# Lesson Note-Taking Organizer

Topic: Civic Life

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| Comprehension Question(s):   1. What is an example of a private life activity? Possible response: going to work, participating in a hobby 2. What types of activities are examples of civic life? Possible response: voting, attending city council meetings, talking about local issues |

Summary:

What are the two kinds of lives people lead?

1. Private life
2. Includes all things citizens do for themselves
3. Examples:
4. Going to work
5. Visiting with friends
6. Taking school courses
7. Talking to family and friends
8. Playing on sports team
9. Participating in club
10. Civic life
11. Actions that people take as part of community or government
12. Examples:
13. Attending city council meetings
14. Voting
15. Talking about local issues
16. Volunteering in community
17. Writing to representatives
18. Going to political rallies
19. Running for political office

Topic: Politics and Government

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| Comprehension Question(s):   1. What interactions does politics include? Possible response: running for office, working with citizen groups, and holding press conferences with the media 2. What are at least two vital services the government provides citizens? Possible response: public education, military and police protection, highway construction and maintenance 3. Who are the federal senators currently representing your state? Possible response:  Answers will vary based on state. 4. What principles does the Democratic Party support? Possible response: progressive values, social justice, and the collective good 5. What principles does the Republican Party support? Possible response: conserving tradition, small government, and individual responsibility |

Summary:

What is politics?

1. People rely on government in many ways.
2. Serve the public interest
3. Police and military protection
4. Public education
5. Highway construction and maintenance
6. Unemployment funding
7. Provide funding when they become too sick to work
8. Products are made safely and sold fairly
9. Paid fair wage
10. Receive equal treatment
11. Politics are interactions between elected officials and citizens. Includes:
12. Running for office
13. Working with citizens’ groups
14. Holding press conferences with the media
15. Political representatives:
16. Alderperson/councilor: helps with municipal services like traffic and garbage collection, in your area
17. Mayor/supervisor: helps with municipal services in the city or county
18. State representative, delegate, senator, or governor: helps with state services, including law enforcement, healthcare, and education
19. Federal congressperson: helps with federal services, like national parks and interstate highways (a large area, often including several counties or cities)
20. Federal senator: helps with federal services related to your state
21. Office of the President: helps with federal services on a national scale

What are political parties?

There are two major political parties.

1. Democratic Party
2. History:
3. Used to be consisted of mostly Southern rural whites before Great Depression
4. During Great Depression, recruited many urban workers
5. In 1960s, supported rights for African Americans, causing many southern rural whites to leave party
6. Values:

i. Progressive values

ii. Social justice

1. Collective good
2. Base:
3. Northern and West Coast Urban workers
4. Republican Party
5. History:
6. Before Great Depression, used to contain northern businessmen and factory workers who had a pro-industry, anti-slavery plan

ii. During Great Depression, many factory workers left for Democratic Party, leaving them with only businessmen

iii. Then, in 1960s, Democratic Party supported rights for African Americans, so southern rural workers went to Republican party.

1. Base: Businesspeople and southern rural workers
2. Values: conserving tradition, small government, limited responsibility

Topic: Limited and Unlimited Governments

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| Comprehension Question(s):   1. What form of government is in complete power? Answer: unlimited government 2. What is an example of a limited government? Possible response: democracy, constitutional monarchy 3. What form of government is a dictatorship? Answer: unlimited |

Summary:

1. Limited Governments:
   1. Have set of restrictions on them
   2. Types of limited governments:
      1. Constitutional Republic:
         1. Example: United States
         2. Citizens elect official who govern within limits set by Constitution
         3. Constitution says that government cannot tell citizens what to do.
         4. Constitution also limits government through checks and balances.
      2. Constitutional Monarchy:
         1. Example: Great Britain
         2. Has king or queen with governmental authority, but is not above the law or Constitution
         3. Shares power with parliament or other legislature
         4. Citizens have certain rights and protections
      3. Parliamentary
         1. Legislative branch, or parliament, has all the power. Chooses all high-level government officials.
      4. Presidential:
         1. Has several branches of government with equal amount of power
2. Unlimited Governments:
3. No restrictions on powers
4. Citizens do not have rights protected by constitution or law
5. These governments can become abusive of citizens.
6. Often use violence or intimidation
7. Types of unlimited governments:
8. Dictatorship:
9. Gives absolute control to one person.
10. Example: North Korea, under Kim Jong-Un
11. Oligarchy:
12. Gives absolute control to a few people
13. Example: Modern Russia
14. Totalitarianism:
15. Extreme form of government, controls every single aspect of life
16. Socialism:
17. Government control of economy
18. Example: Venezuela
19. Communism:
20. Extreme example of socialism
21. Every attempt for communism has failed.
22. Example: China, who became oligarchy

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| Lesson Activity and Review: |