

Name: _____ Date: _____

Understanding Secularism

Q1. State True (T) or False (F).

- i. In Indian secularism the State is not strictly separate from religion. _____
- ii. Wearing a pugri (turban) is central to a Sikh's religious practice. _____
- iii. Government schools can promote any one religion. _____
- iv. In Indian secularism, the State cannot intervene in religion. _____
- v. History provides us with many examples of discrimination, exclusion and persecution on the grounds of religion. _____

Q2. Fill in the blanks.

- i. In the United States of America, most children in government schools have to begin their school day reciting the 'Pledge of _____'.
- ii. The most important aspect of secularism is its separation of _____ from State power.
- iii. In India, government spaces like law courts, police stations, government schools and offices are not supposed to display or promote any one _____.
- iv. The Indian State is not ruled by a religious _____ and nor does it support any one _____.
- v. Jewish State of Israel treats its own _____ and _____ quite badly.

Q3. What does the term 'secularism' refer to?

Ans. _____

Q4. What do you mean by 'freedom to interpret'?

Ans. _____

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- i. In Indian secularism the State is not strictly separate from religion. True
- ii. Wearing a pugri (turban) is central to a Sikh's religious practice. True
- iii. Government schools can promote any one religion. False
- iv. In Indian secularism, the State cannot intervene in religion. False
- v. History provides us with many examples of discrimination, exclusion and persecution on the grounds of religion. True

Q2. Fill in the blanks.

- i. In the United States of America, most children in government schools have to begin their school day reciting the 'Pledge of Allegiance'.
- ii. The most important aspect of secularism is its separation of religion from State power.
- iii. In India, government spaces like law courts, police stations, government schools and offices are not supposed to display or promote any one religion.
- iv. The Indian State is not ruled by a religious group and nor does it support any one religion.
- v. Jewish State of Israel treats its own Muslim and Christian minorities quite badly.

Q3. What does the term 'secularism' refer to?

Ans. Secularism refers to this separation of religion from the State.

Q4. What do you mean by 'freedom to interpret'?

Ans. 'Freedom to interpret' means an individual's liberty to develop his own understanding and meaning of the religious teachings.