

# CIVIC EDUCATION

## YEAR SIX (6) E-NOTE

**Week:- 2 and 3**

**Topic: Civic Education**

**Subtopic: Meaning and components of Civic Education.**

### **Content**

Meaning of civic education

Civic education is that subject which teaches us about our society, about our rights, duties and obligations as citizens of our country, and the benefits which we should enjoy.

Components of civic education

This means the parts that make up what we call civic education. It has several parts which include the following:

1. Our environment. We learn about the people and things that are around us in our lives. Our environment in civic education includes:

- a) Our political environment, which deals with the way our government rules us.
- b) Our social environment, which has to do with the kind of life the members of our society live. It teaches us about our culture and values.
- c) Our economic environment. We learn about working, trading, manufacturing, and how to manage money.

2. Our rights. Our rights are those things we should enjoy as citizens of our country.

They include the following:

- a) The right to life.

- b) The right to personal freedom.
- c) The right to fair hearing in court.
- d) The right to private family life.
- e) The right to adopt a religion.
- f) The right to express ourselves.
- g) The right to peaceful association.
- h) The right to vote and be voted for.
- i) The right to live in any part of Nigeria.
- j) The right to own property.

3. The laws of our country. When we understand the laws of our country and obey them, we will behave better, serve our country, and enjoy more benefits.

4. Our duties. These are the things which we must do as citizens of the country, to make our country better. We must learn them and begin to practise them. Some of them are as follows:

- a) Obey the laws of the country and those in authority.
- b) Respect the values of our society.
- c) Show loyalty to our country by respecting the national flag, reciting the national pledge, and singing the national anthem.
- d) Uphold the good name of Nigeria.
- e) Defend Nigeria by serving her in any way you are asked to serve.
- f) Do everything you can to make the community in which you live a better place.
- g) Help government agencies to maintain law and order. Citizens should give the police any information they need in the course of their work.
- h) Pay taxes promptly.
- i) Vote during elections.

5. The responsibilities of the government.

6. Social problems. Civic education also examines the problems of society, and finds ways of solving them.

## **CLASS/HOME FUN**

1. List five components of Civic Education
2. Briefly discuss the meaning of civic education
3. State three of your rights as a child

**Week:- 4 and 5**

**Topic: Reasons for studying civic education**

### **Content**

#### **Why we study civic education**

1. For public awareness. People should have the knowledge and understanding of their rights in their society. They should also understand their duties towards society.
2. In order to understand the values of our society. It helps us to understand our societal values, and practice them, in order to have a better society. Some of these values are:
  - a) Honesty
  - b) Cooperation
  - c) Self reliance
  - d) Unity
  - e) Tolerance
  - f) Love
  - g) Peace
  - h) Humility

3. To equip young people to become leaders in future. When young people study civic education, they will better understand the needs of society. They will also understand how to meet those needs. This will enable them to govern the country in future, if they find themselves in leadership positions.4 To equip us to serve our country. Civic education will teach us how to serve our country and make it a more enjoyable place.

#### The importance of civic education

1. Civic education helps to develop good citizens, because it makes us understand our society.
2. It produces citizens who are aware of their rights.
3. It produces citizens who know their responsibilities.
4. It teaches people how to make their society orderly, peaceful and stable.
- 5 It makes governance easy, because it teaches people about the programs and policies of the government.

#### CLASS/HOME FUN

1. List 5 importance of Civic Education.
2. Highlight 10 reasons why we study Civic Education.

### **Week:- 6**

#### **Topic: National consciousness**

#### **Subtopic:- Loyalty**

### **Content**

#### **Loyalty**

Loyalty is the love and support shown to a person, group, or one's country. We can show loyalty to the following groups or organizations which we could belong to:

1. Our nation
2. Our family
3. Our community
4. Our religious organization
5. Our school
6. Our state
7. Our ethnic group
8. Our club or social group
9. Our friends
10. The organization in which we work

Our loyalty to our own country should be uppermost in our heart. This is because it is due to the existence of our country that other groups or associations exist.

**Ways in which we can show loyalty to our nation, community or group are as follows:**

1. Being obedient to our leaders and to the laws lay down to guide our nation or group.
2. Being honest.
3. Being proud of our nation or group. We must never be ashamed to say we are Nigerians, when we travel outside the country.
4. Showing respect for national symbols and other symbols which represent the group to which we belong. We can hoist our national flag in our school or place of work, to indicate our respect for our country.
5. Showing love and goodwill to the citizens of our country, irrespective of their state of origin or ethnic group. We should also show love to the members of our families or of any group or association we belong to.

## CLASS/HOME FUN

What is Loyalty?

2. List five ways to show Loyalty.

**Week:- 7**

**Topic: National consciousness**

**Subtopic: Consequences of disloyalty**

**Content**

### CONSEQUENCES OF DISLOYALTY

Some of the consequences of not showing loyalty to the nation or group. These include the following:

1. Underdevelopment and national failure. If government officials fail to carry out government programs, which are intended to foster national development, the nation will remain undeveloped and the aspect of national life, where the programs could have helped, would fail.
2. Being discredited internationally. When citizens of a country are disloyal, the country will be discredited by other nations. Reputable international organizations, like the United Nations, will be unwilling to support such nations. Therefore, Nigerians who smuggle hard drugs in and out of Nigeria are disloyal to the nation.
3. Suffering. Often disloyal citizens suffer for their own actions. For example, those caught will be tried and may be sent to jail. Many hard drug pushers and traffickers caught in Saudi Arabia have been executed. Those who manufacture and sell fake and substandard drugs and other materials are disloyal. So, when they are caught, the government tries them in court and, if found guilty, sends them to prison.
4. Poverty. Disloyalty can result in poverty. When these disloyal citizens are caught and are punished, they lose their sources of income.

A child been punished for disloyalty

**These national agencies include the following:**

1. The National Youth Service Corps
2. The Armed Forces of Nigeria made up of the army, the navy and the air force.
3. The Nigeria Police
4. The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency
5. The National Food and Drug Administration and Control
6. The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission
7. The Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria
8. The National Emergency Management Agency
9. The Central Bank of Nigeria

### **CLASS/HOME FUN**

1. What is disloyalty?
2. Discuss three consequences of disloyalty
3. List three national government that maintain law and order in the country

**Week:- 8**

**Topic: Government**

**Subtopic: Arms of government**

### **Content**

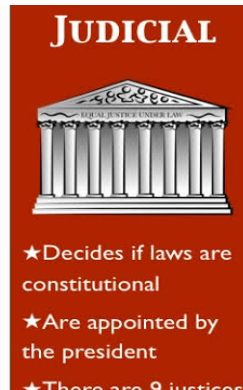
#### **Arms of government**

Government is divided into three arms, namely (a) executive, (b) legislature, and (c) judiciary.



## THE EXECUTIVE

The executive arm of government refers to the president, ministers, and special advisers at the Federal level; while at the state government level, it comprises of



the state governor, commissioners and advisers.

Functions of the executive

1. It makes policies.
2. It appoints top government officials.
3. It represents the country in the gathering of other countries of the world.
4. It declares war when there is a need for it.
5. It maintains law and order.
6. It decides how money should be spent by the government.
7. When a law is made, the president must sign it before it becomes law.
8. The president can pardon those who have committed some crimes.

## THE LEGISLATURE

At the federal level, the legislature consists of the National Assembly—Senate and House of Representatives, while at the state level, the legislature consists of the House of Assembly.

Functions of the legislature

1. It is the arm of government that makes laws.

2. It controls how money should be spent in the country.
3. It approves the appointment of ministerial nominees.
4. The legislature makes enquiries about complaints against other arms of government.
5. It discusses the different plans which the government has for its citizens.

## **THE JUDICIARY**

One of the major functions of the judiciary is to interpret and apply laws to specific cases. In the course of deciding the disputes that come before it, the judges interpret and apply laws. Every law needs a proper interpretation for getting applied to every specific case. This function is performed by the judges

### **Functions of the Judiciary.**

1. Interpreting state laws
2. Settling legal disputes
3. Punishing violators of the law
4. Hearing civil cases
5. Protecting individual rights granted by the state constitution
6. Determining the guilt or innocence of those accused of violating the criminal laws of the state.

## **CLASS/HOME FUN**

1. Mention the arms of government.
2. State three differences between the three arms of government .

**Week:- 9**

**Topic: Government**

## **Subtopic: Necessity of division of government into three arm**

### **Content**

Why division of powers is necessary

Reasons for division of powers as follows:

1. To avoid too much power. It is bad for a few people to become too powerful.
2. To avoid the abuse of power. When people have too much power, they become dictatorial and oppress people.
3. To ensure that the leaders themselves obey the country's constitution.
4. To ensure that the citizens enjoy their rights.
5. To ensure order in society.
6. To uphold democracy. In a democracy, one person does not rule the people; but the whole people rule themselves through their representatives.
7. To ensure peace in society.

### **CLASS/HOME FUN**

List some division of the arms of government.

## **Week:- 10**

### **Topic: Importance of government**

#### **Content**

The importance of government

There are many reasons why government is necessary. Some of them are:

1. For the control of the people. People would be unruly if no one in particular is appointed to control what goes on.
2. To maintain law and order. The government makes laws and enforces the laws.

That is, it ensures that the laws are obeyed.

3. To ensure justice and fair play in society.
4. To provide security for the people.
5. To ensure the progress and development of the country.
6. To defend the nation.
7. To maintain good relations between the country and other countries.

**The following are the things that could happen in a society without a government:**

1. Lawlessness
2. Unrest
3. Injustice
4. Violation of rights
6. Fear
7. Anarchy and confusion
8. Underdevelopment.

### **CLASS/HOME FUN**

1. A nation without a government will face a lot of problems, mentioned six of these problems
2. List five importance of government in a nation

**Week:- 11**

**Topic: Functions of government**

**Content**

Functions of government include the following:

1. It makes policies and programs for the benefit of the nation.

2. It provides protection and security of lives and property.
3. It provides social amenities such as potable water, schools, hospitals, electricity, and roads.
4. It provides employment for the people. It also creates an enabling economic environment for the people.
5. Government defends the country against external attack from other countries.
6. It makes laws which guide the citizens.
7. It maintains law and order.
8. It administers justice and equity.
9. It promotes a good relationship between her and other countries.

### **Some major values of government**

1. Accountability. It should give citizens an account of its services.
2. Transparency. It should tell the people how money is being spent.
3. Promotion of human rights. Government should protect the rights of the citizens through the judiciary.
4. Faithfulness and integrity. It should try to serve the people faithfully, and pursue her programs with honesty.
5. Justice and equity. It should see that everyone is treated fairly.
6. Good governance. The government ought to rule the country so well that all Nigerians will enjoy being Nigerians, and enjoy living in Nigeria.
7. Cordial external relations. The government ought to make Nigeria friendly with other countries. It should help to promote peace all over Africa and the world in general.

### **Agencies that carry out the functions and services of the government**

**These agencies include the following:**

1. The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN)
2. All Federal Ministries such as the
  - a) Federal Ministry of Education
  - b) Federal Ministry of Justice
  - c) Federal Ministry of Finance
  - d) Federal Ministry of Defense
  - e) Federal Ministry of External Affairs
3. The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency
4. The Nigerian Ports Authority
5. The Nigerian Army
6. National Agencies for Food and Drug Administration and Control
7. The Nigerian Postal Service
8. The Nigeria Police Force

### **Our duties and obligations to government**

**They include the following:**

1. Obey the laws of the land and obey those in authority.
2. Pay taxes promptly.
3. Show loyalties to our country by respecting the national symbols, e.g. the coat of arms, and the national flag.
4. Vote during elections.
5. Defend Nigeria by serving her in any part of the country and in any way.
6. Respect the values of our society.
7. Serve your immediate community in whatever form.
8. Help government agencies to maintain law and order.
9. Uphold the good name of Nigeria.

## **Unsolicited obligations**

They are those things which we do on our own to ensure the progress of our society. They are not imposed on us. These include the following:

1. If a public tap is wasting water, you should turn it off.
2. Community leaders could settle disputes among other members of the community.
3. Younger people could visit elderly people and ensure they are comfortable.
4. If an accident occurs, assist the victims.
5. Help victims of disasters.

## **CLASS/HOME FUN**

1. What are the consequences of failure to perform our duties in society?
2. What are the duties of children in a family?