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Course	M. Ed

Unit overview	
Unit plan title	Democracy
Curriculum framing questions	
Essential questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain democracy in detail giving appropriate examples. 2. Differentiate between direct and indirect democracy with suitable examples. 3. Explain about the different forms of government. 4. Differentiate between unitary and federal form of government with suitable examples.
Unit questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is democracy? 2. What are the different types of democracy? 3. Differentiate between parliamentary and presidential form of government.

Content questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which type of democratic rule existed in the Ancient Greece? 2. What do you mean by indirect democracy? Give an example. 3. Which type of democratic rule exists in India? 4. Give any two characteristics of Parliamentary system.
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<u>Unit Summary</u>
<p>The topic comprises of the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaning, types and characteristics of democracy. • Branches of government: Legislative, Executive and Judiciary • Parliamentary and Presidential forms of government and their characteristics

- Unitary and Federal structure of government.
- **Meaning of democracy:** Abraham Lincoln defined Democracy as the government of the people, by the people and for the people. The word democracy is derived from two Greek words: DEMOS (people) and KRATIA (Government)
- **Types of democracy**

There are two types of Democracy: Direct Democracy and Indirect Democracy

Direct Democracy: This is a system of government whereby everyone is involved in the affairs of the country.

Indirect Democracy: This is a system of government where citizens choose their representatives to rule on their behalf. This is also called representative democracy. This is the system of government being practised in Nigeria at present.

- **Characteristics of Democracy**

1. **Regular and periodic elections:** Democracy gives room for periodic elections so as to elect new leaders.
2. **Fundamental human right:** Democracy guarantees and respects the human right as stated in the constitution.
3. **Party system:** Democracy allows different political party system to compete for power during election.
4. **Rule of law:** there is equality before the law; no one is above the law under democratic system of government.

- **Branches of government:**

LEGISLATIVE

The legislative branch of government is responsible for enacting the laws of the state and appropriating the money necessary to operate the government.

EXECUTIVE

The executive branch is responsible for implementing and administering the public policy

enacted and funded by the legislative branch.

JUDICIARY

The judiciary branch is responsible for interpreting the constitution and laws and applying their interpretations to controversies brought before it.

Parliamentary and Presidential form of government

Parliamentary Government

1. The executive is not separated from the legislature. The members of council of ministers are the members of legislature.
2. The executive is accountable to the legislature. The executive loses power when it loses the confidence of the legislature.
3. In the Parliamentary government, one person is head of state while another person is head of government.
4. In the Parliamentary systems, the Prime Minister is most powerful.
5. In the Parliamentary system, the Prime Minister can appoint only the members of parliament as minister.
6. In the Parliamentary system, the tenure of the executive is not fixed. The Council of Ministers is dismissed if it loses the confidence of the legislature before its tenure is over.
7. The Parliamentary government is more democratic, because the executive (council of ministers) is accountable to the legislature (Parliament).
8. There is less of separation of powers in the Parliamentary government.
9. During war and other emergencies, the Parliamentary government is relatively less effective and successful.

Presidential Government

1. The executive is completely separated I from the legislature. The members of executive are not the members of the legislature.
2. The executive is not accountable to the II legislature. The legislature cannot remove the executive from power] through no-confidence motion.
3. In the Presidential government, i same person is head of state as well as head of government.
4. In the Presidential system, the President is most powerful.
5. In the Presidential system, the President appoint persons from outside the legislature as minister.
6. In the Presidential system, executive has a fixed tenure normally, the executive head (President) stays in power for the whole term. It is not easy to remove him from power through impeachment.
7. The Presidential government is democratic, because the executive (President) is not accountable to the legislature.

Unitary and Federal government:

Federal Government

1. Dual government that is national government and regional government.
2. It has written constitution.
3. Division of powers between the national and state government.
4. Constitution is supreme.
5. Rigid constitution
6. Independent judiciary
7. Bicameral legislature.

Examples: India, Canada, Russia, USA, etc.,.

Unitary Government

1. Single government, that is national government which mat create regional government.
2. Constitution may be written as in France or unwritten as in Britain.
3. No division of powers. All powers are vested in the national government

4. Constitution may be supreme as in Japan or may not be as in the case of Britain.
5. Constitution may be rigid (France) or flexible (Britain)
6. Judiciary may be independent or may not be independent.
7. Legislature may be unicameral (china) or bicameral as in Britain.

Examples: China, Iran, Bangladesh, Myanmar, etc.,.

Scope and Importance of Democracy

Democracy is a very relevant topic. The teacher aims at orienting the students to know about the democratic rule in India. She aims to clarify about the concept of democracy to the students. She focuses on the different forms of government. The students would be able to get an idea about the various wings in government.

Subject areas: Meaning of democracy and its types, Parliamentary and Presidential government, Unitary and Federal form of government.

Class Level: D.EL.Ed.

Student Objectives/ Learning outcomes

1. To understand the concept of democracy.
2. To learn to differentiate the various forms of government.

Procedures

Teacher refreshes the class through ask some questions related to democracy and provide orientation to the students. She makes the students understand about the forms of democracy and makes them discuss their examples. She teaches the difference between parliamentary and presidential form of government and their characteristics. She also teaches about thee unitary and federal form of government. Later the teacher assign group activities and conclude the meaning and scope of democracy.

Approximate time needed: 1 Hour

Prerequisite skills

Ideas about the various types of state rule existing in different countries.

Printed Materials

Text book, Resource books, Charts

Supplies

Black board, Chalk, Reading materials, Picture showing parliament and voting

Other resources

Accommodations to Support different levels of learners in your classroom

Slow learners

Group discussion, extended work time, detailed description, clarification of doubt, remedial classes

Gifted student:

Assignment for detailed study

Student assessment

Report:

Key word search: Democracy, legislative, executive, judiciary, parliament, unitary, federal