

6. Why did General Jaruzelski imposed martial law?

After the Gdansk agreement was signed a new trade union called Solidarity was formed.

- Solidarity swept across Poland and had about one crore members.
- Revelations of widespread corruption and mismanagement in the government made matters worse. So, the government led by Gen. Jaruzelski grew anxious and imposed martial law in December 1981.
- Thousands of solidarity members were put in prison. Freedom to organize, protest and express were once again taken back.

7. Do International Organizations function in a democratic manner? Give reasons to support Your answer.

No, many of them do not function in a democratic manner.

- a) General Assembly: Everyone of the 192 member countries of the UN has one vote in the UN General Assembly. But the General Assembly cannot take any decision about what action should be taken in a conflict between different countries. Only security council can make such decisions.
- b) Security Council: The Security Council has five permanent members – UK, USA, Russia, China and France. Ten other members are elected by the General Assembly for two year term. The real power is with five permanent members who have the right to veto.
- c) International Monetary Fund: IMF is one of the biggest moneylender for any country in the world. It's 185 members states do not have equal voting rights. The vote is weighed by how much money each country has contributed to IMF. Nearly half of the voting power is vested on 10 countries (US, Russia, UK, China, France, Japan and Saudi Arabia). The remaining 175 countries have a very little say. (Germany, Italy, Canada)
- d) World Bank: The World Bank has a system of voting which is similar to that of IMF. The President of the World Bank has always been a citizen of the US who is nominated by the Treasury Secretary (Finance Minister of the US government).

8. How can you say that some of the so called democracies of the 19th century were not democracies in the real sense of the world?

- Most of the so called democratic countries in the 19th century like England and France did not allow all people to vote. In some countries only people owning property had the right to vote. Often women did not have the right to vote.
- In the United States, the blacks were not given the right to vote.

9. What do you know about Kwame Nkrumah?

Kwame Nkrumah was the son of a goldsmith and grew up to become a teacher. He played an active role in the independence struggle of his country 'Ghana'. After Ghana's independence in 1957, he became first the Prime Minister and then the President of Ghana. He got himself elected President for life but soon after in 1966 he was overthrown by the military.

10. Why is it said that the big push towards democracy came after 1980 especially after the disintegration of the Soviet Union?

- Soviet Union controlled many of its neighbouring communist countries in Eastern Europe. But by 1989-90, Poland and several other countries became free from the control of Soviet Union. They chose to become democracies.
- The Soviet Union broke down in 1991. The 15 constituent republics of the Soviet Union emerged as independent countries and most of them became democracies.
- Thus the end of Soviet control on East Europe and the break up of Soviet Union led to a big change in the political map of Europe.