

Name _____

Unveiling India's Government

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. India's government structure as a federal parliamentary democratic republic means that it is a democracy where elected representatives make decisions on behalf of the people. It is federal because it has a division of powers between the central and state governments, parliamentary because the executive branch is drawn from the legislative branch, and democratic because citizens have the right to vote and participate in the political process.
2. An independent judiciary in India ensures that the laws are interpreted and applied fairly, impartially, and without undue influence from the government. It safeguards citizens' rights, upholds the rule of law, and acts as a check and balance on the other branches of government.
3. The Prime Minister is the head of government and leads the executive branch, while the President is the ceremonial head of state. The Prime Minister is usually the leader of the political party with the most seats in the Lok Sabha and plays a key role in policymaking. The President represents India internationally, gives assent to bills, and performs symbolic duties.
4. India's multi-party system encourages political competition and diverse representation. It allows for a variety of political ideologies and perspectives, ensuring that citizens have choices in their elected representatives. This system reflects the country's cultural and regional diversity and encourages political engagement.

