

REGINA PACIS COLLEGE GARKI, ABUJA

CIVIC EDUCATION: FIRST TERM SS3.

SCHEME OF WORK

1. Introduction to new class and scheme
2. **DEMOCRACY:**
 - A. Meaning of democracy.
 - B. Importance and problems of democracy.
3. **PROCESS OF DEMOCRACY.**
4. **CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY.**
 - A. Meaning and types of constitutional democracy.
 - B. Features of constitutional democracy.
 - C. Advantages and disadvantages of constitutional democracy.
5. **RULE OF LAW:**
 - A. Meaning and principles of Rule of law.
 - B. Importance of Rule of law.
6. **RULE OF LAW (CONTINUED):**
 - A. process of Rule of law.
 - B. Problems of Rule of law.
7. **REVISION.**
8. **VALUES.**
 - A. Meaning/definition of values.**
 - B. Types of values.**
 - C. Importance of justice and selflessness.**
9. **VALUES (CONTD).**
 - A. Opportunity to defend oneself.**
 - B. Involvement in the community service.**
10. **HIV AND AIDS.**
 - A. Meaning and causes of HIV and AIDS.**
 - B. Symptoms and effects.**
11. **HIV AND AIDS.**
 - C. Preventive and control measures of HIV and AIDS.**
 - D. Stigmatization of people living with HIV and AIDS.**
12. **REVISION AND EXAMINATION**

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WEEK 1

DEMOCRACY

MEANING

Democracy is a system of government in which the ultimate political authority is vested in the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly. It implies a decision-making system based on “**Majority Rule**”, with Minority rights protected.

The word ‘democracy’ came from two Greek words ‘demos’ which means ‘people’ and ‘kratia’ which means ‘Rule’, i.e. “Rule by the People”. Democracy originated in ancient Greece (Athens). In the city-state, the people collectively meet in a general assembly and make laws and policies for the city state.

Abraham Lincoln of the United States of America defined democracy as “government of the people, by the people and for the people”.

Democracy implies an effective guarantee of freedoms of speech, press, religion assembly, petition and equality before the law. These freedoms are indispensable to a democratic system of government.

TYPES/FORMS OF DEMOCRACY

There are two main types/forms of democracy. They are:

1. Direct Democracy
2. Indirect or Representative Democracy

1.DIRECT DEMOCRACY:

This is the type of Democracy where the citizens directly participate in the day-to-day administration of their state or country.

This type of democracy is practiced in a small area where it is possible for all the citizens to meet together in one place to take decision on how to govern the state as is the case in the ancient Greece.

2.INDIRECT OR REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY:

This is the type of democracy in which the people choose those who will represent their interest in the day to day administration of their country.

This form of democracy replaced direct democracy gradually with the growth of population, the growth in cities and the area to be governed. In representative democracy, the citizens choose representatives who will govern on their behalf and according to the wishes of the majority.

CHARACTERISTICS OR MAIN FEATURES OF DEMOCRACY

1. There must be periodic free and fair elections to elect representatives
2. There must be equal political rights. That is, each person should count as one, and that all of them should have equal opportunity of participation in the decisions on government.
3. The rights of the minorities are guaranteed.

4. The provisions on fundamental human rights are guaranteed. And these are freedom of expression (speech, press etc.), religion, assembly, and movement.
5. Organized opposition to government is allowed.
6. Rule of law is guaranteed.
7. Each citizen has the right to run for office in government.
8. Election should be free and fair to reflect the wishes of the majority.
9. There must be specific tenure of office for government officials.
10. There must be a free and independent judicial system in the state.
11. There must be an Independent Electoral System to conduct free and fair elections.
12. There must be the existence of a party system.
13. The Constitution must be supreme.

QUESTION: 1

1. Define Democracy?
2. Examine ten (10) reasons why countries adopt Representative Democracy.

WEEK 2

CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR A SUCCESSFUL OPERATION OF DEMOCRACY

1. Good Government/Leadership: For democracy to operate successfully there must be a good government. The leaders must be good, tested and acceptable. The leaders must be disciplined also and live a corrupt-free life.

2. Willingness of the people: A successful operation of democracy depends on the people's willingness and desire.

3. Tolerance: citizens must be willing to tolerance one another's views and actions irrespective of political differences. Citizens must live a life of give and take and willing to accept each other.

4. Openness: Government actions and activities should be in the open. This will enable the people to appreciate and criticize these actions where necessary.

5. Enlightenment (Education): In a democracy, individuals are expected to participate actively in governance. As a result of this, there is a need for a well-informed, educated and enlightened electorate who will be able to contribute positively to the success of democracy.

6. Observance of the principle of the rule of law: The government should be organized based on the provisions of the constitution and both the government and the people should show respect for the rule of law.

7. Opposition is tolerated: For a successful operation of democracy, the government must be ready to tolerate different opposition groups in the system.

8.Independence of the judiciary: For democracy to be successful, the judiciary must be independent. This will help it pronounce free and fair judgment. Here, the executive and the legislative bodies should not interfere with the affairs of the judiciary.

9.Periodic Elections: In a democracy, elections should be conducted at intervals to reflect the wishes of the majority. The conduct of these elections should be devoid of intimidations, harassment etc. The elections should be free and fair. The people should be free to exercise their franchise.

10.Supremacy of the constitution: For democracy to succeed, the constitution should be supreme. The political leaders and the citizens must be ready to abide by the provisions of the constitution.

11.Freedom of the press: This is one of the conditions for successful operation of the democracy. The press should be free to disseminate information without fear or favor.

12.Entrenchment of Fundamental Human Rights in the constitution: Detailed fundamental Human Rights should be entrenched in the constitution and also protected by the government. This will help the citizens feel protected. This will help them exercise their rights without fear of intimidation.

13. Independent Electoral Commission. There should be an independent body to conduct free and fair elections. This body should be given free hand to exercise their duties without fear or favor.

These points mentioned above, if properly adhered to, will make democracy strive effectively.

IMPORTANCE/ADVANTAGES OF DEMOCRACY

Democracy is very important in a country because of the following reasons:

1. It ensures orderly and legitimate transfer of power: In a democratic government, there is proper arrangement for orderly transfer of power from one government to another through the ballot box unlike autocratic governments where power is taken over by violence.

2. Democracy guarantees Fundamental human rights: In a democracy, fundamental human rights are protected and guaranteed e.g. freedom of movement, speech, expression, assembly, association, life and so on.

3. Decisions reflect the wishes of the majority. In democracy, the majority of the people have the opportunity to take part in the decisions of the government either directly or through their elected representatives.

4. Rule of law is guaranteed: Democracy provides for the rule of law where everybody is equal before the law and the citizens are guarded and protected by the law.

5. Accountability of rulers: Democracy ensures that rulers are made accountable to the ruled. The electorate can recall their elected representatives if they feel their interests are no more represented.

6. It guarantees the supremacy of the constitution: In every democracy, the constitution is always supreme. It allocates power to the various organs and tiers of government as such the actions of the government are guided by the constitution.

DISADVANTAGES OF DEMOCRACY

The following are the disadvantages or demerits of democracy:

1. Proliferation of Political Parties: Democracy allows the existence of many political parties to contest election into various offices. The existence of these many political parties may lead to instability in government.

2. High level of Illiteracy and Ignorance: Illiteracy and Ignorance make the practice of democracy difficult because people may not be enlightened to fight for their rights when trampled upon. Also, they may not know when and how to channel their grievances when provoked.

3. Poverty: Lack of money and other material resources may be a set back to the practice of democracy. The rich may pave their way into government through money and material inducement of the poor who may give their votes to them. By so doing, voting into power those who are not qualified.

4. High cost of running the democracy: Democracy is expensive to operate in terms of organization of elections and maintenance of the legislature and other political institutions which are very costly because of duplication of offices and functions.

5. Time wastage in decision making: Democracy leads to delay and unnecessary waste of time in decision making as a result of consultations before major decisions are made especially in the legislature.

6. Electoral malpractice: In Nigeria, there are cases of electoral malpractices because people want to get into power by all means. As a result, both the electorate and the electoral umpire are induced into different electoral irregularities. This mars the smooth operation of democracy in a country.

7. Majority opinion is usually forced on the people, while minority opinion is sometimes ignored.

QUESTION:2

1. What are the Conditions Necessary for the operation of Democracy in a country.

WEEK 3

PROBLEMS OR FACTORS THAT RETARD THE GROWTH OF DEMOCRACY

The following are factors (Problems) affecting or retarding the growth of democracy.

1. Political instability and breakdown of law and order
2. High level of Illiteracy and Ignorance
3. Bribery and Corruption
4. Military intervention in politics

5. Poverty
6. Electoral Mal-practices (Absence of free and fair elections)
7. Lack of total independence
8. Bad government and unfulfilled electoral promises
9. Lack of respect for popular will by politicians.
10. Lack of proper Political Education
11. Erosion of judicial independence
12. Sit-tight-syndrome and tenure elongation
- 13 Proliferation of Political Parties
14. High cost of running Democracy
15. Political Apathy
16. Biased Electoral umpire
17. Erosion of Press freedom
18. Lack of internal democracy among political parties: The undemocratic nature of our national political parties which has made internal democracy within these parties a difficult issue (this is not healthy for the development of democracy in Nigeria.)
19. Money politics (Vote buying and selling)
20. The Chief Executive using the apparatus of power (i.e. using democratic institutions like EFCC and ICPC etc.) to clamp down on other arms of government.

THE PROCESS OF DEMOCRACY

To attain true democracy in a country like Nigeria, there are processes that must be followed. These we call processes of handover to a democratically elected government. This process involves the following:

1. Lift of ban on political activities
2. Registration of political parties.
3. Drafting of Constitution and Electoral laws
4. The establishment of Electoral Management body (Commission)
5. Delimitation of Constituencies and Registration of voters
6. Conduct of Census
7. Electioneering Campaigns (Peaceful Political rallies and campaigns)
8. The Election Proper (Periodic free and fair Election)
9. Hand-over to a democratically elected government (Inauguration of Government)
10. Delivery of Democratic Dividend

QUESTIONS3

1. What are the factors that retard the growth of Democracy in Nigeria

WEEK 4.

CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY

WEEK 5

RULE OF LAW

THE RULE OF LAW

The doctrine of the “Rule of Law” was formulated by Professor A. V. Dicey in his book, “Introduction to the study of law of the constitution” in 1885. His doctrine stresses the fundamental idea that the law is all important and that while law can be invoked to maintain order, any exercise of power must be in accordance with the law of the State.

In its simplest meaning, the Rule of law implies that law should be supreme and predominant in any given state. The people who exercise the authority in a given state must exercise such authority in accordance with the laws already established in the state.

PRINCIPLES OF THE RULE OF LAW:

A.V. Dicey based his theory of the Rule of law on three main principles:

- (1) The principle of Impartiality.
- (2) The principle of Equality (Equality before the law).
- (3) The principle of liberty (the Rights of the individual).

(1) The Principle of Impartiality:

The principle of impartiality means that no man can be punished or made to suffer for breach of the law unless established before the courts, i.e. a man can only be punished for breaking the law when he has been found guilty by the ordinary law courts. It will be wrong and it will be a sign of arbitrariness if a person should be imprisoned or made to suffer in any form without being tried in any court of law.

(2) The Principle of Equality (Equality before the law)

This principle implies that everyman, whatever his position or rank is subject to the ordinary law of the land and the jurisdiction of the ordinary courts. This implies that every man is equal before the law irrespective of the position being held.

Against this principle, in the modern system of government, some persons are totally or partially immune. This implies that such people are wholly free or partially free from any offence they might commit. For example, the Queen cannot do any wrong because she reigns and does not rule. Also, ambassadors and foreign diplomats are immune from court action.

(3) The Principle of Liberty (The Rights of the individual)

That, the rights of the individuals actually give meaning to the constitution: This means that the constitution cannot be regarded as the source of the rights of the individuals but that the constitution itself is based on the rights of individuals. This means that the preservation of Human Rights does not depend on written declarations. Human rights can only be presented if only there is belief in them by the great majority of the citizens. There are fundamental human rights entrenched into our constitution whether written or unwritten, and the rights of the individual can be guaranteed if the constitution is truly operated.

REASONS (IMPORTANCE) OF THE RULE OF LAW

It is necessary to uphold the principle of the rule of law in a state because of the following reasons:

- (1) To check the despotic tendencies of rulers so that their actions must conform with the laws of the State.
- (2) To protect the citizenry from arbitrary rule.
- (3) To make it possible for the citizens of the state to have access to court for redress.
- (4) To guarantee the fundamental human rights of citizens as clearly stated and entrenched in the constitution of the state.
- (5) To guarantee the equality of all citizens before the law.
- (6) To make it easy for the attainment of law and order in a state.
- (7) To guarantee that the law becomes supreme over and above all institutions and citizens irrespective of status or position.

QUESTION4:

1. Define Rule of Law?

2. Why is Rule of law important in a Democracy

WEEK 6

LIMITATIONS OR PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE APPLICATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF RULE OF LAW

The following problems are associated with the application of the concept of the rule of law:

1. Grant of discretionary powers to Government Officials:

Sometimes, government officials are granted considerable discretionary powers to enable them carry out their duties effectively. These officials often misuse these powers to the extent that the rule of law may be seriously undermined.

2.Out-break of wars and extreme Emergencies:

Citizens of a country may be denied some of their fundamental human rights and the application of the rule of law limited when a state of emergency is declared in a country state emergency can lead to government acquiring wider and controllable powers, indiscriminate arrest and detention without or if possible secret trials etc.

3. The type of Government:

The type of government adopted in a country, for instance military government (rule) and one-party system of government that tend to be autocratic and dictatorial act as a serious problem to the application of the rule of law.

4. Diplomatic Immunity:

Ambassadors and foreign diplomats are immune from court action. They cannot be sued and prosecuted in the countries where they are serving, rather they can be repatriated, and this undermines the rule of law.

5. Special or administrative tribunals:

These tribunals adopt special system of trial different from that of the ordinary courts which the rule of law forbids and they do not allow appeal against their judgments.

6. Parliamentary Immunity:

Members of the parliament cannot be sued or prosecuted based on the statements they made on the floor of the house no matter how false they may be which means they are not equal before the law with other citizens.

7. Economic Position:

Those in position of economic wealth in developing countries especially in West Africa have used such positions to render the application of rule of law impracticable. Justice is purchased in Court of law as commodity and only the poor suffers the brunt.

8. Security of the State:

The rule of law can be violated so as to maintain the security of a nation. For example, people can be arrested and detained without trial, their movement restricted, people's property confiscated etc., all for security reasons.

9. Delegated Legislation:

Many bodies with powers of delegated legislation have often used such powers to the detriment of the application of the rule of law. Also, delegated legislation, statutory instruments, bye-laws, etc. have made the rule of law so complex that citizens do not know the legal implications of their actions and activities.

10. Immunity of Judges:

Judges cannot be tried for delivering wrong judgment, or for their utterances in court. Since they cannot be tried, judicial pronouncements could therefore sometimes be based on the personal interest of judges rather than the established laws of the land.

10. Illiteracy and Ignorance:

The level of literacy determines the ability of citizens to uphold and defend their rights. Illiteracy and ignorance will not make a citizen to know his rights and how to defend them if trampled upon or infringed.

QUESTION5.

1. Examine five (5) Problems Associated with the application of the principle of Rule of law

REVISION

WEEK 7

VALUES

MEANING OF VALUES:

Values can be described or defined as standards or principles that are upheld by the individuals, families or societies. They are what we believe in.

Values are things, ideas, beliefs, principles, and quality that people, and societies attach great importance to. It also includes what we don't like people to attribute or associate us with. Our values say much about us. It defines who we are and determines our behaviour and personality.

Values are the totality of norms by which behaviours like honesty, respect for elders, co-operation, self-discipline, hospitality, integrity, hard work, tolerance, dedication to duty, and justice among others are evaluated.

Values provides standard for judging actions and distinguishing between good and bad, right and wrong at any time. They are guidelines that define acceptable and appropriate behaviour within the society.

TYPES OF VALUES:

- 1. Justice.**
- 2. Selflessness.**
- 3. Honesty.**
- 4. Integrity.**
- 5. Patriotism.**
- 6. Punctuality.**
- 7. Orderliness.**
- 8. Discipline.**
- 9. Obedience.**
- 10. Hard work.**
- 11. Hospitality to people.**
- 12. Self-discipline.**
- 13. Integrity.**
- 14. Dedication to duty.**
- 15. Honesty and accountability.**
- 16. Openness and transparency.**
- 17. Cooperation and cohesion.**
- 18. Equity and social justice.**
- 19. Industry.**
- 20. Discipline.**
- 21. Patriotism and nationalism.**
- 22. Self-confidence and moral courage.**
- 23. Entrepreneurial spirit.**

INSTRUMENTS FOR INSTILLING THE CORE VALUES IN NIGERIA:

- 1. The media.**
- 2. School curricular.**
- 3. Enforcement of sanctions.**
- 4. Leadership by example.**

5. Religious institutions.
6. Public enlightenment.
7. Rewards sanctions.

IMPORTANCE OF JUSTICE AND SELFLESSNESS

1. JUSTICE:

Justice means treating people fairly and equality. It is the quality of being reasonably fair in the treatment of other people. Justice ensures that all members of the society receive fair treatment because injustice can lead to dissatisfaction, rebellion or revolution in a society.

Justice has to do with the ability to be neutral in making decision on matters that concerns different people. In the Absence of favoritism or sentiments in setting disputes or conflicts being in the distribution of resources equally in a country like Nigeria.

2. SELFLESSNESS:

This means not being selfish, greedy and power drunk. The quality of not putting oneself first. Selflessness means when a person thinks of the needs and welfare of others more than his own needs. It has to do with willingness of a person to give his time, resources, money, talents and so on for others and the nation (to the advancement of the society). E.g. Mother Theresa, Mahatma Gandhi of India.

3. HONESTY:

Honesty means to be transparent and open minded in our dealings and relationships with people. We must be reliable and trustworthy and uphold that kept in our hands. We should not be dishonest in whatever we find our hands doing. We should do it with all honesty and dedication.

WEEK 9

OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND ONESELF:

Self-defence means protecting one against attack from the opposition. We must be security conscious either as a boy or a girl.

There are so many agencies that can help protect our rights from abuse. These include:

1. The law court (the judiciary) is the last hope of an aggrieved citizen to seek redress is the law court.
2. Acquiring good education.
3. The police.

4. **NAPTIP.**
5. **WOTCLEF.**
6. **Physical resistance (self-defence).**
7. **Public Complaints commission (ombudsman).**
8. **Human rights commission.**

There are so many ways someone can defend himself/herself especially whenever anybody wants to abuse our body. We can defend ourselves by taking these following actions:

1. **Warn the individual to desist from you.**
2. **Do not walk alone especially at night, or be reading alone among the opposite sex.**
3. **Do not receive gifts from strangers or anybody without a course.**
4. **Do not put on sexually attractive or provocative dresses.**
5. **Report to your parents or teachers and any other trusted adult when you are sexually assaulted.**
6. **Do not follow friends to unknown places especially relaxation points.**
7. **Do not allow strangers into your residence especially when you are the only one at home.**

INVOLVEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY SERVICE:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SELFLESSNESS:

As a responsible citizen, we must be involved in the community service.

Community development is the process in which people work together at the local level and try to improve the economic, social, cultural and environmental condition in the community.

Community development expresses values of fairness, equality, accountability, choice, participation, mutuality, and reciprocity.

VARIOUS WAYS STUDENTS CAN CONTRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

1. **Through student's union activities (clubs).**
2. **Sanitation.**
3. **Organization of Adult education.**
4. **Recreational activities (sporting activities).**
5. **Awareness campaigns.**

WEEK 10

HIV AND AIDS:

MEANING:

AIDS is caused by a virus known as human immune deficiency virus (HIV).

AIDS has its origin in sub-Saharan Africa and was transmitted or transferred to humans during the late 19th or early 20th century. The word HIV and AIDS can better understood with these acronyms:

**H - Human
I - Immune deficiency
V - Virus.**

**A- Acquired
I - Immune
D - Deficiency
S - Syndrome.**

The virus is found in body fluids like blood, semen, vaginal fluids and breast milk. It is this virus that causes the AIDS – Acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

CAUSES (MODES OF TRANSMISSION):

- 1. Unprotected/casual sexual intercourse).**
- 2. Mother-to-child transmission through infected breast milk.**
- 3. Unscreened blood transfusion).**
- 4. Unsterilized and contaminated instruments.**
- 5. Through an open or uncovered wound or cuts i.e. untreated wound that is exposed to external strangers/bacteria.**

HIV can be transmitted when blood, semen, or vaginal fluid, from an infected person enters the body of an uninfected person.

SYMPTOMS:

The following are the initial signs and symptoms of HIV:

- 1. Fever.**
- 2. Head ache.**
- 3. Tiredness.**
- 4. Nausea.**
- 5. Diarrhea that lasts for more than a week.**
- 6. Enlarged lymph nodes in the neck, armpit or groin.**

LATER SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF HIV/AIDS: The following signs and symptoms may be warning signs of late stage of HIV infection:

1. Rapid weight loss.
2. Dry cough.
3. Recurring fever or profuse night sweats.
4. Profound and unexplained fatigue.
5. Swollen lymph glands in the armpits, groin, or neck.
6. Diarrhea lasting for more than a week.
7. White spots or usual blemishes on the tongue, in the mouth, or in the throat.
8. Pneumonia.
9. Red, brown, pink, or purplish blotches on or under the skin or inside the mouth, nose or eyelids.
10. Memory loss, depression, and other neurological disorders.

EFFECTS OF HIV/AIDS:

AIDS has a devastating effect on a person's nutritional well-being, these include:

1. Reduction in the amount of nutrient absorption into the body system.
2. Loss of appetite and disruption in the body metabolism.
3. Drastic wastage of muscles, organs and other body tissues.
4. Secondary infections and other stresses increase demands for energy and nutrients.

THE EFFECTS MAY BE SUMMARISED UNDER THE FOLLOWING HEADINGS:

1. Psychologically.
2. Educationally.
3. The epidemic of fear.
4. Loss of income/livelihood.
5. Loss of marriage and children.
6. Poor care within the health sector.
7. Withdrawal of care given in the home.
8. Loss of hope and feelings of worthlessness.
9. Loss of reputation.
10. Restriction to travel.
11. Discrimination in the workplace by co-workers and employer.

WEEK 11

PREVENTIVE AND CONTROL MEASURES OF HIV AND AIDS:

Prevention is better than cure.

Some of the measures to prevent HIV and AIDS transmission include:

1. Abstinence from unprotected sex and avoiding casual sex.
2. Married couples should be faithful to their partners.
3. There is need for public awareness on the symptoms of HIV and AIDS, what should be done and where one can get help when infected.
4. There is need for promotion of traditional values, which are very rich.
5. Decide to maintain your moral integrity.
6. We should wear hand gloves during contact with blood or body fluids that could possibly contain visible blood such as urine, faeces or vomit. Cuts, sores or breaks on both the care givers and patient's skin should be covered with bandages.
7. Hands and other parts of the body should be washed immediately after contact with blood and should be disinfected appropriately.
8. Avoid any practice that could increase blood contact such as sharing of razors, toothbrushes and earrings.
9. Girls should dress properly and avoid clothes that will expose sensitive parts of their body.
10. Avoid being alone in secluded places with a strange opposite sex. If you are in a room, keep the doors and the windows open.
11. There is need to give youths prompt and proper sex education at home, in school, and at youth's centers.

STIGMATIZATION OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV AND AIDS (PLWHA):

The right attitude and how we should relate with people identified to be infected with HIV and AIDS:

1. We should not avoid them or discriminate against them; rather we should offer helping hands in any way we can to ensure that they live.
2. Show love and affection.
3. Provide balanced diet for them.
4. Give them due respect and words of hope and encouragement.
5. Do not excommunicate them or treat them like lepers.
6. Do not avoid them or show any sign of stigmatization.
7. Be polite and friendly with them.
8. Encourage them to attend seminars, workshops and trainings on HIV and AIDS.