaceful coexistence in pluralistic societies. Thus, education protects democracy not merely by informing voters, but by cultivating morally and intellectually mature individuals capable of sustaining democratic dialogue.

Fourth, democracy is justified by a realistic understanding of human nature. Since people are capable of injustice as well as justice, power must be limited and distributed. Democratic institutions serve as safeguards against human weaknesses. Checks and balances, independent courts, and free media prevent the concentration of authority and reduce the risk of abuse. Democracy does not assume moral perfection; it builds structures that correct human flaws. This realism explains why democracy is not only desirable but necessary.

Finally, democracy requires a cultural and legal foundation rooted in liberty and the rule of law. Majority decisions must operate within legal and ethical boundaries. Respect for law creates fairness, predictability, and trust, while liberty ensures the protection of individual dignity. Without these principles, democratic procedures may exist formally but lose their moral substance.

In conclusion, democracy appears as a continuous process rather than a fixed achievement. It survives only through collective effort, intellectual vigilance, moral discipline, and institutional integrity. These quotations together remind us that freedom is not inherited automatically; it must be renewed by each generation through participation, education, justice, and respect for law. Democracy is therefore both a privilege and a responsibility – a living project that depends on human commitment.

1. Why do people rule?

People rule because human societies cannot function without organization, coordination, and decision-making structures. From the earliest tribes to modern states, leadership emerged as a response to collective needs: security, resource distribution, conflict resolution, and social order. Without governance, social life would descend into chaos, as individuals would pursue personal interests without mechanisms to manage disputes or ensure cooperation. Historically, people ruled for different reasons: power, survival, prestige, or a sense of duty. Some forms of rule were based on force or inheritance, while others developed from social contracts, where people accepted authority in exchange for protection and stability. In modern political thought, rule is justified through legitimacy –the belief that authority is rightful. Legitimacy can come from tradition, law, elections, or ideology. Another reason people rule lies in human ambition and the desire for influence. Leadership offers status, recognition, and the ability to shape society. However, ruling is not only about power; it is also about responsibility. Effective governance requires decision-making in complex situations, balancing competing interests, and protecting the common good. In democratic systems, rule is temporary and accountable. Leaders govern on behalf of the people, not over them. This idea transforms rule from domination into service. Thus, people rule both because societies require coordination and because human beings seek to lead, influence, and organize collective life.

2. How do people around the world see democracy?

Perceptions of democracy vary widely depending on history, culture, economic conditions, and political experience. In many countries, democracy is associated with freedom of speech, fair elections, human rights, and the opportunity to influence government. People see it as a system that protects individual dignity and limits abuse of power. However, in other contexts, democracy may be viewed with scepticism. In societies that experienced instability, corruption, or economic hardship during democratic transitions, people may associate democracy with disorder or ineffective governance.

Some citizens prioritize stability and economic growth over political freedoms, especially in regions where authoritarian governments have delivered material improvements. Globalization and media also shape perceptions. Democracy is often linked to Western political models, which can create cultural tension. Some societies interpret democracy through local traditions, blending it with communal values rather than individualistic ones. Surveys worldwide show that many people support democratic ideals but feel dissatisfied with how democracy works in practice. Corruption, inequality, and lack of trust in political elites weaken faith in democratic systems. Thus, democracy is both widely valued as an ideal and widely criticized in its real-world implementation.

3. What are the oldest democracies?

The concept of democracy dates back to ancient Athens, where citizens participated directly in political decisions. However, this early democracy excluded women, slaves, and foreigners. Modern democracy evolved later, particularly in countries that developed stable representative institutions. Some of the oldest continuous democracies include the United Kingdom (with gradual parliamentary development), the United States (with a constitutional system since the 18th century), Switzerland (with long traditions of direct democracy), and the Nordic countries, which built democratic governance alongside strong welfare systems. These states share certain characteristics: rule of law, institutional stability, political culture supporting compromise, and relatively high levels of trust. Their longevity demonstrates that democracy requires gradual development of institutions, civic habits, and legal traditions rather than sudden change.

4. What is the role of think tanks groups in research and analysis on democracy, democratization, and related topics in comparative government?

Think tanks are research organizations that analyse political systems, policies, and global trends. In the field of democracy, they collect data, evaluate governance, monitor elections, and study democratic transitions. They produce reports that influence public debate and government decisions. Think tanks bridge academia and policymaking.

Scholars conduct theoretical research, while think tanks translate findings into practical recommendations. They may assess corruption, human rights, institutional reform, and civil society development. Additionally, think tanks contribute to international dialogue. Organizations compare democratic standards across countries, track trends such as democratic backsliding, and propose strategies to strengthen institutions. However, their work may also be shaped by funding sources or political agendas, which raises questions about neutrality. Overall, think tanks play a crucial role in shaping understanding of democracy by providing expertise, evidence-based analysis, and policy guidance.

5. Do people believe the state is run for the benefit of all?

Public trust in government varies greatly. In some societies with strong institutions, low corruption, and effective public services, people believe the state works for the common good. In others, distrust dominates, especially where inequality, favouritism, or corruption are widespread. Trust depends on transparency, fairness, and accountability. When governments respond to citizens' needs, protect rights, and apply laws equally, legitimacy grows. When power appears to serve only elites, public confidence declines. Modern societies face additional challenges: globalization, economic crises, and social divisions complicate governance. People may feel that governments cannot control global forces, which weakens belief in state effectiveness. Therefore, the perception of the state reflects both objective conditions and subjective experiences. Trust must be continuously earned through good governance, justice, and open communication.

2. Match the definitions / explanation of the terms with the terms used in Text 1 of the textbook.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| gerrymander | a situation where there is an absence or lack of effective political leadership or authority, leading to uncertainty and instability. |
| circumvention | the maintenance of a stable and functioning government, often avoiding disruptions or abrupt changes in leadership. |

checks and balances	a term used to describe the movement of individuals between roles in government positions and jobs in the private sector, often leading to potential conflicts of interest.
a divorce from the E.U.	relating to citizenship, civil affairs, or the duties and responsibilities of citizens within a community.
civic	the degree to which elections are conducted fairly and transparently, ensuring that the outcome reflects the will of the voters.
revolving door	a system in government where different branches (executive, legislative, and judicial) have powers that limit and control each other to prevent an abuse of authority.
electoral integrity	countries in the process of transitioning toward democratic governance, often characterized by evolving political structures and practices.
continuity in government	the manipulation of electoral district boundaries to favour a particular political party, group, or candidate, often resulting in an unfair advantage in elections.
emerging democracies	the process of a country formally leaving the European Union, often associated with political, economic, and social implications.
political vacuum	the act of finding a way around, avoiding, or bypassing a rule, restriction, or obstacle.

3. Translate sentences with the given terms from Ukrainian into English:

1. Суперечливий переділ виборчих округів був широко розкритикований як спроба махінацій на користь правлячої партії.
2. Зусилля по боротьбі з махінаціями включають заклики до створення незалежних комісій для нагляду за процесом перерозподілу округів.
3. Деякі політики вдаються до тактики обходу законодавчих процедур, підриваючи демократичний процес.
4. Експерти з правових питань вивчають способи закрити лазівки та запобігти обходу законів про фінансування виборчих кампаній.
5. Творці Конституції розробили систему стримувань і протипаг, щоб жодна гілка влади не стала надто потужною.

6. Надійна система стримувань і противаг має важливе значення для підтримки поділу влади в демократичному суспільстві.
7. Рішення про розлучення з ЄС викликало інтенсивні дебати про економічні та політичні наслідки для країни.
8. Переговори щодо плавного та впорядкованого розлучення з ЄС тривають на тлі складних викликів.
9. Громадянська активність відіграє вирішальну роль у демократичному процесі, заохочуючи громадян до активної участі у прийнятті рішень.
10. Програми громадянської освіти спрямовані на покращення розуміння громадянами своїх прав та обов'язків у демократичному суспільстві.
11. Висока плинність кадрів між державними посадами та ролями в приватному секторі викликають занепокоєння щодо потенційного конфлікту інтересів.
12. Для вирішення проблеми "високої плинності кадрів" та запобігання неправомірному впливу на політичні рішення необхідні суворіші правила.
13. Забезпечення доброчесності виборів є життєво важливим для підтримки легітимності результатів виборів та збереження довіри громадськості.
14. Міжнародні спостерігачі уважно стежать за виборами, щоб оцінити рівень доброчесності виборів та дотримання демократичних стандартів.
15. Плавна передача влади сприяє безперервності державного управління, зміцненню стабільності та довіри до демократичних інститутів.
16. Ефективні плани на випадок надзвичайних ситуацій мають важливе значення для забезпечення безперервності влади під час кризи.
17. Міжнародне співтовариство відіграє вирішальну роль у підтримці молодих демократій у розбудові сильних інститутів і просуванні демократичних цінностей.
18. Виклики, з якими стикаються нові демократії, підкреслюють складність процесу демократизації.

19. Раптова відставка ключових лідерів може створити політичний вакуум, що призводить до невизначеності та нестабільності.
20. Заповнення політичного вакууму вимагає швидких та ефективних механізмів для забезпечення управління та запобігання вакууму влади.

4. Revise the active vocabulary and guess the words from the definitions:

on the wane, to confront the challenges, emerging democracies, self-government, civic confidence, soar, reach all-time, global high, buck the trend, corruption revelations, grapple with, citizenry, corrupt, culled from, perfidy, respectively, plunge, abhor, agency, on record, be logjammed, integrity, alienate from, government shutdowns, gerrymander, narrowly voted for, the revolving door, circumvention, a withdrawal agreement, continuity in government, checks and balances, austerity budgets, spike, resort to

1. When public trust in institutions and leaders becomes weaker and weaker.
2. New countries that are still developing democratic systems.
3. Official information about illegal political activity becoming public.
4. To deal with a difficult problem or challenge directly.
5. A situation where progress is impossible because people cannot agree.
6. Strong moral principles and honesty in public life.
7. When the economy suddenly falls very quickly.
8. A sudden sharp increase in numbers or levels.
9. Government spending cuts and strict economic measures.
10. To officially face or deal with a problem or opponent.
11. To go against the general tendency or trend.
12. People of a country considered as a group.
13. Dishonest betrayal, especially in politics.
14. The ability to act independently and make decisions.
15. A politician or system that is dishonest and uses power for personal benefit.

16. The system that limits power through balance between branches of government.
17. To try to avoid a rule or law in a clever but dishonest way.
18. When election areas are unfairly changed to give advantage to one party.
19. A government stopping its work because of political disagreement.
20. When political positions are constantly filled by new people in quick succession.
21. Officially recorded or known publicly.
22. To become separated or feel disconnected from society or government.
23. To receive only slightly more votes than the opponent.
24. An agreement about a country leaving a political union.
25. Stable leadership without sudden changes.
26. A huge increase to the highest level ever recorded.

5. Give the word(s) from the active vocabulary to the synonyms:

skyrocket	declining	drop sharply	selected from	public trust
face	in that order	developing democracies	hate	officially stated
population	manipulate electoral districts	dishonest	struggle with	autonomy
corruption scandals	hit a record high	honesty	go against the trend	betrayal
authority	spending cuts	government closures	evasion	be blocked
surge	isolate from	political stability	turn to	constant turnover
barely approved	exit deal	power balance		

6. Look at your card and using the given words create a piece of news. Give 1) opening line (formal, dramatic); 2) headline; 3) 1–2 supporting details; 4) neutral closing sentence

CARD 1 - on the wane • civic confidence • corruption revelations • citizenry

CARD 2 - emerging democracies • grapple with • integrity • corruption

CARD 3 - austerity budgets • plunge • public trust • government

CARD 4 - gerrymander • narrowly voted for • agency • checks and balances

CARD 5 - government shutdowns • be logjammed • continuity in government • resort to

CARD 6 - buck the trend • soar • civic confidence • on record

CARD 7 - the revolving door • alienate from • citizenry • integrity

CARD 8 - a withdrawal agreement • spike • uncertainty • emerging democracies

7. Refute the statement using your active vocabulary.

1. “Corruption revelations usually increase civic confidence.”
2. “Government shutdowns strengthen continuity in government.”
3. “A revolving door between politics and business improves integrity.”
4. “Austerity budgets usually make public trust soar.”
5. “Gerrymandering protects checks and balances.”
6. “Emerging democracies don’t need integrity to succeed.”
7. “When civic confidence is on the wane, democracy becomes stronger.”
8. “Corrupt officials help governments reach all-time highs of trust.”
9. “Withdrawal agreements always reduce uncertainty.”
10. “When institutions are logjammed, governance becomes more efficient.”

8. Game – using the active vocabulary.

You are a team of investigative journalists creating a political scandal story. Each group receives a card with 8 key words/phrases. Your task is to build a *dramatic, realistic political scandal* using as many of these words as possible.

- ◆ Step 1. *Create a headline* - write a short, shocking news headline that sounds like it comes from a major international newspaper.
- ◆ Step 2. *Tell the story* - prepare a 1–2-minute news report explaining: What happened? Who is involved? Why it is a scandal? What the consequences might be? You must use at least 5 words from your card.
- ◆ Step 3. *Identify the villain* - decide: Who is responsible for the scandal? Was it an individual, a government, a corporation, or a political group? Explain their motivation.
- ◆ Step 4. *Predict the outcome* - say what will happen next: Will the politician resign? Will there be protests? Will civic confidence plunge? Will the government resort to emergency measures? Be creative but logical.

CARD 1 – Election Shock

- corruption revelations
- gerrymander
- narrowly voted for
- integrity
- citizenry
- checks and balances
- spike
- on record

CARD 2 – Government Crisis

- government shutdowns
- be logjammed
- continuity in government
- resort to
- austerity budgets
- plunge
- civic confidence
- emerging democracies

CARD 3 – Elite Corruption

- the revolving door
- alienate from
- corruption revelations
- integrity
- agency
- perfidy
- on record
- reach all-time global high

CARD 4 – Public Backlash

- citizenry
- abhor
- civic confidence
- soar
- buck the trend
- checks and balances
- spike
- on the wane

CARD 5 – Political Manipulation

- gerrymander
- circumvent
- narrowly voted for
- perfidy
- alienate from
- government shutdowns
- continuity in government

- emerging democracies

9. Answer the questions to the text “How Brexit party won Euro elections on social media – simple, negative messages to older voters”:

1. What percentage of all shared content on Facebook and Twitter was accounted for by the Brexit party?
2. How much of the content produced during the campaign was created by the Brexit party?
3. How did Change UK perform in terms of shares compared to the Brexit party?
4. What percentage of the vote did the Brexit party win in the European elections?
5. How did Change UK perform in the European elections compared to the Lib Dems?
6. What approach did the Brexit party take in their ads and social media campaign?
7. What was the average word count of the Brexit party’s Facebook posts compared to Change UK’s?
8. What was a key criticism of Change UK’s messaging during the campaign?
9. What evidence suggested the presence of inauthentic activity supporting the Brexit party?
10. How many posts did the Brexit party and Change UK make during the campaign?
11. How many shares did the Brexit party and Change UK receive from their posts?
12. What was the focus of the Brexit party’s campaign narrative?
13. How much did Change UK spend on Facebook ads in the week before the vote?
14. What did Mike Harris say about the effectiveness of the Brexit party’s campaign?
15. What advice did Mike Harris give to pro-Remain parties?

10. According to the text “Using the ‘magic formula’ to achieve concordance” decide if the following statements are TRUE or FALSE:

1. Concordance promotes consensus and is a central feature of Switzerland's political system.
2. The Federal Constitution explicitly outlines the principles of concordance and collegiality.
3. The party with the largest number of voters automatically controls the government in Switzerland.
4. Concordance democracies are characterized by a lack of competition between political parties.
5. The principle of collegiality requires all members of the Federal Council to defend collective decisions.
6. Direct democracy in Switzerland allows citizens to intervene in the political process at any time.
7. All major political parties in Switzerland are excluded from the consensus-based decision-making process.
8. In competitive democracies, the ruling party often changes after elections.
9. Smaller parties in Switzerland have no opportunities to participate in opposition.
10. The principle of concordance in Switzerland helps reduce corruption and ensures transparency.
11. The Greens and Green Liberals have had no impact on the climate debate in Switzerland.
12. The 'magic formula' has remained unchanged since the early 20th century.
13. In Switzerland, the term concordance applies to the Federal Council and other political bodies.
14. The Federal Council in Switzerland is made up of representatives from only one political party.
15. Concordance democracies have no mechanisms for opposition.

11. Put the following prepositions (on (2), to (3), over (2), by, at, in, into, out, with, for, among) in each space in the text below.

Democracy Under Pressure

September 15 is the International Day of Democracy. Democracy is considered the most popular form of social organisation, but it is also one of the most problematic. Democracy is not experiencing its best times, as is acknowledged (1) _____ almost all scholars who study this political system.

Opinions differ (2) _____ whether the current processes are irreversible. Some speak (3) _____ the “death of democracy”, while others believe that democracy is merely going (4) _____ another crisis, after which it will emerge stronger and more effective.

One of the most pressing issues (5) _____ modern democracy is security. These two values often come (6) _____ conflict: societies are forced to choose between more freedom or more safety. Since the terrorist attacks (7) _____ September 11, 2001, many democratic states have introduced stricter security measures.

The assumption that authoritarianism would disappear (8) _____ the 21st century has proven false. Democracy has had to adapt (9) _____ new threats such as terrorism, economic crises, mass migration and ecological challenges. According (10) _____ Freedom House data, the level of democracy and civil liberties has been declining worldwide (11) _____ recent years.

Nevertheless, democracy should not be confused (12) _____ dogma. As John Stuart Mill argued, no one has the right to impose their opinions (13) _____ others simply because they believe them to be correct. Democracy is not perfect, but there is no better alternative (14) _____ it. Even after crises, democracy is capable (15) _____ renewing itself and remaining the most effective system of governance.

12. Choose the word that best completes each sentence.

1. Widespread political _____ can seriously undermine public trust in democratic institutions.
a) power b) corruption c) increase

2. After years of economic instability, several new political movements began to _____.
a) vote b) emerge c) elect
3. Only registered members of the national _____ are entitled to vote in the referendum.
a) citizenship b) electorate c) power
4. The opposition party openly _____ the results of the recent election.
a) challenged b) increased c) emerged
5. The president was accused of abusing his _____ for personal gain.
a) vote b) challenge c) power
6. Public protests led to a significant _____ in voter turnout.
a) increase b) corruption c) challenge
7. Many citizens believe that fair elections are the foundation of political _____.
a) emerge b) power c) legitimacy
8. The scandal revealed deep-rooted _____ within the government system.
a) corruption b) success c) electorate
9. Young voters are becoming an increasingly influential part of the _____.
a) election b) electorate c) power
10. The court decision posed a serious _____ to the authority of the ruling party.
a) increase b) challenge c) emergence
11. Social media helped the movement _____ almost overnight.
a) vote b) emerge c) corrupt
12. A transparent legal system is essential to prevent the abuse of _____.
a) citizen b) power c) election

13. Complete the sentences using the correct form of the word in capitals.

1. The report exposed several _____ practices within the public sector. (CORRUPT)
2. Citizens demanded greater political _____ and accountability. (POWER)
3. The country saw a sharp _____ in youth participation in elections. (INCREASE)

4. Several _____ parties gained popularity after the crisis. (EMERGE)
5. Active _____ participation is vital for a healthy democracy. (CITIZEN)
6. The minister was forced to resign due to allegations of _____. (CORRUPT)
7. Economic reforms led to an _____ stable political environment. (INCREASE)
8. Social unrest often results in the _____ of radical movements. (EMERGE)
9. Equal rights are a fundamental part of modern _____. (CITIZEN)
10. The new constitution limits the _____ of the executive branch. (POWER)
11. Journalists play a key role in _____ the public. (EDUCATE)
12. The investigation confirmed the _____ nature of the scheme. (CORRUPT)

14. Match the items from column A with column B. Then use any five collocations in your own sentences.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. run for | a) power |
| 2. abuse of | b) corruption |
| 3. cast a | c) election |
| 4. emerging | d) democracy |
| 5. challenge | e) vote |
| 6. increase in | f) turnout |
| 7. hold | g) authority |
| 8. political | h) movement |
| 9. exercise | i) power |
| 10. fight | j) elections |

15. Answer the questions. Use at least TWO words from the list in each answer.

1. Why is corruption considered a major challenge for modern democracies?
2. How can citizens exercise power outside formal elections?
3. What factors lead to the emergence of new political movements?
4. Should there be limits on political power? Why / why not?
5. How does increased voter turnout affect democracy?

6. Can social media increase political participation? Explain.
7. Why is abuse of power often difficult to prove?
8. What role does the electorate play in shaping government policy?
9. Do you think political challenges strengthen or weaken democracy?
10. How can education help prevent corruption?
11. Is voting enough to be an active citizen?
12. What happens when citizens lose trust in elections?

16. Insert the required idiom or phrasal verb (October surprise, Workington man, filibuster, big government, hung parliament, break down, break out, break up)

1. The negotiations completely _____ when neither side was willing to compromise.
2. The senator tried to _____ the vote by speaking for hours in the chamber.
3. The coalition talks failed, and the country ended up with a _____.
4. During the campaign, an unexpected scandal acted as an _____ and changed public opinion overnight.
5. The protesters were ordered to _____ and leave the square immediately.
6. The couple decided to _____ after years of political disagreement.
7. Many voters reject the idea of _____, fearing excessive control and taxation.
8. Analysts say the _____ has become tired of empty political promises.
9. Violence _____ in several cities after the election results were announced.
10. Talks nearly _____ because of mutual distrust and poor communication.
11. The opposition used a _____ to delay the controversial reform.
12. In a _____, passing major legislation becomes extremely difficult.

17. Replace the highlighted part with an idiom or phrasal verb.

1. The talks stopped working completely due to political pressure. → The talks _____ due to political pressure.
2. The MPs delayed the law by talking endlessly. → The MPs _____ the law.
3. The ruling coalition collapsed, and no party had a majority. → The country was left with a _____.
4. The couple ended their relationship after the election campaign. → The couple _____ after the election campaign.
5. Unexpected information appeared just before the vote. → An _____ appeared just before the vote.
6. Violence suddenly started in the capital. → Violence _____ in the capital.
7. Protesters were forced to leave the building. → Protesters were made to _____ the building.
8. Ordinary working voters feel ignored by politicians. → The _____ feels ignored by politicians.
9. Excessive state control worries small business owners. → _____ worries small business owners.
10. The discussion stopped making sense halfway through. → The discussion _____ halfway through.

18. Translate sentences from Ukrainian into English using idioms and phrasal verbs from the Unit:

1. Переговори зірвалися через відсутність довіри.
2. Сенатор навмисно затягував голосування.
3. Після виборів країна отримала підвішений парламент.
4. Неочікуваний скандал став жовтневою несподіванкою для партії.
5. Протестувальників змусили розійтися.
6. Насильство спалахнуло одразу після оголошення результатів.
7. Пара розійшлася через політичні погляди.

8. Багато виборців бояться великого уряду.
9. Робітничий клас відчуває розчарування в політиках.
10. Обговорення повністю зламалося через емоції.
11. Опозиція вдалася до філібастеру, щоб зупинити закон.
12. Переговори знову зірвалися в останній момент.
13. Протести раптово спалахнули у столиці.
14. Коаліція розпалася після скандалу.
15. Політична система зайшла в глухий кут.
16. Жовтнева несподіванка змінила хід кампанії.
17. Депутати навмисно затягували процес.
18. Виборці не довіряють великому державному контролю.
19. Після виборів почалися масові протести.
20. Країна не змогла сформувати стабільний уряд.
21. Переговори між двома країнами перервалися, коли вони не змогли досягти компромісу щодо торговельної угоди.
22. Після багатьох років знайомства вони вирішили розлучитися і піти кожен своєю дорогою.
23. Посеред зустрічі голос доповідача почав перериватися, і всім стало погано чути.
24. Студенти почали розбиватися на менші групи, щоб обговорити проект.
25. Під час концерту натовп несподівано почав вибухати радісними вигуками та оплесками.
26. Старий автомобіль нарешті зламався на узбіччі дороги, і їм довелося викликати допомогу.
27. Сутичка біля бару загрожувала перерости в повномасштабну бійку.
28. Складне питання було складним для розуміння, поки вчитель не допоміг розбити його на простіші частини.
29. Жарт коміка змусив усю аудиторію вибухнути сміхом.

30. Студенти планували вирватися з рутини і організувати сюрприз для викладача.
31. Переговори почали зриватися, оскільки обидві сторони не могли досягти компромісу.
32. Напруга зростала, і виникла загроза бійки між вболівальниками на спортивному заході.
33. Компанія вирішила розділити свою діяльність на менші підрозділи для підвищення ефективності.
34. Незважаючи на розбіжності, команді вдалося розібратися в проблемі та знайти рішення.
35. Справжні лідери знаходять шляхи виходу зі складних ситуацій, коли стикаються з несприятливими обставинами.
36. Стара будівля почала руйнуватися через роки занедбаності та відсутності догляду.
37. Комік використав гумор, щоб зняти напругу в кімнаті після палких дебатів.
38. Важко розлучатися з близькою людиною, але іноді це необхідно для особистісного зростання.
39. Нам потрібно розбити проблему на менші частини, щоб знайти рішення.
40. Коли стикаєшся зі складним завданням, важливо не зламатися, а зосередитися і знайти рішення.
41. Звістка про фінансову кризу викликала паніку серед інвесторів.
42. Нелегко зруйнувати давню традицію, але іноді зміни необхідні для прогресу.
43. Політтехнологи сподівалися на жовтневий сюрприз, який схилив би виборців на їхню користь безпосередньо перед виборами.
44. Політичний ландшафт кардинально змінився після появи так званих "робочих людей" - демографічної групи, яка вважається ключовою групою виборців, що вагається.

45. Опозиційна партія погрожувала використати філібустер, щоб затримати ухвалення суперечливого законодавства в Сенаті.
46. Дебати щодо ролі великого уряду розділили націю: одні виступали за посилення втручання, інші - за менший, більш обмежений уряд.
47. В результаті виборів парламент опинився в підвішеному стані, жодна партія не отримала явної більшості, що призвело до переговорів і невизначеності щодо формування коаліційного уряду.
48. Раптове розгортання скандалу наприкінці жовтня стало остаточним "жовтневим сюрпризом", який потряс політичний ландшафт.
49. Політтехнолог орієнтувався на думку "робітничої людини", розуміючи важливість цієї демографічної групи на майбутніх виборах.
50. Опозиційна партія застосувала філібустьєрство, щоб затримати ухвалення суперечливого законопроект в парламенті.
51. Дебати були зосереджені навколо ролі "великого уряду" в житті громадян, з протилежними поглядами на його ефективність та вплив.
52. Результати виборів призвели до "підвішеного парламенту", що вимагає переговорів і компромісів для формування стабільного уряду.
53. Політтехнолог ретельно спланував жовтневий сюрприз, щоб вплинути на думку виборців напередодні виборів.
54. Кандидат сподівався апелювати до робітника, звертаючись до ключових питань, важливих для виборців робітничого класу в регіоні.
55. Опозиційна партія погрожувала заблокувати запропонований законопроект, щоб затримати і заблокувати його прийняття.
56. Дебати точилися навколо ролі великого уряду, причому одна сторона виступала за посилення втручання, а інша - за обмежену участь держави.
57. Результати виборів призвели до того, що парламент опинився в підвішеному стані, що вимагало проведення переговорів і створення коаліції для формування стабільного уряду.

19. Think about a word or a word combination from the Unit to complete the poems. Translate them.

1) In cities bustling, traffic lights blink,
Pedestrian areas, where thoughts sync.
As cars rush by under the sky,
Dreams soar high, _____.

2) In lands where freedom's flame does rise,
New dreams awake 'neath hopeful skies.
Where voices echo, strong and wise,
Embracing change, _____.

3) In shadows deep, where darkness lies,
Truth emerges, no more disguise.
As light exposes, justice tries,
To cleanse the soul, _____.

4) In twilight's glow, the stars do reign,
Yet whispers tell of their refrain.
As night recedes and yields the lane,
Dawn breaks anew, _____.

5) In corridors where echoes soar,
Ambitions rise and dreams explore.
Through trials faced, and paths once more,
Life's endless dance, _____.

6) In governance, where power sways,
_____ mark the days.

To keep authority in its place,
Democracy thrives with this embrace.

7) In negotiations tense and dire,
Both sides seek what they desire.
Through compromise and fervent debate,
They reach an accord, _____.

8) In shadows deep, where truth is bent,
Lies weave their web with ill intent.
Yet in the light, we find ascension,
Overcoming deceit, thwarting _____.

9) In halls of power, tension grows,
As partisan divides impose.
Amidst the chaos, democracy clowns,
Struggling to avert _____.

10) In the journey of life, as the path winds,
We face trials of various kinds.
With courage and strength, our spirit balances,
United we stand to _____.

11) In the heart of every community, a seed,
Planted deep, it's the trust we need.
Through shared values and transparent essence,
We foster and nurture _____.

12) In the river's flow, obstacles meet,

Where currents clash and tempers fleet.
Yet with patience's grace, the way is freed,
No longer bound, _____, we succeed.

13) In life's intricate dance, we often find,
Challenges that test both heart and mind.
With determination and strength of grip,
We _____ trials, never to quit.

14) In the depths of our being, where truth resides,
Integrity stands tall, a beacon to guide.
With honesty as our compass, we strive to embody,
The essence of character, unwavering _____.

15) In fields of green and skies so blue,
The sun and moon their paths pursue.
Each with its role, distinct yet true,
Completing cycles, _____, through.

20. Questions for discussion.

1. What is the most common democracy in today's world?

The most common form of democracy in today's world is representative (or indirect) democracy, which has become the dominant political model across Europe, the Americas, parts of Asia, and Africa. In a representative democracy, citizens exercise their political power primarily through the election of representatives who are entrusted with making decisions on their behalf within legislative and executive institutions. This form of democracy emerged as a practical response to the realities of modern nation-states, where populations are too large and societies too complex for continuous direct participation. Representative democracy allows for professional governance, policy expertise, and institutional continuity, while still maintaining popular sovereignty through elections. Typically, it includes regular, competitive elections, political pluralism, constitutional

limits on power, and mechanisms of accountability such as courts, free media, and civil society. Although representative democracy is often criticized for creating distance between citizens and decision-makers, it remains the most viable and scalable democratic model. Many contemporary systems attempt to compensate for this distance by incorporating participatory elements such as referendums, public consultations, and digital engagement tools.

2. Which country has the most stable democracy?

Democratic stability is usually assessed not by perfection but by institutional resilience over time, public trust, respect for the rule of law, and the ability to manage crises without democratic backsliding. According to these criteria, countries such as Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Canada, and New Zealand are widely regarded as among the most stable democracies in the world. Norway, in particular, is often cited as a leading example. Its stability is rooted in long-standing democratic traditions, transparent governance, low levels of corruption, and strong social cohesion. Democratic stability in Norway is also reinforced by an effective welfare state, which reduces economic inequality and social exclusion – two major threats to democratic legitimacy. Importantly, stability does not mean the absence of political conflict. Rather, it refers to the ability of democratic institutions to absorb conflict, channel it peacefully, and adapt to social change without undermining fundamental democratic principles.

3. Is Switzerland a pure democracy?

Switzerland is frequently described as a model of direct democracy, but it is not a pure democracy in the classical sense. Instead, it represents a hybrid democratic system that combines direct democratic mechanisms with representative institutions. Known for its extensive use of referendums and popular initiatives, Switzerland allows citizens to directly influence legislation and constitutional amendments at multiple levels of governance. This high level of citizen participation distinguishes it from most other democracies. However, Switzerland also has an elected parliament, a federal government, and a complex administrative system, which means that day-to-day governance remains representative. Therefore, Switzerland cannot be considered a pure democracy but rather the most advanced contemporary example of institutionalized direct participation within a representative framework.

4. Why are freedom, human rights, and genuine elections essential elements of democracy?

Freedom, respect for human rights, and genuine elections are essential because they constitute the moral, legal, and procedural foundations of democratic governance. Democracy is not merely about holding elections; it is about ensuring that those elections are meaningful, fair, and embedded in a broader system of rights and freedoms. Freedom of expression, assembly, and association allows citizens to debate, organize, and criticize

political power. Human rights protect individuals and minorities from abuse by the state or by the majority, ensuring that democracy does not degenerate into tyranny of the majority. Genuine elections, conducted through universal suffrage and free competition, provide legitimacy to political authority and allow for peaceful transfers of power. When any of these elements is weakened, democracy becomes hollow – reduced to formal procedures without substantive participation or accountability.

5. Why are rights important in a democratic society?

Rights are central to democracy because they define the limits of power and protect human dignity. In a democratic society, rights ensure that citizens are not merely subjects of governance but active participants in political life. Civil and political rights enable individuals to express dissent, organize politically, and hold authorities accountable. Social and economic rights, while sometimes debated, are increasingly recognized as necessary for meaningful participation, as extreme inequality undermines democratic equality in practice. Without rights, democratic institutions lose their legitimacy, and political participation becomes symbolic rather than real.

6. What are the five democratic rights?

While lists vary, five core democratic rights are commonly identified as fundamental:

- The right to vote and stand for election
- Freedom of expression
- Freedom of association and peaceful assembly
- Equality before the law and access to justice
- The right to participate in public affairs

Together, these rights guarantee political inclusion, pluralism, and accountability, forming the backbone of democratic citizenship.

7. Discuss the role of human rights and elections in democracy.

Human rights and elections are interdependent pillars of democracy. Elections provide a mechanism for collective decision-making, while human rights ensure that this process is fair, inclusive, and free from coercion. Without human rights, elections can be manipulated through censorship, intimidation, or exclusion. Without elections, rights lack political enforcement and accountability. A functioning democracy therefore requires both: protected rights that enable participation, and elections that translate participation into legitimate authority.

8. What are the major challenges of democracy today?

Contemporary democracies face a range of interconnected challenges, including political polarization, the rise of populism, disinformation, declining trust in institutions, economic inequality, and external interference. Digital media has intensified many of these

problems by accelerating the spread of misinformation and emotional political narratives. These challenges weaken democratic norms, undermine social cohesion, and create fertile ground for authoritarian tendencies. Addressing them requires institutional reform, civic education, and renewed commitment to democratic values.

9. Why is democracy linked to sustainable development in the 2030 Agenda?

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes democracy, good governance, and the rule of law as essential conditions for sustainable development. Democratic systems promote transparency, accountability, and inclusive decision-making, all of which are necessary for long-term social, economic, and environmental sustainability. Without democratic governance, development efforts risk being short-term, unequal, or environmentally destructive. Democracy enables societies to balance competing interests and pursue development that benefits present and future generations.

10. How can demagogues be kept out of power?

Preventing demagogues from gaining power requires strong institutions rather than reliance on individual leaders. Independent courts, free media, transparent electoral systems, and robust civil society organizations act as safeguards against manipulation and abuse of democratic language. Equally important is civic education and media literacy, which help citizens recognize demagoguery and resist simplistic or emotionally charged political narratives. Democracy survives not only through laws and institutions, but through informed, engaged, and critical citizens.

11. How has slowed economic growth over the past forty years in advanced democracies generated new anti-democratic populist backlash?

Over the past four decades, many advanced democracies have experienced structural economic slowdown, stagnant wages, and rising inequality, despite overall increases in productivity and wealth. This disconnect between economic growth and lived experience has significantly contributed to the rise of anti-democratic populist backlash, both in public opinion and party systems. Large segments of the population – particularly middle- and working-class voters – have perceived that globalization, technological change, and financialization benefit economic elites while eroding job security, social mobility, and local communities. As traditional political parties struggled to address these concerns, trust in democratic institutions declined. Populist actors capitalized on this frustration by framing democracy as “captured” by corrupt elites and by offering simplistic solutions rooted in nationalism, exclusion, and strong leadership. At the party level, this dynamic has led to the emergence or transformation of political movements that openly challenge liberal-democratic norms, attack independent institutions, and question pluralism. Thus, economic stagnation has not merely produced dissatisfaction – it has reshaped political competition in ways that threaten democratic resilience.

12. Discuss polarization as a driver of democratic decay.

Intense political polarization is one of the most dangerous drivers of democratic decay in both new and established democracies. When political competition shifts from disagreement over policy to existential conflict, democratic norms erode rapidly. In polarized societies, political opponents are no longer seen as legitimate rivals but as enemies who pose a threat to the nation, values, or way of life. This perception enables incumbents to justify violations of democratic norms – such as restricting media freedom, manipulating electoral rules, or weakening judicial independence – under the pretext of protecting democracy itself. Simultaneously, opposition groups may adopt an “any means necessary” mentality, normalizing anti-democratic tactics to regain power. Polarization thus creates a vicious cycle: norm-breaking by one side legitimizes retaliation by the other, gradually hollowing out democratic institutions. Over time, democracy becomes procedural rather than substantive, surviving in form but not in spirit.

13. What is the main purpose of empowerment?

The main purpose of empowerment is to enable individuals and groups to exercise agency, influence decisions that affect their lives, and participate meaningfully in social, economic, and political processes. Empowerment goes beyond formal rights; it involves access to resources, knowledge, skills, and institutional support. In democratic contexts, empowerment strengthens citizenship by transforming passive subjects into active participants. Empowered individuals are better equipped to claim rights, challenge injustice, and hold authorities accountable. At a broader level, empowerment contributes to social cohesion and democratic legitimacy by reducing exclusion and inequality. Democracies function best when citizens believe they have both the capacity and opportunity to shape collective outcomes.

14. Why is the empowerment of women and gender equality crucial to democracy?

The empowerment of women and the establishment of gender equality are fundamental to democracy because democracy is premised on political equality and inclusive participation. When half the population is marginalized or underrepresented, democratic systems cannot claim full legitimacy. Women’s empowerment improves the quality of democracy by broadening perspectives in decision-making, strengthening social policy, and enhancing responsiveness to issues such as healthcare, education, and social protection. Empirical research consistently shows that greater female political participation correlates with lower corruption, stronger institutions, and more inclusive governance. Moreover, gender equality reinforces democratic norms by challenging hierarchical power structures and promoting respect for human dignity. A democracy that excludes women undermines its own foundational principles.

15. How can women be supported in overcoming barriers to equal political participation?

Supporting women's political participation requires a multidimensional approach addressing structural, cultural, and institutional barriers. Legal reforms such as gender quotas, campaign finance support, and anti-discrimination laws can level the playing field. Institutional changes – including family-friendly political workplaces and protection from political violence – are equally essential. Cultural norms that discourage female leadership must be addressed through education, media representation, and role models. Capacity-building initiatives, mentoring programs, and networks for women leaders help build confidence and political skills. Ultimately, empowering women politically strengthens democracy by ensuring that political systems reflect the diversity of the societies they govern.

16. Discuss the democratic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic posed unprecedented challenges to democratic societies by testing the balance between public health, individual freedoms, and institutional accountability. Emergency powers, lockdowns, and surveillance measures were often necessary but risked normalizing restrictions on civil liberties. The pandemic also exposed weaknesses in information ecosystems, as misinformation and distrust undermined public compliance and social cohesion. At the same time, democratic institutions faced pressure to respond rapidly to evolving societal demands while maintaining transparency and legitimacy. While some democracies demonstrated resilience and adaptability, others experienced democratic backsliding. The pandemic thus highlighted the importance of strong institutions, public trust, and democratic oversight in times of crisis.

17. Discuss the three existential threats to democracy.

Democracy today faces three interconnected existential threats. First, election subversion undermines the core mechanism of democratic legitimacy. Efforts to manipulate electoral outcomes or delegitimize results erode public trust and destabilize political systems. Second, the growing disconnect between policy outcomes and public opinion fuels alienation and cynicism. When citizens feel unheard, democratic participation declines, creating space for populist appeals. Third, the widening gulf between democracy and everyday life weakens democratic attachment. If democratic institutions fail to address concrete social and economic needs, democracy becomes abstract and fragile. Together, these threats jeopardize democracy's capacity to sustain itself.

18. Why does lack of engagement weaken democracy?

Democracy relies on active citizen participation. When engagement declines, democratic systems lose both legitimacy and accountability. Low participation reduces electoral competitiveness, weakens civil society, and allows powerful interests to dominate decision-making. Disengagement often stems from disillusionment, inequality, or perceived inefficacy. Over time, this creates a self-reinforcing cycle in which disengaged

citizens feel increasingly disconnected from political outcomes, further weakening democratic culture.

19. What is the Democracy Index?

The Democracy Index is an annual global assessment produced by the Economist Intelligence Unit. It evaluates countries based on electoral processes, civil liberties, government functioning, political participation, and political culture. The first Democracy Index report was published in 2006. Countries are classified into four regime types: full democracies, flawed democracies, hybrid regimes, and authoritarian regimes. The index serves as a diagnostic tool rather than a definitive judgment, highlighting trends in democratic quality over time.

20. The Internet as a tool for politics and democracy promotion.

The Internet has transformed politics by expanding access to information, enabling mobilization, and lowering barriers to participation. Digital platforms facilitate civic engagement, grassroots activism, and political transparency. However, the Internet also presents serious risks, including disinformation, polarization, and manipulation. Algorithm-driven content can amplify extreme views, while foreign and domestic actors exploit digital spaces to undermine democratic processes. Thus, the Internet is neither inherently democratic nor anti-democratic. Its impact depends on regulation, digital literacy, and the strength of democratic institutions.

21. How can digital technology be placed at the service of democracy and human rights?

To place digital technology at the service of democracy and human rights, technology must be treated not merely as a tool, but as a normative system governed by democratic values. Digital innovation should reinforce participation, accountability, transparency, and equality rather than undermine them.

First, democratic governance of technology requires a human-rights-by-design approach. Digital systems must be developed with privacy, data protection, and non-discrimination embedded from the outset. This includes limiting data collection, ensuring informed consent, and protecting individuals from mass surveillance and profiling. Without such safeguards, digital tools risk turning citizens into objects of control rather than holders of rights.

Second, algorithmic accountability is essential. Algorithms increasingly influence political communication, access to services, and public opinion. Democracies must require transparency in automated decision-making, allow independent audits, and guarantee the right to challenge algorithmic outcomes. When citizens cannot understand or contest digital decisions, democratic accountability weakens.

Third, digital technology should expand meaningful political participation, not symbolic or superficial engagement. Online consultations, e-petitions, participatory budgeting, and open data initiatives can strengthen democracy only if institutions genuinely respond to public input. Otherwise, digital participation risks becoming an illusion that deepens cynicism.

Finally, digital inclusion is a democratic imperative. Equal access to digital tools, digital literacy, and alternative offline options must be ensured so that technology reduces, rather than deepens, social and political inequalities.

22. How does digital technology affect human rights and the functioning of democracies?

Digital technology has profoundly reshaped both the exercise of human rights and the operation of democratic systems, producing significant benefits alongside serious risks. On the positive side, digital platforms have expanded freedom of expression and access to information. Marginalized voices can now reach global audiences, political mobilization has become easier, and civic activism can bypass traditional gatekeepers. Digital tools have also enhanced government transparency, enabling open data initiatives, investigative journalism, and real-time scrutiny of political institutions.

However, these gains are counterbalanced by substantial threats. The right to privacy has been severely challenged by mass data collection, commercial surveillance, and state monitoring. Citizens are increasingly tracked, profiled, and predicted, often without meaningful consent. This undermines personal autonomy and chills political participation. Democratic processes are also affected by disinformation, algorithmic amplification, and attention-driven media systems. Social media platforms tend to reward emotional, polarizing, and misleading content, distorting public debate and weakening the shared factual basis on which democratic deliberation depends. Furthermore, algorithmic systems may reproduce social biases, leading to discriminatory outcomes in areas such as employment, policing, welfare, or credit. When digital systems operate without transparency or accountability, democratic oversight is diminished.

In sum, digital technology simultaneously empowers democratic participation and threatens democratic integrity. Its impact depends less on technical innovation than on political regulation, ethical design, and institutional control.

23. There is a real risk that technology will be used to foment doubt, polarisation, and distrust in democratic institutions. Discuss.

The risk that digital technology will be used to generate doubt, polarization, and distrust in democratic institutions is not hypothetical; it is already observable across many democratic societies. One major mechanism is the manufacture of doubt. Digital platforms enable the rapid spread of contradictory narratives, conspiracy theories, and manipulated content. Rather than convincing citizens of a single falsehood, these strategies aim to overwhelm them, leading to the belief that objective truth no longer exists. This erosion of

epistemic trust weakens democratic decision-making. Polarization is further intensified by algorithmic personalization. Recommendation systems prioritize engagement, often amplifying outrage, fear, and identity-based conflict. As citizens are increasingly exposed only to like-minded views, political opponents come to be seen not as rivals, but as existential enemies. This undermines compromise, tolerance, and democratic norms.

Technology is also used to delegitimize institutions. Coordinated campaigns target courts, electoral bodies, journalists, and experts, portraying them as corrupt or manipulated. Even unfounded accusations can be damaging, as democracy relies on procedural trust. Once elections, courts, or media are widely perceived as illegitimate, democratic stability is severely weakened.

These dynamics pose a structural threat to democracy, as they replace deliberation with suspicion and consensus with conflict. Addressing them requires systemic responses rather than isolated fact-checking efforts.

24. What must governments, the private sector, and civil society do to address digital threats and build confidence in democracy?

Responding to the democratic challenges posed by digital technology requires coordinated action among governments, private actors, and civil society. Governments must establish clear regulatory frameworks that protect fundamental rights while preserving freedom of expression. This includes transparency rules for political advertising, safeguards against foreign interference, and accountability mechanisms for large digital platforms. Governments must also invest in cybersecurity to protect electoral infrastructure and public institutions. The private sector, particularly technology companies, bears significant responsibility. Platforms must redesign systems that incentivize misinformation and polarization, strengthen content moderation procedures, and provide transparent appeals processes. Ethical data practices and responsible algorithm design are crucial for rebuilding public trust.

Civil society plays a vital role as a watchdog and mediator. Independent journalism, fact-checking organizations, academic research, and civic education initiatives help counter disinformation and foster critical thinking. Equally important is civil society's role in monitoring government overreach and defending digital rights. To seize opportunities and build popular confidence in democracy, all actors must prioritize fairness, effectiveness, and accountability. Trust grows when citizens experience democratic institutions as responsive, transparent, and capable of delivering tangible outcomes in a digital environment.

25. What is media democracy?

Media democracy refers to the idea that the quality of democracy depends on the structure, independence, and functioning of the media system. Democratic governance requires not only free elections and institutions, but also an information environment that enables informed citizenship. In a media democracy, citizens have access to diverse,

reliable, and independent sources of information. Media act as a watchdog over political power, expose corruption, and provide a forum for pluralistic debate. Without such conditions, democratic choice becomes distorted or manipulated. At the same time, media democracy acknowledges the risks of excessive media power. Concentration of ownership, political influence over media, and commercialization of attention can distort public discourse. In the digital age, platforms and algorithms have become key political actors, shaping visibility, agenda-setting, and opinion formation.

Thus, media democracy today extends beyond traditional journalism to include digital platforms, social media, and information infrastructures. Safeguarding democracy therefore requires protecting media freedom while ensuring accountability, transparency, and pluralism in the digital public sphere.

UNIT 4 DIPLOMACY AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

1. Read the information which can help you to answer the questions from Lead-in:

Diplomacy is one of the oldest mechanisms through which states manage their relations with one another. The concept of diplomacy is closely connected with negotiation, representation, and communication between political entities. Historically, diplomacy emerged as rulers began sending envoys to foreign courts in order to negotiate alliances, resolve disputes, and establish trade relations. Over time, these practices developed into a structured system of international communication that today forms a central element of global governance. The word diplomacy derives from the Greek term *diploma*, which referred to an official document folded in two parts and granting privileges or permissions. During the Roman Empire such documents were used as passes or certificates issued by authorities. In the early modern period the study of official documents and charters became known as *diplomats*. Eventually the term *diplomacy* came to describe the practice of conducting international negotiations and managing relations between states. In the modern world diplomacy performs several essential functions. One of the most important is the representation of national interests abroad. Diplomats act as official representatives of their governments and seek to promote political, economic, cultural, and security interests in foreign countries. Diplomatic missions such as embassies and consulates serve as permanent channels of communication between states. Another key function of diplomacy is negotiation. Through negotiations, states attempt to resolve conflicts, conclude treaties, and coordinate policies on issues of mutual concern. Negotiation is considered the primary diplomatic tool because it allows states to adjust their differences peacefully rather than through confrontation. Diplomatic dialogue may take place in bilateral meetings between two states or in multilateral forums that involve many countries. Diplomacy also plays a significant role in gathering and analysing information. Diplomatic representatives observe political and economic developments in the host country and report their findings to their governments. This information helps policymakers better understand international trends

and make informed foreign policy decisions. International institutions have become increasingly important in the practice of diplomacy. Organizations such as the United Nations, the European Union, the World Trade Organization, and regional security alliances provide platforms where states can discuss global issues and coordinate their actions. These institutions facilitate multilateral diplomacy by bringing together representatives from different countries and creating mechanisms for cooperation. One of the most significant milestones in the development of diplomatic law was the adoption of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations in 1961. This international agreement established clear rules governing diplomatic practice, including diplomatic immunity, the inviolability of diplomatic missions, and the legal status of diplomatic personnel. The convention remains the foundation of modern diplomatic relations and is recognized by the vast majority of countries worldwide. Over time, the tools of diplomacy have expanded beyond traditional negotiations. Today diplomacy includes economic diplomacy, cultural diplomacy, public diplomacy, and digital diplomacy. Governments increasingly communicate with foreign publics through media, cultural exchanges, and international partnerships. In an increasingly interconnected world, diplomacy and international institutions play a crucial role in maintaining global stability. Through dialogue, cooperation, and negotiation, states are able to address complex international challenges such as security threats, economic crises, environmental issues, and humanitarian conflicts. Thus, diplomacy remains a fundamental instrument for promoting peace and cooperation in the international community.

1. ***“Diplomacy in the classic sense, the adjustment of differences through negotiation.”*** – Henry Kissinger

Henry Kissinger’s statement that diplomacy is “the adjustment of differences through negotiation” reflects one of the most traditional and widely accepted interpretations of diplomacy in international relations. At its core, diplomacy functions as a mechanism for managing conflict between states whose interests, priorities, and strategic goals often diverge. Rather than eliminating disagreements entirely, diplomacy attempts to regulate and moderate them through dialogue and negotiation. The key concept in Kissinger’s definition

is the idea of adjustment. Diplomacy rarely produces perfect solutions in which all parties achieve everything they want. Instead, it is a process of recalibrating expectations, balancing interests, and creating workable compromises that allow states to coexist despite their differences. Negotiation becomes the primary instrument through which governments communicate their positions, explore possible compromises, and ultimately prevent disputes from escalating into open confrontation. Historically, diplomacy developed precisely because states recognized the dangers of unresolved conflicts. In earlier centuries, diplomacy often served as a tool for maintaining the balance of power between rival empires. In the modern international system, however, diplomacy has expanded far beyond traditional negotiations. It now includes multilateral institutions, international organizations, economic diplomacy, and informal dialogue channels.

Kissinger's definition also emphasizes that diplomacy is fundamentally pragmatic. It focuses on achievable outcomes rather than ideological perfection. This pragmatic approach is particularly important in a world where military conflict can have catastrophic consequences. Negotiation therefore becomes not only a political tool but also a mechanism for preserving global stability. In the contemporary international environment, Kissinger's concept remains highly relevant. Global challenges such as geopolitical rivalry, economic competition, and security threats continue to create tensions between states. Diplomacy provides a structured process through which these tensions can be managed without resorting to force. Thus, the "adjustment of differences" remains a central principle of international relations and a cornerstone of peaceful coexistence.

2. "Diplomacy is listening to what the other guy needs. Preserving your own position, but listening to the other guy. You have to develop relationships with other people so when the tough times come, you can work together." – Colin Powell

Colin Powell's observation that diplomacy involves listening to what the other side needs highlights a crucial interpersonal dimension of diplomatic practice. While diplomacy is often associated with negotiations, treaties, and official statements, Powell emphasizes that effective diplomacy begins with understanding the perspective of the other party.

Listening does not imply abandoning one's own national interests. Rather, it allows diplomats to better understand the motivations, concerns, and priorities of their counterparts. This understanding is essential for identifying areas of possible compromise and cooperation. When diplomats genuinely attempt to understand the needs of others, they create the foundation for constructive dialogue. Powell's view reflects the importance of trust and relationship-building in diplomacy. International negotiations are rarely isolated events; instead, they form part of long-term interactions between states. Diplomatic relationships develop gradually through repeated communication, shared experiences, and mutual respect. These relationships become particularly valuable during times of crisis, when established channels of communication can help prevent misunderstandings and escalation.

Another important aspect of Powell's statement is the idea that diplomacy requires patience and emotional intelligence. Successful diplomats must balance firmness in defending their country's interests with openness to dialogue. They must also navigate cultural differences, political sensitivities, and complex international dynamics. In today's interconnected world, Powell's perspective is especially significant. Many global challenges – such as climate change, security threats, and economic instability – require cooperation among multiple countries. Effective diplomacy therefore depends not only on negotiation skills but also on the ability to listen, empathize, and maintain constructive relationships with diverse partners. Powell's statement reminds us that diplomacy is ultimately a human activity based on communication and understanding.

3. ***“The principle of give and take is the principle of diplomacy give one and take ten.”*** – *Mark Twain*

Mark Twain's remark that diplomacy follows the principle of “give one and take ten” offers a somewhat ironic but insightful perspective on the nature of diplomatic negotiations. While the traditional concept of diplomacy emphasizes compromise and mutual concessions, Twain humorously suggests that diplomacy often involves strategic calculation and negotiation tactics. At first glance, the statement appears cynical, implying that

diplomacy may involve manipulation or strategic advantage. However, it also reflects an important reality of international negotiations: states rarely approach diplomacy purely from an altruistic perspective. Instead, they seek to advance their own national interests while making concessions only when necessary. The principle of “give and take” lies at the heart of diplomatic practice. Successful negotiations typically require both sides to make compromises. Yet the process of determining how much each side gives and receives can be complex and contentious. Skilled diplomats attempt to secure the most favourable outcomes for their countries while still maintaining cooperative relationships with other states. Twain’s observation also highlights the strategic dimension of diplomacy. Diplomats must carefully calculate their positions, anticipate the reactions of their counterparts, and use persuasion and negotiation techniques effectively. This strategic aspect does not necessarily undermine the value of diplomacy; rather, it reflects the realities of international politics, where competing interests must be balanced through negotiation. Moreover, Twain’s quote reminds us that diplomacy often involves subtlety and nuance. Agreements may appear balanced on the surface, but the underlying benefits and consequences can vary significantly for different parties. Understanding these dynamics requires careful analysis and diplomatic skill. Ultimately, Twain’s comment underscores the complexity of diplomatic negotiations. While diplomacy ideally promotes cooperation and peaceful conflict resolution, it also operates within a competitive international environment where states continuously seek to protect and advance their interests.

4. ***“Diplomacy is to do and say the nastiest things in the nicest way.”*** – Isaac Goldberg

Isaac Goldberg’s statement that diplomacy involves “doing and saying the nastiest things in the nicest way” captures the paradoxical nature of diplomatic communication. Diplomacy often requires governments to express disagreement, criticism, or even threats, yet these messages must be delivered in a manner that preserves civility and avoids unnecessary escalation. This paradox reflects the fundamental role of language and tone in diplomatic interactions. Direct or aggressive statements can easily provoke tension and damage relationships between states. Diplomatic language therefore tends to be carefully

crafted, indirect, and nuanced. Through subtle phrasing and polite expressions, diplomats can communicate difficult messages without triggering immediate hostility. Goldberg's observation also illustrates the importance of maintaining respect and professionalism in international relations. Even when countries strongly disagree, they must continue to interact and cooperate in various areas such as trade, security, and global governance. Diplomatic etiquette helps ensure that disagreements do not permanently damage these relationships.

Another dimension of Goldberg's comment concerns the strategic use of ambiguity in diplomacy. Diplomatic statements are often deliberately vague or carefully worded in order to leave room for interpretation. This flexibility can allow different parties to interpret agreements in ways that satisfy their domestic audiences while still maintaining international cooperation. In practice, this approach enables diplomats to manage conflicts without escalating them unnecessarily. By presenting criticism in a measured and respectful manner, diplomats can signal their concerns while still leaving the door open for dialogue and negotiation. Ultimately, Goldberg's statement highlights the delicate balance that diplomacy requires. It is an art that combines honesty with tact, firmness with politeness, and clarity with subtlety. Successful diplomacy therefore depends not only on political strategy but also on communication skills and emotional intelligence.

5. *“To say nothing, especially when speaking, is half the art of diplomacy.” – Will Durant*

Will Durant's statement that “to say nothing, especially when speaking, is half the art of diplomacy” emphasizes the strategic value of restraint and silence in diplomatic communication. While diplomacy is often associated with negotiation and dialogue, Durant suggests that knowing when not to speak can be just as important as knowing what to say. Silence can serve several purposes in diplomatic interactions. First, it allows diplomats to avoid making statements that might unnecessarily escalate tensions. In sensitive negotiations, careless words can easily be misinterpreted or used against a country's interests. Strategic silence therefore provides time for reflection and careful consideration. Second, silence can function as a negotiation tactic. By withholding immediate responses,

diplomats may encourage their counterparts to reveal more information or reconsider their positions. This approach can shift the dynamics of negotiation and create opportunities for compromise.

Durant's observation also highlights the importance of discretion in diplomacy. Many diplomatic discussions involve confidential information or politically sensitive topics. Effective diplomats must therefore exercise caution and restraint when communicating both publicly and privately. Furthermore, silence can be a powerful symbolic gesture in international relations. Refusing to respond to certain statements or provocations may signal disapproval without escalating the conflict. Similarly, delaying a response may indicate that a country is carefully evaluating its options. In a broader sense, Durant's quote underscores the intellectual discipline required in diplomacy. Diplomats must constantly assess the potential consequences of their words and actions. By mastering the art of silence, they can maintain strategic flexibility and avoid unnecessary confrontation. Thus, Durant's insight reveals that diplomacy is not only about persuasive speech and negotiation but also about patience, restraint, and the careful management of communication.

1. Where did the term diplomacy come from? Who first used the word diplomacy?

The term diplomacy originates from the ancient Greek word "*diploma*", which referred to a folded document or official certificate granting privileges or rights. In the Roman Empire, such documents were used as official passes or licenses issued by the government. These documents were often folded in two parts, which is why the Greek word *diploma* literally meant "something folded." During the Middle Ages and the early modern period, the word began to acquire a more specialized meaning. It was used to describe official documents issued by rulers, particularly those that confirmed privileges, treaties, or agreements between political authorities. Scholars who studied such documents eventually developed the discipline known as diplomatics, which involved the analysis and verification of historical charters and official records. The modern meaning of the word diplomacy gradually emerged in Europe in the eighteenth century. The term began to describe the practice of managing relations between states through negotiation and communication. One

of the earliest known uses of the word in this modern sense appeared in the works of the French diplomat and writer François de Callières and later in writings by European political thinkers. However, the term gained broader recognition in the late eighteenth century when the British philosopher and statesman Edmund Burke used the word diplomacy in the context of international relations. From that point onward, diplomacy became widely accepted as the term describing the art and practice of conducting negotiations between representatives of states.

Today, diplomacy refers to a complex system of communication, negotiation, and cooperation between governments and international organizations. It includes both traditional diplomatic missions and modern forms of international interaction such as multilateral diplomacy, economic diplomacy, and public diplomacy.

2. What are the functions and tools of international diplomacy?

International diplomacy performs several essential functions in the system of international relations. One of its primary functions is the representation of a state's interests abroad. Diplomats act as official representatives of their governments and work to promote their country's political, economic, cultural, and security interests in other countries. Another key function of diplomacy is negotiation. Diplomatic negotiations allow states to resolve disputes, establish agreements, and coordinate policies on issues of mutual concern. Negotiations can take place bilaterally between two countries or multilaterally within international organizations such as the United Nations. Diplomacy also plays a crucial role in information gathering and analysis. Diplomatic missions monitor political, economic, and social developments in host countries and report this information to their governments. This information helps policymakers make informed decisions regarding foreign policy and international cooperation.

In addition, diplomacy contributes to conflict prevention and crisis management. Through dialogue and mediation, diplomats attempt to reduce tensions and prevent conflicts from escalating into violence. Diplomatic efforts often involve mediation between conflicting parties or participation in international peace negotiations. The tools of

diplomacy are diverse and continuously evolving. Traditional diplomatic tools include negotiations, treaties, diplomatic correspondence, and official visits. Diplomatic missions such as embassies and consulates serve as permanent channels of communication between states. Modern diplomacy also employs additional tools such as economic diplomacy, cultural diplomacy, public diplomacy, and digital diplomacy. Governments increasingly use international media, cultural exchanges, and online platforms to communicate with foreign publics and influence international opinion. Thus, diplomacy functions as a comprehensive system of communication and cooperation that helps maintain stability in international relations while promoting national interests.

3. What did the UN Conference on Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities adopt in 1961?

In 1961, the United Nations Conference on Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities adopted one of the most important international agreements governing diplomatic relations: the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. This convention established a universal legal framework regulating the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of diplomatic missions and diplomats. The Vienna Convention was designed to standardize diplomatic practices and ensure that diplomats could perform their duties effectively without interference from the host country. Before the convention was adopted, diplomatic customs and privileges were often based on tradition rather than clearly defined international law.

One of the most important principles established by the convention is diplomatic immunity. Diplomatic immunity protects diplomats from prosecution or arrest in the host country. This protection ensures that diplomats can carry out their official responsibilities independently and without fear of political pressure or legal harassment. Another fundamental provision of the convention is the inviolability of diplomatic premises. Embassies and diplomatic missions cannot be entered by authorities of the host state without permission from the mission. Diplomatic correspondence and official documents are also protected from interference. The convention also regulates the appointment and accreditation of diplomats, defines different categories of diplomatic personnel, and outlines

procedures for declaring diplomats persona non grata if the host country finds their presence unacceptable. The Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations remains one of the cornerstones of modern international law. Today, almost all countries in the world are parties to the convention, making it a universal framework governing diplomatic practice.

4. Why is French no longer the language of diplomacy? Why did English replace French?

For several centuries, French was considered the primary language of diplomacy in Europe and beyond. This status developed during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, when France was one of the most powerful political and cultural centers in Europe. French diplomacy, literature, and intellectual influence spread throughout the continent, making French the preferred language of international communication among European elites. French was widely used in treaties, diplomatic correspondence, and international negotiations. The language was considered precise, elegant, and suitable for formal diplomatic discourse. Even after the decline of French political dominance in the nineteenth century, French remained the dominant diplomatic language due to tradition and established practice. However, the situation began to change in the twentieth century, particularly after the First and Second World Wars. The rise of the United States as a global political and economic power significantly increased the influence of the English language in international affairs. Another factor contributing to the rise of English was the expansion of international organizations such as the United Nations, NATO, and the European institutions, where English became one of the primary working languages. The growth of global trade, science, technology, and mass communication also reinforced the role of English as a global lingua franca. Today, English functions as the dominant language of diplomacy, international business, and global communication. However, French still maintains an important role in certain diplomatic contexts. It remains one of the official languages of many international organizations and continues to be widely used in diplomatic protocol. Thus, the transition from French to English reflects broader geopolitical and cultural shifts in global power and communication.

5. Compile the list of diplomats whose actions, advice, and decisions had the most impact on global diplomacy.

Throughout history, several diplomats have significantly influenced the development of international relations and diplomatic practice. Their decisions, negotiations, and policies helped shape the global political order. One of the most influential diplomats was Charles-Maurice de Talleyrand, the French statesman who played a central role in European diplomacy during the Napoleonic era. At the Congress of Vienna (1814–1815), Talleyrand skillfully negotiated France's reintegration into the European balance of power despite its previous defeat. Another prominent figure was Klemens von Metternich, the Austrian diplomat who helped design the conservative European political system after the Napoleonic Wars. His diplomatic strategy aimed to preserve stability and prevent revolutionary movements in Europe.

In the twentieth century, Henry Kissinger became one of the most influential figures in modern diplomacy. As U.S. Secretary of State and National Security Advisor, he played a key role in shaping American foreign policy, particularly through policies such as détente with the Soviet Union and the opening of diplomatic relations with China. Dag Hammarskjöld, the second Secretary-General of the United Nations, also made a major contribution to modern diplomacy. He strengthened the role of the UN in peacekeeping operations and international mediation. Another important diplomat was George F. Kennan, whose concept of containment influenced Western diplomatic strategy during the Cold War.

In addition, leaders such as Nelson Mandela, though primarily known as political figures, also demonstrated remarkable diplomatic leadership by promoting reconciliation and peaceful transition in South Africa. These individuals illustrate how diplomacy can shape the course of international history. Through negotiation, strategic thinking, and political skill, diplomats have repeatedly influenced the structure and stability of the global political system.

2. Match the definitions / explanation of the terms with the terms used in Text 1 of the textbook.

Amicable states	To alleviate or reduce tension, especially in a situation where there is conflict or disagreement.
Diplomatic intercourse	The process of handling and controlling conflicts or disputes between individuals, groups, or nations to achieve a positive outcome.
Political masters	Unfair or deceptive practices, often used to gain an advantage in business or other dealings.
Promote peace	A friendly or cooperative attitude and relationship between people or entities.
Accredited envoys	Those in authority or leadership positions within the political realm, typically referring to high-ranking officials or politicians.
Supportive behaviour	States or nations that maintain friendly and cooperative relations, characterized by goodwill and a lack of hostility.
Defuse tension	The practice of conducting diplomatic negotiations and discussions within the framework of conferences, often involving multiple nations or stakeholders.
Goodwill	Official representatives who have been officially recognized or authorized to act on behalf of their government in diplomatic matters.
Cultivate relationships	Interaction and communication between diplomats or representatives of different countries, usually conducted in a formal and diplomatic manner.
Vote-trading	An arrangement where individuals or groups exchange votes or support for different proposals, candidates, or decisions.
Conflict management	Deceptive or dishonest methods used to achieve a goal, often involving unethical or illicit practices.
Build rapport	To actively work towards establishing and maintaining a state of peace, often involving diplomatic efforts and conflict resolution.
Underhanded means	To foster and develop relationships, often with the aim of building rapport, trust, and mutual understanding.
Sharp practices	To establish a good and harmonious relationship, characterized by mutual understanding, trust, and positive interaction.
Conference diplomacy	Actions or conduct that provides encouragement, assistance, or aid, particularly in the context of diplomatic or cooperative efforts.

3. Translate sentences with the given terms from Ukrainian into English:

1. Зняти напругу: Лідери провели спільну прес-конференцію, щоб розрядити напругу між двома країнами.
2. Врегулювання конфліктів: Ефективне управління конфліктами має вирішальне значення для підтримки стабільності в різноманітному суспільстві.
3. Різкі практики: Розслідування виявило випадки застосування жорстких методів під час політичної кампанії.
4. Добра воля: Обмін культурними делегаціями сприяв зміцненню доброї волі між сусідніми країнами.
5. Політичні майстри: Дипломати повинні орієнтуватися в міжнародних відносинах, враховуючи інтереси своїх політичних господарів.
6. Дружні держави: Через дипломатичні канали дві країни досягли мирного вирішення прикордонної суперечки.
7. Конференційна дипломатія: Організація Об'єднаних Націй часто покладається на конференційну дипломатію для вирішення глобальних проблем і сприяння співпраці.
8. Акредитовані посланці: Акредитовані посланці від обох країн беруть участь у переговорах на високому рівні з метою укладення торговельної угоди.
9. Дипломатичні контакти: Регулярні дипломатичні контакти між країнами мають важливе значення для підтримання відкритих ліній комунікації.
10. Торгівля голосами: Звинувачення в торгівлі голосами з'явилися під час міжнародного саміту, що викликало занепокоєння щодо етичної поведінки.
11. Підступні засоби: Очікується, що дипломати уникатимуть нечесних методів і дотримуватимуться принципів прозорості.
12. Сприяти миру: Міжнародні організації відіграють вирішальну роль у сприянні миру та запобіганні конфліктам.
13. Розвивати відносини: Дипломати невтомно працюють над розвитком відносин з партнерами з різних країн.

14. Налагоджувати зв'язки: Посол прагне налагодити стосунки з іноземними високопосадовцями через культурні обміни.

15. Підтримуюча поведінка: Поведінка підтримки між країнами під час кризи зміцнює глобальну співпрацю та солідарність.

4. Fill the gaps using the words:

<i>underhanded means</i>	<i>delivering on the commitments</i>	<i>envoys</i>
<i>defusing tension</i>	<i>Garnering goodwill</i>	<i>cultivating relationships</i>
<i>Mutual back-scratching</i>	<i>Amicable states</i>	<i>engaging in vote-trading</i>
<i>Vote-trading</i>	<i>Sharp practices</i>	<i>building rapport</i>
<i>chores</i>	<i>defuse tension</i>	<i>envoy</i>
<i>defuse tension</i>	<i>situational awareness</i>	<i>Diplomatic intercourse</i>
<i>Pursuing a career</i>	<i>solidify into an impasse</i>	<i>mutual back-scratching</i>

1. _____ are fostered through diplomatic efforts that prioritize _____ and responding to global challenges.
2. Building rapport with neighbouring countries is crucial for promoting peace and _____ in the region.
3. By _____ made during negotiations, we can yield immediate gains in trust and cooperation.
4. Cultivating relationships is the mainstay of effective diplomacy, where _____ use statecraft as their primary tools.
5. Diplomatic _____ often involve cultivating relationships with other nations to promote mutual interests.
6. _____ relies on _____ to navigate complex international relations effectively.
7. Diplomats must navigate political masters' expectations while promoting peace and _____ with other nations.
8. Employing _____ in diplomatic intercourse can preclude the establishment of amicable states between nations.
9. _____ through diplomatic efforts can _____ where conflicts aren't resolved peacefully.
10. _____ among political allies can undermine public trust and lead to irremediable hostility between factions.
11. Politicians must prioritize promoting peace over _____ or other practices for short-term gains.

12. _____ in diplomacy requires the ability to deliver on commitments and _____ in high-stakes negotiations.
13. _____ in diplomacy can give rise to conflict and irremediable hostility between nations.
14. Statecraft requires the ability to _____ and prevent conflicts from escalating into a state of negotiability.
15. The _____ enunciated publicly the importance of promoting interests through diplomatic channels.
16. _____ among politicians often leads to _____ but can undermine public trust in the electoral process.

5. Translate sentences from Ukrainian into English using idioms and phrasal verbs from the Unit

1. Дипломатія пінг-понгу продемонструвала, як спорт може долати політичні розбіжності і виступати потужним інструментом для сприяння порозумінню.
2. З наближенням ключових переговорів ходили чутки, що деякі посадовці можуть хворіти на дипломатичний грип, що відкладало саміт на невизначений термін.
3. Досвід посла у веденні складних переговорів був відточений за роки служби в "Туманному дні", що дозволило йому оволодіти мистецтвом дипломатичної витонченості.
4. Визнаючи необхідність посередництва, Організація Об'єднаних Націй надала свої добрі послуги для сприяння мирним переговорам у регіоні.
5. Опозиційна партія намагалася скористатися економічним спадом, звинувачуючи правлячу партію у фінансових проблемах.
6. Призначення посла на керівну посаду на Сьомому поверсі стало свідченням багаторічного дипломатичного досвіду та внеску в розвиток міжнародних відносин.
7. Під час нашої розмови вона виявилася дуже обізнаною в цьому питанні.
8. Йому вдалося натрапити на рідкісне видання книги в букіністичному магазині.
9. Нещодавно вона отримала великий спадок від свого далекого родича.

10. Політична партія, швидше за все, виступить проти суперечливого законопроекту.
11. Почувши новину, їй довелося змиритися з раптовою втратою.
12. Правильне рішення прийде до вас тоді, коли ви цього найменше очікуєте.

6. Questions for discussion.

1. What are new realities in foreign affairs?

The contemporary system of international relations is shaped by several new realities that significantly influence foreign affairs. One of the most important changes is the growing interconnectedness of states through globalization. Economic interdependence, technological development, and the expansion of global trade have created a complex network of relationships between countries. As a result, decisions made in one state often have immediate consequences for others. Another major reality is the emergence of multiple actors in international politics. Traditionally, diplomacy was conducted almost exclusively by governments and their official representatives. Today, however, international relations involve a wide range of participants, including international organizations, multinational corporations, non-governmental organizations, and even influential individuals. These actors shape global policies and contribute to decision-making processes that were previously dominated by states. Technological development also plays a crucial role in transforming foreign affairs. The rise of digital communication, social media platforms, and real-time information exchange has accelerated the pace of international interaction. Governments must now respond rapidly to global events, public opinion, and media coverage. Digital diplomacy has therefore become an important component of modern foreign policy. Another new reality is the increasing importance of global challenges that transcend national borders. Issues such as climate change, international terrorism, cyber security, pandemics, and migration require coordinated international responses. No single country can address these problems independently. Consequently, cooperation through international institutions and multilateral diplomacy has become essential. Furthermore, geopolitical competition among major powers

continues to shape the international environment. Strategic rivalries influence economic policies, technological competition, and regional security arrangements. In this context, foreign affairs increasingly involve balancing cooperation with competition. Thus, the new realities of foreign affairs include globalization, technological transformation, the involvement of multiple actors, and the growing importance of transnational challenges. These developments require new diplomatic strategies and more flexible approaches to international cooperation.

2. How is diplomacy relevant in today's world?

Diplomacy remains one of the most important mechanisms for managing international relations in the contemporary world. In a global system characterized by complex interdependence and geopolitical competition, diplomacy provides a structured method for communication, negotiation, and conflict resolution among states. One of the primary reasons diplomacy remains relevant is its role in preventing and resolving conflicts. Through negotiations and diplomatic dialogue, states can address disagreements and misunderstandings before they escalate into military confrontation. Diplomatic channels allow governments to clarify their positions, explore possible compromises, and maintain communication even during periods of political tension. Diplomacy also facilitates international cooperation in addressing global challenges. Problems such as climate change, economic instability, global health crises, and transnational crime require coordinated responses from multiple countries. Diplomatic negotiations help establish international agreements, treaties, and cooperative frameworks that allow states to work together effectively. Another important aspect of modern diplomacy is the management of economic relations. Trade agreements, investment partnerships, and economic cooperation are negotiated through diplomatic processes. Economic diplomacy has become particularly significant as countries seek to strengthen their positions within the global economy. In addition, diplomacy contributes to the promotion of cultural exchange and mutual understanding between nations. Cultural diplomacy and public diplomacy allow

governments to engage with foreign societies, build positive international images, and foster long-term partnerships. In an era of rapid technological change and complex global challenges, diplomacy provides an essential platform for dialogue and cooperation. It enables states to manage competition peacefully while pursuing shared interests. For this reason, diplomacy remains a central pillar of international stability and global governance.

3. What are the challenges to diplomacy?

Modern diplomacy faces numerous challenges arising from political, technological, and social changes in the international system. One of the most significant challenges is the increasing complexity of global problems. Issues such as climate change, cybersecurity, international terrorism, and economic inequality require coordinated international responses involving many actors and institutions. Another challenge is the growing pace of international communication. In the past, diplomatic negotiations often took place over extended periods, allowing governments time to carefully analyse situations and develop strategies. Today, the rapid spread of information through media and digital platforms creates pressure for immediate responses. Diplomatic decision-making must therefore occur under intense time constraints. Geopolitical tensions between major powers also complicate diplomatic efforts. Rivalries between influential states can undermine international cooperation and make negotiations more difficult. In such situations, diplomats must balance national interests with the need to maintain international stability. Domestic political pressures represent another challenge. Governments are increasingly influenced by public opinion, political polarization, and media narratives. Diplomatic agreements that require compromise may face criticism from domestic audiences, making it difficult for leaders to pursue pragmatic solutions. Furthermore, the rise of non-state actors has transformed the diplomatic landscape. International corporations, civil society organizations, and transnational networks often influence policy decisions and international negotiations. Diplomats must therefore engage with a broader range of stakeholders than ever before. Despite these challenges, diplomacy continues to

evolve. Modern diplomats must possess not only negotiation skills but also expertise in economics, technology, and international law. The ability to adapt to changing global conditions is essential for effective diplomatic practice.

4. How does diplomacy adapt to global conditions?

Diplomacy continuously evolves in response to changes in the global political and technological environment. As international relations become more complex, diplomatic practices and institutions must adapt in order to remain effective. One of the key ways diplomacy adapts is through the expansion of multilateral cooperation. International organizations provide platforms where multiple states can discuss common challenges and coordinate their actions. Multilateral diplomacy allows countries to address global issues that cannot be solved by individual states alone. Another important adaptation involves the use of digital technologies. Governments increasingly rely on digital communication tools, online conferences, and data analysis to conduct diplomatic activities. Digital diplomacy allows diplomats to interact with foreign governments and international organizations more efficiently, even when physical meetings are difficult. Public diplomacy has also become a significant element of modern foreign policy. Governments seek to communicate directly with foreign publics through media, cultural exchanges, educational programs, and international broadcasting. This approach helps build trust, improve national reputation, and influence global public opinion. Economic diplomacy represents another adaptation to global conditions. As international trade and investment become central components of national prosperity, diplomats increasingly focus on promoting economic partnerships, supporting domestic businesses abroad, and negotiating trade agreements. Finally, diplomacy adapts by incorporating interdisciplinary expertise. Modern diplomats must understand not only politics but also economics, technology, environmental policy, and social dynamics. This broader knowledge enables them to navigate complex international negotiations and develop comprehensive solutions. Thus, diplomacy adapts to global

conditions by embracing new technologies, expanding cooperation, and integrating diverse forms of expertise.

5. How do the actors involved in diplomacy interact and get things done?

Diplomatic activity involves a wide range of actors who collaborate and negotiate in order to achieve specific political, economic, or security objectives. Traditionally, the primary actors in diplomacy were national governments and their official representatives, such as ambassadors and diplomats. Today, however, diplomacy involves many additional participants. Governments remain the central actors in diplomatic relations. Through ministries of foreign affairs and diplomatic missions abroad, states coordinate their foreign policies and negotiate agreements with other countries. Diplomatic embassies serve as key communication channels through which governments exchange information and conduct negotiations. International organizations also play an important role in facilitating diplomatic interaction. Institutions such as the United Nations, the European Union, and regional organizations provide structured environments for multilateral diplomacy. Representatives from different countries meet within these institutions to discuss global issues and coordinate collective responses. Non-governmental organizations and civil society groups increasingly influence diplomatic processes. These organizations often advocate for human rights, environmental protection, and humanitarian assistance. Their expertise and advocacy can shape international negotiations and policy decisions. Multinational corporations and economic institutions also participate in diplomatic interactions, particularly in the field of economic diplomacy. Businesses may influence trade agreements, investment policies, and economic cooperation between states. The interaction among these actors typically occurs through formal negotiations, international conferences, diplomatic correspondence, and informal consultations. Successful diplomacy depends on communication, compromise, and the ability to balance diverse interests.

6. *What are the mechanisms of multistakeholder diplomacy and its applicability to modern diplomacy and international negotiations?*

Multistakeholder diplomacy refers to a diplomatic approach that involves not only governments but also a wide range of additional actors in international negotiations and decision-making processes. These actors may include international organizations, non-governmental organizations, multinational corporations, academic institutions, and representatives of civil society. The concept reflects the increasing complexity of global governance, where many international challenges cannot be addressed solely by states. One of the main mechanisms of multistakeholder diplomacy is inclusive dialogue. International forums often bring together representatives from governments, private sectors, and civil society to discuss global issues such as climate change, cybersecurity, public health, and sustainable development. This inclusive format allows diverse perspectives and expertise to contribute to policymaking. Another important mechanism is collaborative policymaking. Instead of governments making decisions independently, stakeholders cooperate in developing strategies and agreements. For example, global environmental negotiations frequently involve scientists, environmental organizations, and industry representatives who provide technical knowledge and practical recommendations. Public-private partnerships also represent a key element of multistakeholder diplomacy. Governments often cooperate with businesses and non-governmental organizations to implement international initiatives, particularly in areas such as infrastructure development, humanitarian aid, and technological innovation. The applicability of multistakeholder diplomacy is particularly evident in modern global challenges that require interdisciplinary solutions. Issues such as climate change, digital governance, and global health crises cannot be effectively addressed without cooperation between governments and non-state actors. Thus, multistakeholder diplomacy expands traditional diplomatic practices by integrating multiple perspectives and forms of expertise, making international negotiations more inclusive and effective.

7. What is soft power? How can soft power be deployed effectively?

Soft power is a concept in international relations that refers to the ability of a country to influence others through attraction and persuasion rather than coercion or military force. The term was popularized by political scientist Joseph Nye, who argued that states can achieve their objectives by shaping preferences and perceptions rather than by using threats or economic pressure. The sources of soft power typically include culture, political values, foreign policy credibility, and the global reputation of a country. When a nation's cultural achievements, educational institutions, or political ideals are admired internationally, other societies may become more receptive to its influence. One of the most effective ways to deploy soft power is through cultural diplomacy. Governments support cultural exchanges, international exhibitions, language programs, and artistic collaborations that introduce foreign audiences to their national culture and traditions. Such initiatives promote mutual understanding and positive perceptions. Education also plays a significant role in soft power. Scholarships, academic exchange programs, and international research cooperation allow students and scholars to engage with foreign societies and institutions. Many countries invest heavily in international education programs to strengthen long-term relationships with future global leaders. Another important tool of soft power is public diplomacy, which involves communicating directly with foreign publics through media, international broadcasting, and digital platforms. Governments use these channels to explain their policies, promote national achievements, and build international trust. Effective soft power requires credibility and consistency. A country's cultural attractiveness and political values must be supported by responsible international behaviour. When soft power is used strategically, it can enhance diplomatic influence and facilitate international cooperation.

8. How are social media, online conferencing, big data and AI used as digital tools in diplomacy?

Digital technologies have transformed the practice of diplomacy in recent decades. Tools such as social media platforms, online conferencing systems, big data analytics, and

artificial intelligence allow diplomats to communicate, analyse information, and coordinate policies more efficiently than ever before. Social media platforms have become important channels of digital diplomacy. Ministries of foreign affairs, embassies, and international organizations use platforms such as Twitter, LinkedIn, and Facebook to communicate with global audiences. Through these channels diplomats share official statements, respond to international events, and engage directly with foreign publics. Online conferencing technologies have also expanded diplomatic interaction. Virtual meetings allow diplomats and government officials to conduct negotiations and consultations without the need for physical travel. This became particularly important during global crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, when many international meetings were held virtually. Big data analysis provides diplomats with valuable insights into global trends and public opinion. By analysing large datasets, governments can identify emerging political issues, monitor economic developments, and assess public sentiment across different regions. Artificial intelligence further enhances diplomatic capabilities by assisting in data analysis, translation, and forecasting. AI tools can process large volumes of information quickly, helping diplomats identify patterns and potential risks in international relations. While digital diplomacy offers many advantages, it also presents challenges. Information security, misinformation, and cyber threats require careful management. Nevertheless, digital tools have become indispensable instruments for modern diplomatic practice.

9. What are the differences between “club diplomacy” and “network diplomacy”?

“Club diplomacy” and “network diplomacy” represent two different models of diplomatic interaction in the international system. Club diplomacy refers to traditional diplomatic practices conducted among a relatively small group of elite actors, typically government representatives and professional diplomats. Historically, diplomacy often resembled an exclusive “club” where a limited number of diplomats negotiated agreements behind closed doors. These interactions occurred in formal settings such as embassies,

international conferences, and diplomatic receptions. The emphasis was on protocol, confidentiality, and long-term professional relationships. In contrast, network diplomacy reflects the more open and interconnected nature of contemporary international relations. Modern diplomacy involves a wide range of actors, including international organizations, businesses, academic institutions, and civil society groups. These actors form dynamic networks that collaborate across national boundaries. Network diplomacy also relies heavily on digital communication and global connectivity. Diplomatic actors exchange information rapidly through online platforms and participate in global networks addressing issues such as climate policy, security cooperation, and technological regulation. While club diplomacy emphasizes hierarchy and exclusivity, network diplomacy emphasizes inclusiveness and flexibility. Both models continue to coexist, but network diplomacy has become increasingly important in addressing complex global challenges.

10. What is meant by diplomatic protocol? What are the elements of diplomatic protocol?

Diplomatic protocol refers to the set of formal rules, procedures, and traditions that govern official interactions between representatives of states. Protocol ensures that diplomatic activities are conducted with respect, order, and mutual recognition of status. One of the most important elements of diplomatic protocol is precedence, which determines the order in which officials are recognized during ceremonies and official events. Precedence helps avoid misunderstandings regarding rank and authority. Another key element is ceremonial procedure. Official events such as state visits, diplomatic receptions, and signing ceremonies follow carefully structured protocols. These ceremonies symbolize mutual respect and reinforce diplomatic relationships. Diplomatic protocol also includes rules regarding official correspondence, forms of address, and dress codes. For example, diplomatic communications often follow specific formats, and diplomats may use formal titles when addressing foreign officials. Protocol extends to the presentation of diplomatic credentials, the accreditation of ambassadors, and the conduct

of official meetings. These procedures ensure that diplomatic relations operate smoothly and respectfully. While protocol may appear highly formal, it plays a practical role in preventing misunderstandings and facilitating professional interactions between states.

11. What does it mean to present credentials?

Presenting credentials is a formal diplomatic ceremony during which a newly appointed ambassador officially begins their mission in the host country. The ambassador presents official documents – known as letters of credence – from their head of state to the head of state of the receiving country. These documents confirm that the ambassador is authorized to represent their government and conduct diplomatic relations on its behalf. Until this ceremony takes place, the ambassador cannot fully exercise their official diplomatic authority. The ceremony of presenting credentials is an important diplomatic tradition that symbolizes the establishment or continuation of diplomatic relations between two countries. It often includes formal meetings, official greetings, and ceremonial protocols. During the meeting, the ambassador may also convey messages of goodwill and express the intention to strengthen bilateral relations. After the credentials are accepted, the ambassador becomes the official representative of their country in the host state. Thus, the presentation of credentials marks the formal beginning of an ambassador's diplomatic mission.

12. What are the challenges to diplomatic negotiation?

Diplomatic negotiations are complex processes that involve multiple political, cultural, and strategic factors. One major challenge is the presence of conflicting national interests. Governments must protect their domestic priorities while seeking agreements that satisfy international partners. Another challenge involves cultural and communication differences. Diplomatic negotiators often come from diverse cultural backgrounds, which may influence negotiation styles, decision-making processes, and expectations. Time pressure

also complicates negotiations. Political crises or urgent global problems may require rapid decisions, limiting the time available for careful analysis and compromise. Domestic political considerations can further constrain negotiations. Leaders must often consider public opinion, political opposition, and electoral pressures when making diplomatic concessions. Finally, information asymmetry can create difficulties. Negotiators may not have equal access to information, which can affect trust and decision-making. Despite these challenges, successful diplomacy relies on patience, strategic thinking, and the willingness to compromise.

13. How do diplomats talk?

Diplomatic communication is characterized by careful wording, indirect language, and strategic ambiguity. Diplomats often avoid direct confrontation and instead express disagreements in a polite and measured manner. One important feature of diplomatic language is neutrality. Statements are often phrased in ways that avoid assigning blame or provoking unnecessary tension. For example, diplomats may refer to “concerns” or “differences in interpretation” rather than openly criticizing another state. Diplomatic language also emphasizes clarity and precision. Official statements must be carefully formulated to avoid misinterpretation in international contexts. Another characteristic of diplomatic communication is the use of constructive tone. Even when expressing disagreement, diplomats often highlight areas of potential cooperation. In many cases, diplomats employ strategic ambiguity, leaving certain statements open to interpretation. This flexibility allows different parties to maintain their positions while continuing negotiations. Thus, diplomatic speech combines politeness, caution, and strategic messaging to maintain dialogue and reduce tensions.

14. What are the benefits and drawbacks of being a diplomat?

Being a diplomat offers many advantages but also involves significant challenges. One of the main benefits is the opportunity to participate directly in international relations and

contribute to the development of foreign policy. Diplomats play an important role in promoting cooperation, resolving conflicts, and strengthening global partnerships. Another advantage is exposure to diverse cultures and international experiences. Diplomats often live and work in different countries, gaining valuable knowledge about global political and social dynamics. However, the profession also involves difficulties. Diplomatic careers often require frequent relocation, long working hours, and separation from family and home country. Adapting to new cultural environments can be demanding. Diplomats must also operate under significant political pressure. Their decisions and statements may have major international consequences, requiring careful judgment and responsibility. Despite these challenges, diplomacy remains a respected and influential profession. It provides individuals with the opportunity to contribute to international cooperation, global stability, and peaceful relations between nations.