CIVIC EDUCATION

**SCHEME OF WORK FOR J.S 2 SECOND TERM 2024/2025.**

1. Government and organs.
2. Leadership.
3. Followership.
4. Rule of law.
5. Democracy
6. Elections and voter’s responsibilities

**Note: you are expected to have copied the first two topics before you resume. Failure to do that will attract serious penalty. There would be welcome test (objectives test) at first class in resumption. Please do not forget also to be underlying and to be leaving three lines before the next topic you are writing.**

TOPIC : Meaning and definition of government

Government is the act of ruling and directing the affairs of the people in a society or a nation for peaceful co-existence and development.

Government can also be defined as a group of people or body of persons that are given the authority to rule, protect and direct the affairs of the nation.

FUNCTIONS OF GOVERNMENT

1 It maintains law and order in the country

2 It protect the country against external aggression

3 It makes law for the country for the country through legislature

4 Government provides jobs and employment opportunities for the citizens.

5 It protects lives and properties of the citizens

6 It interpretes law through the help of judiciary

7 It represents the interest of the people.

8 Government has the responsibility of providing social amenities such as good road, quality hospital, stable electricity etc.

ORGANS/ARMS OF GOVERNMENT

There are three arms of government in Nigeria. They are;

1. Legislature/Legislative arm of government
2. Executive arm of government
3. Judiciary arm of government

1 LEGISLATURE; This is the arm of government that makes law for the country. It has the duty to make law that will guide the whole country in order to maintain law and order.

TYPES OF LEGISLATURES

1 Unicameral Legislature; this is when the body that makes law for the country is one

2 Bicameral Legislature; This is when the body that makes law for the country is two. Nigeria is practicing bicameral legislature because we have two houses. They are the Senate and House of representative.

FUNCTIONS OF LEGISLATIVE

1 Its primary function is to make law

2 Its represent the interest of the people

3 They approve or disapprove policies made by the other arms of government

4 They are responsible for constitutional amendments

5 They can remove any member of the executive arm.

6 It check other arms of government.

Instruments used by the legislature

1 Bill; This is a proposed law that is yet to be signed by president to become law or yet to be approved by two-third of the house in case the head of executive does not sign.

2 Mace; this is a symbol of authority of legislature in which without it the meeting cannot be held.

3 Gavel; This is a symbol of affirmation.

THE EXECUTIVE: This is the organ or arm of government that formulate policies and implement them. In Nigeria the president, governors, ministers, commissioners, chairman and supervisory counselors constitute the executive at the federal, state and local government levels.

TYPES OF EXECUTIVES

1 Parliamentary Executive; This is when the head of the country comes from the head of majority party in the house or legislature. Nigeria practiced this around 1960

2 Presidential Executive; This is when the head of the country or government is chosen through general election. Here there will be president, vice president etc.

FUNCTIONS OF EXECUTIVE

1 The primary function of executive is to formulate policies and implement it.

2 they manage the affairs of the country.

3 they provide social amenities for the country.

4 It protects citizens lives and properties

5 it prepares budget for the country.

6 it represents the country outside the country.

7 they sign treaties and agreements with other countries of the world on behalf of the country.

8 They signed into law the bill passed by the legislature to become law.

9 It protects the territorial integrity of the country.

THE JUDICIARY: This is the arm of government that interpret law made by the legislative.

Instruments used by the judiciary

1 Bible and Quran

2 Constitution

3 Statue of nemesis

4 Gavel

Hierarchy of Court in Nigeria

1 The highest court is Supreme court

2 Federal court of appeal

3 Federal high court

4 State high court

5 Magistrate court

6 Sharia/ Customary court.

CHECKS AND BALANCES

This is defined as a way or means by which the arms of government check or correct the abuse of power or excesses of power among them for good governance and development of the country.

IMPORTANCE OF CHECK AND BALANCES

1 To prevent abuse of power from any of the arm of government especially executive

2 It promotes good governance.

3 It brings about development of the country.

4 It makes the government to act according to the constitution of the state.