

## SECOND TERM E-LEARNING NOTE

**SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT**

**CLASS: SS1**

### SCHEME OF WORK

#### WEEK TOPIC

1. TYPES AND CHARACTERISTICS OF GOVERNMENT: Presidential System of Government; Parliamentary System of Government.
2. Nazism.
3. Monarchy- Definition, Forms, Merits and Demerits, Features: Republican Government- Meaning, Features: Military Government- Features, Reasons for Military Intervention, Differences Between Republican and Monarchy.
4. Constitution: Definition, Sources, Features, Types: Written, Unwritten, Rigid, Flexible, Unitary, Federal and Confederal with Merits and Demerits of Each Type.
5. Structure and Organization of Government: Legislature; Meaning, Functions, Types, Merits and Demerits of Each Type, the Concept of Parliamentary Supremacy and Its Limitations; Bills- Meaning, Types, Procedure on How Bills Become Law.
6. Executive- Meaning, Functions and Types  
Judiciary- Meaning, Functions and Independence of the Judiciary
7. Basic Principles of Government: Rule of Law; Definition, Principles, Limitations to Its Application, Factors that Ensure Its Operation.
8. Separation of Powers- Meaning, Merits and Demerits, Its Operation in Presidential and Parliamentary systems of government; Checks and balances- meaning , merits and demerits.
9. Representative Government- Definition, Features, Conditions for Its Establishment, Merits and Demerits; Political Participation- Meaning, Forms, Purposes, Factors Affecting Political Participation.
10. Centralization- Meaning, Reasons for Its Adoption, Merits and Demerits;  
Decentralization- Merits, Types, Merits and Demerits.
11. Delegated Legislation- Definition, Type's Reasons for Delegated Legislation, Demerits, Control of Delegated Legislation.
12. Revision
13. Examination

**WEEK ONE**

DATE.....

**TOPIC: TYPES AND CHARACTERISTICS OF GOVERNMENT****CONTENT**

- i. Presidential System of Government.
- ii. Parliamentary System of Government.

**PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT**

**MEANING:** This can be defined as one in which the head of state is also the head of government. All executive powers are vested in one individual called the executive president and the commander in-chief of the Armed Forces. Examples of countries that practice this system are; U.S.A, Nigeria and so on.

**CHARACTERISTICS OF PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT**

1. The executive president is both the head of state and government.
2. The president performs both ceremonial and executive functions.
3. The executive president is popularly elected by the electorate.
4. The president has the constitutional power to appoint members of his cabinet.
5. The president has a fixed term of office.
6. Cabinet members (ministers) are individually responsible to the president.
7. There is strict separation of powers between the arms of government.
8. The president can be removed from office through impeachment.
9. The system does not recognize opposition.
10. The constitution is supreme.

**ADVANTAGES OF PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT**

1. The constitution is supreme.
2. There is separation of powers which enhances effective performance.
3. The cabinet members are individually responsible to the president therefore he can check their activities.
4. The president is popularly elected and as such he is responsible to the electorate.
5. The president cannot transform himself into a life president because he has a fixed term of office.
6. It is democratic.
7. Checks and balances are very effective in this system.

**DISADVANTAGES OF PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT**

1. There is delay in decision making
2. It is difficult to impeach the president because the process is rigorous.
3. The president can misuse his power to veto a bill
4. The president can remove ministers at will. There is no security of tenure.
5. There is a lot of corrupt practices in this system because lobbying is allowed.
6. It is very expensive to operate.

## **EVALUTION**

1. Define a presidential system of government.
2. Give 5 features of a presidential system of government.

## **TOPIC: PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT**

**MEANING:** This can be defined as one in which the head of state is different from the head of government. The head of state is the ceremonial president while the head of government is the Prime minister. Countries that practice this system are; Britain, Israel, Italy and Nigeria in the first republic.

## **CHARACTERISTICS OF PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT**

1. The head of state is different from the head of government.
2. The head of state is the ceremonial president.
3. The head of government is the Prime Minister.
4. The Prime Minister performs executive functions.
5. There is fusion of powers. Members of...