

CIVIC EDUCATION

FOR

Senior Secondary School



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EDUBASE

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SS 3

**FIRST TERM NOTES ON
CIVIC EDUCATION**

TABLE OF CONTENT

FIRST TERM

WEEK 1:	REVISION OF SS2 WORK
WEEK 2:	CHARACTERISTICS OF CATEGORIES OF HUMAN RIGHTS
WEEK 3:	FIGHTING POLITICAL APATHY
WEEK 4:	PUBLIC SERVICE
WEEK 5:	SHORTCOMINGS IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE
WEEK 6:	HOW TO IMPROVE PUBLIC SERVICE IN NIGERIA
WEEK 7:	CIVIL SOCIETY
WEEK 8:	POPULAR PARTICIPATION

WEEK 1

SS 3 Civic Education First Term

Topic: Revision of SS2 Work

Content–

- **Human Rights, Cultism and Political Apathy**

Human Rights

Human rights can be defined as a global principle which refers to rights and freedom that all human beings are entitled to enjoy as a person irrespective of the country of birth or residence. They are not awarded by human power and cannot be surrendered and are enforceable in national and international courts. Some of the rights includes:

- (a) Right to life and protection of property.
- (b) Right to education.
- (c) Freedom of association
- (d) Freedom of movement
- (e) Freedom from all kinds of discrimination

Cultism

One of the greatest social crimes committed in institutions of higher learning in this country is cultism. It is a social crime which is very rampant in universities, colleges of education and polytechnics all over the country.

Cultism as defined by the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary is a small group of people who have extreme religious beliefs and who are not part of any established religion.

Secret Cult: Secret Cult is an enclosed organized association or group of people devoted to the same course. It is an enclosed group of adherents having an exclusive sacred ideology and a series of rites centering around their sacred symbols. Secret Cult is a terminology coined by the former military Head of state, Ibraheem Babangida between 1983 – 1984. Before then such groups were referred to as fraternities.

Political Apathy

The word apathy was formed from the ancient Greek word apathies which means lack of feelings, it is an attitude.

Political apathy can be defined as lack of interest in political activities; it is a state of non participation of citizens in the political process of their community, state or country. It is a situation where citizens exhibit carefree attitude to political issues by not participating in it.

Political apathy is the indifference on the part of any citizen of any country with regard to their attitude towards political activities. For example, political, elections, public opinions, civic responsibility, etc.

A broader way of referring to political apathy in a country is to consider its political culture. By contrast, political culture is the behavioral disposition of people towards the government of their country vis-a-vis every other political activity. Political apathy, if left uncontrolled, can bring about stagnation to the development of any nation. An individual's political apathy begins with a lack of understanding of politics or government to a certain degree, and that makes it more difficult for that individual to see the value in universal suffrage, and to see the benefits and/or costs of new policies that the government places. That makes the individual see it as irrational to gain the knowledge; since (supposedly) there would be no benefit (the individual would see this as rational ignorance. This creates a feedback loop.

WEEK 2

SS 3 Civic Education First Term

Topic- Characteristics of Categories of Human Rights

Content–

Meaning and Examples of Fundamental Human Rights

Characteristics of Human Rights

Categories of Human Rights

How individual rights can be protected and when rights of an individual can be deprived

Meaning and Examples of Fundamental Human Rights

The fundamental right that humans have by the fact of being human, and that are neither created nor can be abrogated by any government.

Human rights is simply the natural right and privileges enjoyed by citizens of any given state which are usually outlined in the constitution of the state. It is the duty of a state to ensure that her citizens enjoy these rights.

These was the major reason why the United Nations Organization (UNO) urged are member states and all government of the entire world to incorporate the existence of human rights in the their constitutions for easy and proper references.

Human Rights according to 1999 constitution are outlined as follows:

- The right to life
- Freedom from slavery act
- Right to acquire and own movable and unmovable property
- Freedom of the press
- Right to fair hearing
- Right to dignity of human person
- Freedom of movement and freedom of expression
- Right to private and family life
- Freedom of unlawful detention and imprisonment

Characteristics of Human Rights

- 1) **Universality of Human Rights:** This simply means that the concept of human rights is the same all over the world, irrespective of religion, ethnicity, nationality, race, sex or political belief.
- 2) **Inalienability:** Inalienability of human rights means that as a human being, you are entitled to human rights. It cannot be taken away from you, else life will become unbearable. No government has the right to deprive citizens of their rights, except in specific situations like emergencies and war periods. It must however be done according to due process.
- 3) **Particularity:** Human rights exist for a particular period of human existence. In other word, the human right being enjoyed by a human being will exist for the period for which the person is alive.
- 4) **Relativity:** The concept of human rights varies in some culture and in some regions of the world. It varies in relative to their understanding of human rights and how they intend to uphold it.
- 5) **Indivisibility:** All human rights are indivisible whether they are civil and political, economic, social and cultural, they are interrelated and interdependent. The improvement of one right facilitates advancement of the others.

CATEGORIES OF HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Civic and political rights (known as first rights); they are as follow

- Right to vote
- Right to seek redress
- Right to freedom of personal liberty
- Right to life
- Right to petition
- Freedom of joining and forming associations
- Right to freedom of conscience

2. Economic and Social rights (known as second rights); they are as follows

- Right to work

- Right to fair compensation
- Right to own property
- Right to petition
- Right to form and join trade unions
- Right to free choice of employment

3. Environmental rights (known as third rights); they are as follows

- Freedom of movement
- Right to social security
- Right to private and family life
- Freedom from slavery
- Right to security and protection from inhuman treatment

HOW INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS CAN BE PROTECTED

For people to enjoy their fundamental rights completely, the following steps must be taken:

1. Provision of Human Right Education: The citizen should be given appropriate human right education. This is because the only way people can avoid being deprived of their rights is to have adequate knowledge of their rights. There are two ways of doing this:
2. Public enlightenment: The National Orientation Agencies (NOA) has to keep the public well informed by sponsoring enlightenment programmes on the televisions and radio. They can also print the details of the rights in the form of handbills and posters after which they will distribute to the masses
3. Formal Education: The school should teach the pupils about human rights in various school subjects. School teachers are also to educate the students and pupils in their daily assembly briefing. When there is proper knowledge of these rights, no one will be deprived of it.
4. Making Laws that forbids Rights violation: Where laws do not exist, people cannot be blamed or punished for wrong actions, but where there is law people

apply caution. Therefore laws that spell out the various rights and punishment attached to their violations should be made.

5. Prosecution of people who violate Right: After people have been well educated of their rights and punishment attached to the violations, anyone who therefore chooses to intimidate or denied other people of their right by using their affluence, power, or position should be prosecuted according to the law.

WHEN RIGHTS OF AN INDIVIDUAL CAN BE DEPRIVED

1. During emergency period like war, threat to internal security, a citizen may be detained without trial by the president if the person is regarded as a security risk.
2. The right to life of a citizen can be denied if the person is found guilty of a murder or criminal case.
3. The right to freedom of assembly or association can be denied if the association is not in accordance to the law of the land. e.g. cultism,
4. Right to freedom of movement can also be denied if the citizen has criminal case pending in court in which giving the criminal bail might jeopardize the investigation of the case by the law enforcement agencies.
5. The right to vote can also be curtailed if a citizen is not 18 years old.

ASSESSMENT

1. What is human right and list out all the human rights.
2. List and explain 5 characteristics of human rights.
3. What are the three categories of human rights?
4. List the ways human rights can be protected.
5. When are conditions when human rights are deprived?

WEEK 3

SS 3 Civic Education First Term

Topic- Fighting Political Apathy

Content-

Meaning of Political Apathy and examples of Political Apathy

Causes of Political Apathy

Ways of Fighting Political Apathy

Meaning of Political Apathy and examples of Political Apathy

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CAUSES OF POLITICAL APATHY

The following points below are the causes of political apathy

1. **Bad Governance:** The government of Nigeria for instance rules in a bad and carefree manner, their act does not motivate people thereby making people to ignore and nonchalant to political activities.
2. **Election Rigging:** so many citizens belief that no matter the level of security election are going to be rigged either directly or indirectly thereby they see voting as a waste of time and energy.
3. **Past History of Political Occurrence:** Due to the fact that some family members, friends and relatives have been victimized in the process of participating in political issues, because of this experience people decide not to participate in politics.
4. **Violent Campaign:** Sometimes, the way political parties carry out their carry out their campaigns appears too violent and this can lead to lack of interest in politics.
5. **Military Invitation:** people reflect on the past hijacked political activities through bloody coup d'état because of this people decide not to participate.
6. **Weak Security Measure:** Most of the times, the security provided by the government during election or campaigns or any demonstration are always too weak to provide adequate security; this therefore creates fear in the heart of people and make them not want to participate.
7. **Chaotic Political Atmosphere:** Sometimes political atmosphere appears unpeaceful, the political killings and all the rest is another reason for political apathy.

WAYS OF FIGHTING POLITICAL APATHY

The following ways are the means by which citizens can fight against political apathy

1. By participating in election
2. By knowing and defending our right
3. By joining or belonging to popular organizations like the NLC (Nigeria Labor Congress) political party like APC, PDP,LP etc.

ASSESSMENT

1. Define Political Apathy
2. List 6 causes of political apathy
3. What are the ways of fighting political apathy?

WEEK 4

SS 3 Civic Education First Term

Topic- Public Service

Contents-

Meaning of Public Service and Examples

Characteristics of Public Service

Importance of Public Service

Meaning of Public Service and Examples

A **public service** is a service which is provided by government to people living within its jurisdiction, either directly (through the public sector) or by financing provision of services. The term is associated with a social consensus (usually expressed through democratic elections) that certain services should be available to all, regardless of income. Even where public services are neither publicly provided nor publicly financed, for social and political reasons they are usually subject to regulation going beyond that applying to most economic sectors. Public service is also a course that can be studied at a college and/or university. Examples of public services are the fire brigade.

Public service is a body or a department in the executive arm of government responsible for the execution of the policies and programmes of the government. The workers of public service are referred to civil servants; they perform administrative function which entails formulation and implementation of government policies.

Public service can also be referred to public (Corporation) service and defined as a business organization established, owned, managed and financed by the government with tax payers money with the aim of rendering important services to the members of the public and not to make profit.

Public Service in Nigeria include: Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), National Sugar Development Council (NSDC), Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), Nigeria Deposit Insurance

Corporation (NDIC), Nigeria Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC), Nigerian Export – Import Bank (NEXIM Bank), Nigerian Export Promotion Council, Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), National Examination Council (NECO), National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN)

CHARACTERISTICS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

1. State Ownership:

The enterprise ownership has to be vested with the State. It could be in the nature of Central, State or local government ownership or any instrumentality of the state too can have the ownership of public enterprise.

2. State Control:

Public Enterprise is controlled by the Government both in its management and functioning. The Government has the direct responsibility to manage the affairs of the enterprise through various devices and exercises control over it by means of a number of agencies and techniques.

3. Public Accountability:

Public Enterprises owe accountability to people as they are funded through public money. This accountability is realised through legislature and its committees, ministers, audit institutions and other specialised agencies.

4. Autonomy:

Public Enterprises function with utmost autonomy under given situations. They are free from day to day interference in their affairs and management.

5. Coverage:

The public enterprise traverses all areas and activities. There is hardly any field of activity, which is not covered by the operations of public enterprises.

IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC SERVICE

1. **Employment:** – public sector provides employment to large number of people in the country. For instance, the Nigeria Railways Corporation provide employment to many people.

2. **Rural Development:** – public sector units facilitate rural development. This is possible due to:

- i. Infrastructure development, both economic and social infrastructure
- ii. Locating Projects in rural areas.

3. **National Income:** – public sector units contribute to the national income of the country. The public sector has grown in size over the years both in terms of number of units as well as in production.

4. **Capital formation:** -The public sector contributes to capital formation by mobilisation of savings through public sector banks. The Central Bank of Nigeria, Bank of Industry etc., play an important role in industrial investment and capital formation by providing medium terms and long-term funds to industry and service sector.

5. **Foreign Exchange Earnings:** -The public sector enterprises have contributed to the export earnings of the country. The public sector units export a number of products like engineering goods, chemicals, minerals, metals, etc. they also export services.

6. **Social Order:** -The public sector units contribute to the social order by providing employment to a large number of people in the country. The employment generation reduces the possibility of anti-social activities.

7. **Government Revenue:** -PSUs bring revenue to the Government. The revenue is in the form of:

- a. Direct Taxes
- b. Indirect Taxes
- c. Profits of PSUs

8. **Infrastructure Development:** -Public sector units play an important role in the development of the infrastructure of the nations. The public sector has developed roadways, railways, airways, power, and so on.

WEEK 5

SS 3 Civic Education First Term

Topic- Shortcomings in the Public Service

Content-

- **Problems of Public Service in Nigeria**
- **Ways of Improving Public Service in Nigeria**
- **Achievements of Public Service**

Problems of the Public Service in Nigeria

- 1) Poor Condition of Service: The public servants do not earn good salaries and they lack many motivational incentives that will make them work harder.
- 2) Bribery and Corruption: Some public servants no longer do their official duty, rather they are looking forward to being bribed before doing their duties.
- 3) Tribalism: Some high ranking officials favour only people from their ethnic group.
- 4) Political Instability: Frequent change in government results in constant change of top officials of the public service like Head of Service and Director General.
- 5) Over-Staffing: The public service is over-staffed with people who are not willing to work and whose ideas are outdated.
- 6) Lack of Qualified Personnel: Many intelligent and qualified professionals and technical staff prefer to seek job opportunities in the private sector.
- 7) Inadequate Training Facilities: Workers need to be trained and re-trained but the necessary facilities for the training are not available.
- 8) Red-tapism or Bureaucracy: This refers to excessive use of formalities in the public service which hinders effectiveness.

WAYS OF IMPROVING PUBLIC SERVICE IN NIGERIA

- 1) Necessary machinery should be put in place for training and retraining of public servants.
- 2) Good salary package and incentives for public workers and to be paid as when due.

- 3) The public service should be completely insulated from politics to make its neutrality more realistic.
- 4) Political office holders should treat public servants as professionals and stop interfering unnecessarily into their official duties.
- 5) The code of conduct bureau should be empowered to sanction any public officer who contravenes the rules and regulations guiding the public service.
- 6) The public complaint commission should intensify efforts to correct public officers and punish where necessary.
- 7) Appointment of directors into the public service should be on merit.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

- 1) **Formation of Policy:** Members of the public service, especially those in the administrative class, supply the necessary information needed based on their experience acquired over the years for policy formulation .
- 2) **Policy Execution:** They execute the policy of the government after it has been approved for execution.
- 3) **Acting as Government Adviser:** It gives useful advice to the government via the ministers and the commissioners.
- 4) **Playing an Intermediary Role:** It act as an intermediary or bridge between the government and the general public in information dissemination.
- 5) **Legislative Function:** Through delegated legislation, the public service performs the legislative function of making rules, regulation and by-laws that have the force of law and are obeyed.
- 6) **Preparation of Budgets:** The public servants provide information and help in the preparation and execution of annual budgets and development plans.
- 7) **Assisting Ministers:** They assist the ministers and the commissioners by providing adequate information to them which help them in answering questions raised in the parliament.

ASSESSMENT

1. What are the problems facing public service in Nigeria?
2. What are some of the ways of improving public service in Nigeria?

3. List the Public service achievements.

WEEK 6

SS 3 Civic Education First term

Topic- How to improve Public Service in Nigeria

Content-

- **Structure of Public Service**
- **Function of Code of Conduct Bureau and Public Complaint Commission**
- **Discussing Shortcoming of Public Service**

STRUCTURE OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Public servants could be grouped into the following classes:

1. Administrative Class:

This comprises of the most senior civil servants who organize and coordinate the activities of the ministries. They execute high-level administrative work, advice ministers in formulation and implementation of policies and serve as communication link between the minister and other civil servants.

Recruitment to this class is based on university education and very competitive written examinations and interviews conducted by the civil service commission. In this class are directors-general, other directors, deputy directors, assistant directors, etc.

2. Executive Class:

The executive class implements the general policies and programmes of the government on a daily basis. They supervise and control the activities of their subordinates and help to collect facts that aid in making policy decisions.

This class comprises of executive officers, senior executive officers and senior technical officers who are recruited after possessing professional diplomas and certificates as well as G.C.E. A-level or its equivalent.

3. The Professional Class:

This class of officers are recruited as a result of their specialized training, skills, scientific and technical knowledge. The professional class includes lawyers, medical doctors, engineers, architects, accountants and teachers.

They offer professional advice on the technical policies of the government and supervise sensitive projects undertaken by the government. Recruitment into this class is based on professional or university education.

4. The Clerical Class:

This class of workers include typists, clerical officers, clerical assistants and secretaries who help staff in the other classes to carry out their functions. Their job involves keeping records, movement of files, preparation of data and vouchers and payment of claims. They are holders of secondary school certificates and G.C.E Oliver or equivalent professional certificates e.g. in typing.

5. The Auxiliary Class:

The categories of workers in this class include cleaners, drivers, painters, messengers, porters and gardeners. This work involves manual labour, while the qualification for entry is the first leaving school certificate.

The Civil service reforms of 1988 introduced some modifications to the traditional structure of the service, which include the following:

1. It abolished the post of permanent secretary and replaced it with that of director-general who was a political appointee.
2. The distinction between the executive and administrative classes was removed.
3. Civil servants were to serve in the ministries for which they were primarily qualified.
4. The minister was the chief executive and accounting officer of his ministry.

FUNCTION OF CODE OF CONDUCT BUREAU

1. Receive declarations by public officers made under paragraph 12 of part 1 of the Fifth Schedule to the 1999 constitution.
2. Examine the declarations in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Conduct or any law.

3. Retain custody of such declarations and make them available for inspection by any citizen of Nigeria on such terms and conditions as the national assembly may prescribe.
4. Ensure compliance with and, where appropriate, enforce the provisions of the Code of Conduct or any law relating thereto.
5. Receive complaints about non-compliance with or breach of the Code of Conduct or any law in relation thereto, investigate the complaint and, where appropriate, refer such matters to the Code of Conduct Tribunal.
6. Appoint, promote, dismiss and exercise disciplinary control over the staff of the Code of Conduct Bureau in accordance with the provisions of an Act of the National Assembly enacted in that behalf.
7. Carry out such other functions as may be conferred upon it by the National Assembly.

FUNCTION OF PUBLIC COMPLAINT COMMISSION

The Public Complaint Commission (also known as Ombudsman) is the institution established to investigate and deal with cases of maladministration, injustice, corruption and unfair treatment by public officers or public authorities against citizens. This body which is also known as the public complaints commission was first introduced in Sweden in 1809 and has since been established in many other countries including Nigeria. The ombudsman was established in October 1975 by the military administration of General Muritala Mohammed. Other bodies that perform similar functions are Economic and Financial Crimes Commission(EFCC) and Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC).

DISCUSSING SHORTCOMING OF PUBLIC SERVICE

- 1) **Poor Condition of Service:** The public servants do not earn good salaries and they lack many motivational incentives that will make them work harder.
- 2) **Bribery and Corruption:** Some public servants no longer do their official duty, rather they are looking forward to being bribed before doing their duties.
- 3) **Tribalism:** Some high ranking officials favour only people from their ethnic group.

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- 8) **Red-tapism or Bureaucracy:** This refers to excessive use of formalities in the public service which hinders effectiveness.

ASSESSMENT

1. What are the classes of public servants?
2. What is the function of the code of conduct bureau?
3. What is the function of the Public compliant commission?
4. What are the shortcomings of the Public service?

WEEK 7

SS 3 Civic Education First term

Topic: Civil Society

Contents–

- Meaning and Examples of Civil Society
- Qualities and Problems of Civil Society

MEANING AND EXAMPLES OF CIVIL SOCIETY

Civil society refers to any non-governmental entity formed by a group of people with similar interests who come together to work on a common cause.

It is a society in which each individual is allowed to pursue their own separate interest, as long as it does not harm anyone else.

Civil society usually refers to life outside the home / family (Globalized community) usually a nation with a distinct form of Government.

Civil Society is the aggregate of non- governmental organizations and institutions that manifest interests and will of the citizens.

Civil society is usually referred to as the third sector of the society, where the first sector is the government, the second sector is the business and the third sector is the civil society. Civil societies are usually populated by organizations that are independent of the state; they are self reliant and self generating funds to some extent, such as registered charities, community groups, Professional associations, trade unions, self help group, media organizations, Faith based groups etc.

QUALITIES OF CIVIL SOCIETIES

1. Civil society is based on an individual freedom; force do not characterized civil society.
2. Most of the activities of civil society take place locally at grass roots.
3. The citizens organize activities and service for themselves and other people.
4. Their desires are to learn but also to help others encourage many people to be active and participate in activities of the civil society.

5. In civil society, activities are provided, services produced for members and customers in a non profit making i.e. in a charitable
6. Civil society is able to adjust to the hopes, needs, and desires of people as well as the changes of the surrounding environment.
7. Civil society receives their funding as general grants which left room for their own deliberation and decision making power.
8. In civil society, people are at the same time actors and objects of action.

PROBLEMS OF CIVIL SOCIETIES

Despite the influence civil societies have had on democracy and electoral promise particularly in Nigeria. They still have issues militating against the effective operation of the society.

These include;

- 1) Insufficient Funds: Most civil society relies on government for funds and this imply loyalty to government.
- 2) Political Control: The appointment of civil society leaders into political offices has also affected the character and ideology of such societies.
- 3) Corruption: The problem of corruption has also taken its toll on the civil society. Some of the leaders take it upon themselves to enrich their pockets by embezzling money meant for the organization.
- 4) Legal Restriction: Civil society groups are restricted to some extent in participation in government as government often makes laws to frustrate their efforts and operation.
- 5) Activities of some civil societies can incite the citizens against political authorities and can lead to political crisis and civil unrest.

ASSESSMENT

1. Define Civil Society.
2. What are the qualities of civil societies?
3. What are the problems of civil societies?

WEEK 8

SS 3 Civic Education First term

Topic: Popular Participation

Content-

- **Meaning of Popular Participation**
- **Types of Popular Participation**
- **Merits of Popular Participation in Civil Society**
- **Discuss Traditional and Modern Modes of Popular Participation**

MEANING OF POPULAR PARTICIPATION

Popular participation can be defined as the process whereby the majority of the citizens in a state or country show interest in partaking in the affairs and decision making of the state.

Popular participation involves the input of citizen and enabling them to be involve in the decision making of the state..It also ensures that decision are made in consideration of the majority

Popular participation gives unrestricted equal opportunities to all citizens in expressing their views towards the activities of the state.

TYPES OF POPULAR PARTICIPATION

- 1) **Voting in an Election:** It is the civic responsibility of every qualified citizen to register and vote in an election to elect those who will govern them.
- 2) **Holding of Public Office:** This will give further opportunity to an individual to contribute in decision making.
- 3) **Contesting Elections:** Another way one can participate in political activity is to stand as a candidate in an election.
- 4) **Supporting Political Party:** An individual can equally support political party financially even as a non-card carrying member.
- 5) **Registering as a Political Party Member:** Registering as a card-carrying member of a political party.

6) **Protest and Demonstration against Government Policy:** A citizen is participating in political activity if he/she participates in protest or demonstration against the obnoxious policy of the government.

7) **Observatory Political Participation:** This is the act of watching and discussing about political activities as an observer. They are not card carrying member of any political party nor participate in voting.

MERITS OF POPULAR PARTICIPATION IN CIVIL SOCIETY

Sustainable Development

Sustainable development can be achieved only through the involvement of all stakeholders

Environmental Protection

Environmental issues can be addressed when valued by the public. It is important that a party represents the interest of the environment in the public debate.

Without such a party the environment will not be put on the agenda

Conflict Management

Although conflicts cannot be avoided, they are made explicit in the public participation debate. This makes conflict handling more efficient.

Project Understanding and Reduction of Public Opposition

The public, being the user of a system, is the only party that can assess and value the impacts of (possible) measures on the functions of a coastal environment.

Economical Benefits

If the public is involved in the full decision making process, their concerns may be met early on in the planning process when changes may be easier to make, rather than late in the process when even small changes may cost both time and money.

Effective use of the available data in ICZM process

According to Budd (1999), public participation and consultation is an opportunity to solicit the “hidden” knowledge of the wider community and their key concerns.

Other Benefits

Acceptance of the public as a valued partner in the CZM process can inspire the co-operation between citizens, their government, and industries that is crucial to the success of a regulatory system.

Discuss Traditional and Modern Modes of Popular Participation

Traditional mode of popular participation: This is the mode of using local traditional leaders to promote politics; it is a mode which allows room for physical participation like the face to face mode of participation.

Modern mode of popular participation: This is the mode of popular participation carried out through expressing of oneself through the mass media.

ASSESSMENT

1. Define popular participation
2. List 6 types of popular participation.
3. What are the merits of popular participation in the civil society.
4. What are the traditional and modern modes of popular participation?

SS 3

**SECOND TERM NOTES ON
CIVIC EDUCATION**

TABLE OF CONTENT

SECOND TERM

WEEK 1:	DEMOCRACY
WEEK 2:	RULE OF LAW
WEEK 3:	PROBLEMS OF RULE OF LAW
WEEK 4:	CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY
WEEK 5:	ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY
WEEK 6:	HUMAN TRAFFICKING

WEEK 1

Civic Education SS3 Second Term

Topic: Democracy

Content

- **Meaning and Characteristics of Democracy**
- **Types of Democracy**
- **Importance of Democracy**
- **Problems of Democracy**

MEANING OF DEMOCRACY

According to Abraham Lincoln, democracy is the government of the people, by the people and for the people.

This is the system of government in which people exercise their political power through periodic election of leaders by themselves or their representative.

The word democracy was traceable to ancient Greek . The word DEMO and KRATIA which form democracy means people and government.

CHARACTERISTICS OF DEMOCRACY

1. Regular and periodic election: Democracy give room for periodic election so as to elect new leaders.
2. Fundamental human right: Democracy guarantees and respects the human right as stated in the constitution.
3. Party system: This system of government allows different political party system to compete for power during election.
4. Freedom of the press: Under democratic system of government all the media houses are free to express their opinions and feelings through writing or any means.

5. The judicial arm of government is independence and free of other arms of government
6. Rule of law: there is equality before the law; no one is above the law under democratic system of government.

TYPES OF DEMOCRACY

There are two types of Democracy, which are

1. Direct Democracy: This is the system of government where everybody is involved in governing the country. It is a system whereby all citizens meet together periodically for the purpose of governing the country.
2. Indirect Democracy: This is a system of government where citizens choose their representatives to rule on their behalf. This is also called representative democracy. This system of government is practiced in Nigeria, Ghana, U.S.A etc.

IMPORTANCE OF DEMOCRACY

- It creates opportunity for everybody in a place to have a say in the government of a state or a nation
- Everybody has a right to make suggestions
- Everyone has a right to nominate a person for election
- There is freedom of speech, freedom of religion and freedom to education

PROBLEMS OF DEMOCRACY

Shortsightedness

Democratic politicians are elected for a short period of time (4 – 5 years). This election cycle causes them not to think “what is best for the country in the long run” but “what is best in the country in 4 – 5 years so I can claim responsibility and get elected again.” Therefore unpopular solution of long term problems are postponed since it would be unpopular by the voters.

Populism

This is connected to the first problem. Democracy has elections and for the politician to be elected he has to be popular. Basically democracy is a giant popularity contest where the elections aren't won by the wisest, smartest or most intelligent but by the most popular one. So the politician has to give the people gifts so he would stay popular.

Selfishness

The third problem is connected to the previous two. In a dictatorship or authoritarian regime you can tell people that they would've to live more modest now because the state (religion, nation...) requires it. But in democracy? People are very greedy, think only about themselves and their rights. So they wouldn't live more modest for the sake of the greater good. Instead they will oust the politician who tells them that and elect a new one who will tell them that everything is alright.

ASSESSMENT

1. Define Democracy
2. What are the characteristics of Democracy?
3. List the types of Democracy
4. Mention the importance of Democracy
5. What are the problems of Democracy?

WEEK 2

Civic Education SS3 Second Term

Topic: Rule of Law

Content

- **Meaning, History, Features and Principles of Rule of Law**
- **Importance of Rule of Law**
- **Processes of Rule of Law**

MEANING OF RULE OF LAW

The rule of law simply means that every citizen must act in accordance with the law. It is the supremacy of the law over every citizen in the political system. It is the legal principle that law should govern a nation. It basically means that the law should apply to everyone in other words; no one is above the law.

The concept of the rule of law was made popular by professor A.V Dicey in his book “*en spirit de law*” in the year 1885.

HISTORY OF RULE OF LAW

The rule of law is the legal principle that law should govern a nation, as opposed to being governed by arbitrary decisions of individual government officials. It primarily refers to the influence and authority of law within society, particularly as a constraint upon behaviour, including behaviour of government officials. The phrase can be traced back to 16th century Britain, and in the following century the Scottish theologian Samuel Rutherford used the phrase in his argument against the divine right of kings. John Locke defined freedom under the rule of law as follows:

“Freedom is constrained by laws in both the state of nature and political society. Freedom of nature is to be under no other restraint but the law of nature. Freedom of people under government is to be under no restraint apart from standing rules to live by that are common to everyone in the society and made by the lawmaking power established in it. Persons have a right or liberty to follow their own will in all

things that the law has not prohibited and not be subject to the inconstant, uncertain, unknown, and arbitrary wills of others.”

The rule of law was further popularized in the 19th century by British jurist A. V. Dicey. The concept, if not the phrase, was familiar to ancient philosophers such as Aristotle, who wrote “Law should govern”.

Rule of law implies that every citizen is subject to the law, including lawmakers themselves. In this sense, it stands in contrast to an autocracy, dictatorship, or oligarchy where the rulers are held above the law. Lack of the rule of law can be found in both democracies and dictatorships, for example because of neglect or ignorance of the law, and the rule of law is more apt to decay if a government has insufficient corrective mechanisms for restoring it. Government based upon the rule of law is called nomocracy.

PRINCIPLES OF THE RULE OF LAW

1. Principle of impartiality: This principle states that the law should not be partial to anybody .This means that no one should be punished of any offence except he/she has been found guilty by the court.
2. Principle of equality before the law: This principle states that all men must be equal before the law of the land.
3. Principle of fair hearing : This principle states that anyone arrested for an offence should be listen to through normal court process before judgment is passed.
4. Principle of supremacy of the law :this principle states that the law of the land is always the final authority.
5. Right to appeal :this states that when a person is bot satisfied with the judgement of a lower court , he has the right to appeal.

PROCESSES OF RULE OF LAW

The rule of law ensures human liberty in the following ways :

1. The rule of law ensures that an individual should not be made to suffer any loss of personal liberty in any way except he/she is found z

2. The rule of law helps citizen and non citizen to enjoy their rights as it is claimed in the constitution.
3. The rule of law does not allow autocratic rule by the Government.
4. The rule of law forbids an offender to be arrested without being told the offence he /she has committed.
5. The rule of law entails total supremacy of the law over everyone thereby making everyone does their duties according to the law.

ASSESSMENT

1. What is the meaning of Rule of Law?
2. What is the importance of Rule of Law ?
3. What are the processes of Rule of Law?

WEEK 3

Civic Education SS3 Second Term

Topic: Problems of Rule of Law

Content

- Limitations of Rule of Law
- Solutions to problems of Rule of Law
- Group Discussion of the Process of Rule of Law

LIMITATIONS OF RULE OF LAW

1) **Immunity:** Immunity is the special right granted to certain individuals in position of authority which shield them from prosecution while in office regardless of the offence committed. Such people are diplomats, presidents and governors. This is a limitation against the rule of law.

2) **Administrative Tribunal:** They are set up in some countries to try erring public officers. While ordinary citizens are tried in the ordinary courts.

3) **Delegated Legislation:** Delegated legislation refers to laws and orders promulgated by bodies other than parliaments. This is against the rule of law.

4) **Special Courts:** In Nigeria, tribunals are set up to try certain corruption cases of public officials. Those tried in this special court seldom felt they do not get fair hearing (Such as the Oputa panel).

5) **Over Crowding of the Court:** Cases are delayed sometimes as a result of insufficient judges to handle cases and this result into keeping accused person for too long.

6) **Ignorance and Poverty:** Many die in silence as a result of ignorance as they fail to pursue their case in the court of law.

7) **Emergency Period:** Citizens of a country may be denied some of their human rights during state of emergency. Rights such as freedom of movement when curfew is declared during emergency.

SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS OF RULE OF LAW

1. The supremacy of rule of law ensures no person can claim to be above law.
2. It ensures adherence of principles of natural justice like: giving reasonable opportunity, impartiality of decision, etc.
3. It leads to fairness, both substantive and procedural.
4. It leads to respect of how the system works, including those who are leaders.
5. It ensures that leaders follow the proper procedure for creating new laws, and they respect it when the courts tell them those laws are not enforceable.
6. It is this system which prevents dictatorships.
7. Rule of law regulate society, protects people and helps to enforce rights.
8. It helps to solve conflicts.
9. Rule of law prevent or deter people from behaving in a manner that negatively affects the quality of life of other people, therefore the consequences of breaking the law often fit the crime.

Group Discussion of the Process of Rule of Law

ASSESSMENT

1. What are the limitations of Rule of Law
2. List the solutions to problems of Rule of Law

WEEK 4

Civic Education SS3 Second Term

Topic: Constitutional Democracy

Content

Meaning and Types of Constitutional Democracy

Features of Constitutional Democracy

Functions of Constitutional Democracy

MEANING OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY

Democracy is government of, by, and for the people. It is government of a community in which all citizens, rather than favored individuals or groups, have the right and opportunity to participate. In a democracy, the people are sovereign. The people are the ultimate source of authority.

In a constitutional democracy the authority of the majority is limited by legal and institutional means so that the rights of individuals and minorities are respected. This is the form of democracy practiced in Germany, Israel, Japan, the United States, and other countries.

Constitutional democracy is the type of democracy where powers of the majority are exercised within a frame work of the constitution designed to guarantee the majority right.

In this type of democracy, how the people are to be ruled and governed are stated in the constitution. Constitutional democracy is the type which operates from and according to the constitution of the states.

TYPES OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY

1. **Pluralism:** This type of constitutional democracy in which majority of the people are allowed to exercise their views, opinions and idea. It gives room for wide participation of the citizens.
2. **Republican constitutional democracy:** This type of democracy allows for proceedings on issues that concerns state alone. It includes all the people of a

state but only on the issues that concern the state alone. Examples of countries that practice this are India, France, and Ireland.

1. **Constitutional Direct:** This fashion all its progressions and procedures according to the constitution of the state and allow the direct participation in the political affairs.

FEATURES OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY

1. **CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY** is the antithesis of arbitrary rule. It is democracy characterized by: **POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY**. The people are the ultimate source of the authority of the government which derives its right to govern from their consent.
2. **MINORITY RIGHTS**. Although “the majority rules,” the fundamental rights of individuals in the minority are protected. Minority right: Under constitutional democracy, the rights of the voiceless or the unprivileged are well secured through the constitution.
3. **LIMITED GOVERNMENT**. The powers of government are limited by law and a written or unwritten constitution which those in power obey. Limited Government: The government in constitutional democracy is limited unlike that of other forms of democracy in which government can be dissolved at any time.
4. **INSTITUTIONAL AND PROCEDURAL LIMITATIONS ON POWERS**. There are certain institutional and procedural devices which limit the powers of government. These may include:
5. **SEPARATED AND SHARED POWERS**. Powers are separated among different agencies or branches of government. Each agency or branch has primary responsibility for certain functions such as legislative, executive, and judicial functions. However, each branch also shares these functions with the other branches.
6. **CHECKS AND BALANCES**. Different agencies or branches of government have adequate power to check the powers of other branches. Checks and balances may include the power of judicial review. At the power of courts to declare

actions of other branches of government to be contrary to the constitution and therefore null and void.

7. **DUE PROCESS OF LAW.** Individual rights to life, liberty, and property are protected by the guarantee of due process of law.
8. **LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION THROUGH ELECTIONS.** Elections insure that key positions in government will be contested at periodic intervals and that the transfer of governmental authority is accomplished in a peaceful and orderly process.
9. **Popular Sovereignty:** In constitutional democracy, the people are seen as the louder voice of the government of a state, this makes the will of the electorate to prevail.
10. **Basic freedom:** The constitution allows the people to know their rights and ensure that their rights are protected; there is basic freedom of interference from the people in the affairs of government
11. **Majority rule:** This is the rule that gives the majority the chance to express their views and opinions in the affair of the government. Majority rule gives leadership rights to the people and thereby gain the full support and recognition of the masses.

FUNCTIONS OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY

1. They provide social amenities like water, electricity, etc for the people.
 2. They protect the citizens against internal and external attack
- They make Law and Execute them
1. They promote national unity
 2. They respect the dignity of individual
 3. They protect the right of individual in the country
- Organizational constituted authorities: These are leaders of business organizations, clubs political parties or social gatherings.

FUNCTIONS OF ORGANIZATIONAL CONSTITUTED AUTHORITY.

1. They cater for the interest of their members
2. They make decision and policies for their members
3. They protect the right of their members
4. They represent their organizations in any relevant event in the society.

ASSESSMENT

1. Define constitutional democracy
2. What are the types of constitutional democracy?
3. What are the features of constitutional democracy?
4. What are the functions of constitutional democracy?

WEEK 5

Civic Education SS3 Second Term

Topic: Advantages and Disadvantages of Constitutional Democracy

Content

- Key Concepts of Constitutional Democracy
- Advantages of Constitutional Democracy
- Disadvantages of Constitutional Democracy

KEY CONCEPTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY

Some of these key concepts are

1. History of the people: In any good and acceptable constitutional democracy, the constitution must reflect the history of the people, the history of the people must be put into consideration.
2. Freedom of the press: The press, radio, television, newspaper and other social media are means by which citizens express their views i.e. people are free to write and make reports on governmental issues.
3. Convention: Constitutional democracy brings out convention through which the government follows, through the conventions skills are acquired and disseminated.
4. Periodic election: Free and fair election is one of the major key concepts of constitutional democracy because it allows for change in government.
5. The rights of citizens: another key is the right of citizens; their rights must be respected and protected.
6. Supremacy of the constitution: Under the constitutional democracy, the constitution is supreme and supersedes every other consideration in a constitutional democracy.

ADVANTAGES OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY

The following points below are the merits of constitutional democracy

1. There is the rule of law; this promotes equality of persons and help to protect human rights.
2. It also helps to encourage constitutionalism; by this means, it helps the government to rule according to the laid down rules, regulation and principle of the state and not to rule anyhow without proper guidance.
3. There is legitimacy; constitutional democracy is regarded as legitimate because it has the full support of the people.
4. It involves periodic elections which 'lead in' another government for a change.
5. There is choice of political party i.e. there is opportunity for every for every citizens to belong to political party of their choice and select their leader.
6. Citizenship is not dependent on adherence.

DISADVANTAGES OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY

1. There is separation of powers; constitutional democracy brings about separation of powers among various organs of government
2. Corruption and manipulation of election; during the time of electing new leaders through elections, there is usually corruption and manipulation by the electoral bodies and the political parties members which helps to usher in wrong leaders into power.
3. Ignorance/ inadequate political education; Most illiterates vote ignorantly due to lack of knowledge on political education.
4. Slow decision making; due to the fact that everybody will have to express their views and opinions on any decision the governments wants to make, it makes the decision to be very slow.
5. Individuals claim right and obligation which most times make them to disrespect those in power.
6. Too expensive; constitutional democracy involves so many people in carrying out its affairs, thereby becoming too expensive to run.

7. Manipulation by few; constitutional democracy is always manipulated by some few citizens who have vocal skills and abilities in expressing views and opinions.

TEST AND EXERCISE

1. The word supremacy of the constitution means (a) The constitution is a God (b) The constitution supersedes every other consideration (c) the constitution is not important (d) the constitution has nothing to do in a constitutional democracy.
ans (b)
2. One advantage of constitutional democracy is (a) there is separation of powers (b) decision making is slow (c) there is the rule of law (d) there can be corruption.
ans (c)
3. All of the following are advantages of constitutional democracy except (a) there is rule of law (b) there is separation of powers (c) it encourages constitutionalism (d) there is choice of political leadership. ans (b)
4. All the following are key concept of the constitutional democracy except (a) history of the people (b) the rule of law (c) all of the above (d) freedom of the press. ans (c)
5. One of the major demerit of constitutional democracy is (a) the rule of law (b) decision making is slow (c) choice of political party (d) legitimacy. ans (b)

WEEK 6

Civic Education SS3 Second Term

Topic: Human Trafficking

Content

Meaning and Causes of Human Trafficking

Consequences of Human Trafficking

Government and Individual Efforts to stop Human Trafficking

Meaning and Causes of Human Trafficking

Human trafficking can be defined as the act of recruiting, transporting, or receiving a person through force, coercion or through other means for the purpose of exploiting them.

Human trafficking is the trade in humans, most commonly for the purpose of sexual slavery, forced labor or commercial sexual exploitation for the traffickers.

The following points below are causes of human trafficking,

1. **Poverty:** This is a situation where a person fall short of a level of economic welfare, where a person lacks the basic human want which are clothing, food and shelter .A person who is poor can easily be deceived to come over to another place with the promise of getting a good job and become a victim in the hands of the traffickers.
2. **Lack of employment opportunities:** Due to the bad economic situation of some countries that made some people jobless, some people therefore get lured and deceived by traffickers because they want to get out of the country and thereby using them as slaves and prostitutes in other countries.
3. **Profit:** Because of the profits the trafficker wants to make from doing trafficking business make them to engage themselves in such evil business all because of profit.
4. **Low self esteem:** Many people because they do not know their worth and value, they see themselves as nobody thereby making them vulnerable and they fall

into the hands of traffickers and because they have low self esteem they allow any body to direct them to anywhere.

5. Illiterates: illiterates are those who are not able to read or write, illiteracy has made so many people to become a victim of trafficking, for instance, signing on a paper you do not have any knowledge about. They deceived them by telling them they will enroll them into school and teach them many things, because they want to be educated they then fall victim of trafficking.
6. The search for greener pastures: Some people believe that it is by travelling and relocating to another place before they can make it in all aspects of life.
7. Economic system: Because of poor economic system of some countries the citizens prefer to live somewhere else and would not mind to go anywhere and because of this they become a victim.
8. Greed: Some people are not satisfied with what they have, because of the love to earn more than what they can have they end up falling into the hands of traffickers.

CONSEQUENCES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- 1) Violation of Human Rights. The fundamental human rights of victims of human trafficking have been violated by their traffickers.
- 2) They are often treated as criminals by officials in countries of transit and destination because they are illegal aliens.
- 3) Vulnerable to diseases. Given the nature of work and conditions they are exposed, victims are often exposed to risk and dangers of serious diseases including sexually transmitted illnesses such as HIV/AIDS. Some even develop mental illness.
- 4) Many of the victims who return home are stigmatized and find it difficult to reintegrate.
- 5) Unwanted pregnancy. Some of the victims are faced with the problems of unwanted pregnancy. Some die in the process of abortion.
- 6) It could lead to untimely death. Some victims die from ill-health, frustration and violence. Some are killed because their organs need to be harvested.
- 7) The countries to which they are taken are faced with the burden of tackling the problems of illegal residents, illegal workers and social vices.

8) National disgrace. It is a national disgrace to their country of origin when traffickers are arrested, prosecuted and sentenced.

Government and Individual Efforts to stop Human Trafficking

1) Public enlightenment: Public enlightenment should be done to ensure the creation of awareness on the part of the public on the evils of human trafficking.

2) Education: Government should make education available, affordable and compulsory to all children of school age.

3) Legislation: Laws have been made prescribing different kinds of punishment ranging from 12 months (for an attempt to commit any of the offences) to life imprisonment for serious offences such as slavery and exploitation.

4) Advocacy: Advocacy is giving public support to an idea, a course of action or belief. The presence of an advocacy group, who work to protect and defend children and women against traffickers, could prevent criminal activities.

5) Parents should watch their children closely, regarding the kind of friends they keep.

6) There should be proper counselling at various levels. The children and women should be counseled at homes, schools and public places. Victims need counseling to be properly rehabilitated.

7) Government should provide employment opportunities for the youths, most especially to prevent women and children from becoming victims.

8) Improvement in standard of living: When the standard of living is made better, people will desist from partaking in illegal businesses.

9) Establishment of agency: Government established agencies such as the National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other Related Matters (NAPTIP). This agencies helps in stopping child trafficking

ASSESSMENT

1. What is human trafficking and what causes it?
2. What are the consequences of human trafficking?
3. What are the efforts that needs to be taken to curb human trafficking?

