

CIVIC EDUCATION

BASIC 9

THIRD TERM

THIRD TERM SCHEME OF WORK

1. Election: Electoral bodies in Nigeria (INEC, SIEC)
2. Election: Need for Free and Fair election
3. Election: Electrical malpractices in Nigeria and how it can be curbed
4. Election: Meaning of voting and voters' registration
5. Election: Importance of voting
6. Democratic process: Processes involved in voting
7. Revision
8. Examination

Week 1

TOPIC: ELECTORAL BODIES IN NIGERIA: INEC, SIEC

Specific objectives: At the end of this lesson, I should be able to;

- 1. Mention the functions of Independent Electoral Commission**
- 2. Mention the functions of State Independent National Electoral Commission**

INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL COMMISSION (INEC)

The independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) is the main agent of democracy in Nigeria. INEC is a permanent body created by the constitution to organize Federal, state and Local Government council elections in Nigeria.

Functions of Electoral Commission

3. They educate Nigerian citizens about democracy and election process in Nigeria
4. Registration of voters and party candidates: They organize how voters are registered before elections. It also provides registers for candidates contesting for various political positions under various political parties e.g APC, PDP etc.
5. Delimitation of constituency: They demarcate constituency boundaries for elections into Houses of Assembly, Representatives and that of the Senate.
6. They control political parties Electoral commissions monitor the activities of political parties in Nigerian.
7. They promote Democracy: They promote an enduring democratic culture in Nigeria through transparency.

State Independent Electoral Commission (SIEC)

Following the 1999 constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the state Independent Electoral commission has power to

1. Organize, undertake and supervise all elections to local Government within a state.
2. Advise INEC on the compilation and Register of voters for Local Government election.
3. The SIEC has its own chairman and seven other persons that are normally appointed by INEC

Week 2

NEED FOR FREE AND FAIR ELECTION

Specific objectives: At the end of this lesson, I should be able to;

- 1. Explain the meaning of free and fair election**
- 2. State the importance of free and fair election**

FREE AND FAIR ELECTION

Over the years, electoral malpractices have been a major problems confronting the country. Nigeria. Hence, the need for free and fair elections in Nigeria.

1. The free and fair election is inevitable because it enhances peaceful co-existence of people in a country.
2. It allows for visionary and dedicated leaders to emerge at all level in the country that will contribute positively to the growth and development of the country.
3. The need to project the country's name in the international community across the globe.
4. Free and fair election helps to strengthen the democratic institution such as Legislature, Independent National Electoral commission, Judiciary, press etc.
5. It foster democracy.

Week 3

TOPIC: Electoral Malpractice

Specific objectives: At the end of this lesson, I should be able to;

- 1. Define Electoral Malpractice**
- 2. Mention the forms of Electoral Malpractice**
- 3. State the causes of Electoral Malpractice**
- 4. Explain ways of preventing Electoral Malpractice**

Forms of Electoral Malpractices in Nigeria.

1. Compilation of fictitious names
2. Illegal compilation of separate voter's list.
3. Falsification of election figures.
4. Abuse of voter's list exercise
5. Allowing under age to vote
6. Harassment, intimidation and victimization of candidates, agents and voters.
7. Manipulation of the process by the ruling party
8. Corruption and bias at various election tribunals

Causes of Electoral Malpractices

1. One of the causes of Electoral Malpractice in Nigeria is to perpetuate one ethnic group or party in office at the detriment of other ethnic groups. This is done primarily for selfish and parochial interest.
2. Ethnic/Cultural Hegemony in office forever. This has been the bane of Nigeria political scene since independence.
3. Long years of Military rule in Nigeria coupled with external influence are traceable factors to electoral malpractice in Nigeria.

WAYS OF PREVENTING ELECTORAL MALPRACTICES IN NIGERIA

1. There should be proper delimitation of constituency on equal population basis to give room for equal representation.
2. The electoral body must be a true independent body and non-partisan
3. The electoral commission must take make proper compilation of names of eligible voter's list.
4. The voter's registers must be displayed to remove dead one's name and as well include qualified ones
5. Proper and adequate security must be put in place to create conducive atmosphere for electorates to exercise their voting rights.

Week 4

MEANING OF VOTING AND VOTERS' REGISTRATION

Specific objectives: At the end of this lesson, I should be able to;

- 1. Explain the meaning of voting**
- 2. Explain voters' registration**

VOTING

Voting in its widest meaning is an act of choosing candidates of choice by the electorates or voters. The electorate will go to the polling station on a voting day, to exercise their civic right.

At the poll, each of the electorate or voter is given a ballot paper and after thumbprint secretly drops it in a ballot box of the candidate or party of his choice. There are electoral officials to hand over the ballot papers to the voters and to monitor the conduct of the process.

VOTER'S REGISTRATION

Voter's registration is the act of preparing an official record of those that are qualified to vote during the election period. i.e any body that attains the ages of 18years and above and of sane mind are qualified to vote.

Voters list must be publicly displayed for objections and complains that may arise.

Week 5

IMPORTANCE OF VOTING

Specific objectives: At the end of this lesson, I should be able to;

- 1. Define voting**
- 2. Explain the importance of voting**

1. Voting create avenue for people to participate in the decision – making of their country.
2. It is an instrument for a peaceful change of bad leaders or dictatorial government.
3. Voting is the yard stick for measuring public opinion either to vote against during election period.
4. It is an instrument for promoting national unity in a plural society like Nigeria.
5. People are given equal status or equal political opportunity to elect their representatives.

Week 6

TOPIC: VOTER EDUCATION

Specific objectives: At the end of this lesson, I should be able to;

- 1. Define voting**
- 2. Explain the processes involved in voting**

Process of Voting

Before the date of Election each qualified voter is expected to have registered. At the registration centre he will be given a voter's card which qualifies him for voting on the day of election.

On election day, the electorate goes to the centre where he was registered. He presents his voter's card and he will be accredited for voting.

After accreditation, he is given the ballot paper where all the political parties and their logos are written.