

SS3 GOVERNMENT LESSON NOTES

FIRST TERM

WEEK 1–2: MILITARY RULE IN NIGERIA

1.1 INTRODUCTION: RESUMPTION TEST

(This period is for a short test to review key concepts from SS2, including Nigerian Federalism, Constitutional Development, Political Parties, and the First Republic.)

1.2 MEANING AND REASONS FOR MILITARY INTERVENTION

Military intervention refers to the forceful and unconstitutional seizure of political power by a state's armed forces (the military), thereby overthrowing a legally constituted civilian government. This is also known as a **coup d'état** (French for "stroke of state").

Military rule is an aberration, a departure from the democratic process. In Nigeria, this became a recurring event from 1966 until 1999.

Reasons for Military Intervention in Nigeria: The military often provided a list of justifications for their intervention, citing the failures of the civilian politicians.

1. **Widespread Corruption and Mismanagement:** The First Republic (and later, the Second) was characterized by massive corruption, embezzlement of public funds, and gross economic mismanagement by political leaders. The military presented itself as a "corrective" force.
2. **Breakdown of Law and Order:** The political system was unstable. The 1964/65 elections, particularly in the Western Region, led to widespread violence, arson, and murder ("Operation Wetie"). The civilian government failed to restore order, providing a pretext for the military (which has a monopoly on violence) to step in.
3. **Rigging of Elections:** Political parties engaged in blatant and widespread electoral malpractice, rigging censuses (1962/63) and elections (1964/65) to hold onto power. This destroyed public faith in the democratic process.

4. **Tribalism, Ethnicism, and Nepotism:** Politicians were accused of favouring their own ethnic or regional groups in the distribution of resources, appointments, and projects. This created deep divisions and led to feelings of marginalization, which the military claimed to be above.
5. **Politicisation of the Military:** Politicians began to interfere in military promotions, favouring officers from their own ethnic group. This broke the army's internal discipline and chain of command, leading to rival factions.
6. **Personal Ambition of Officers:** Some officers were driven by a personal lust for power and the wealth that came with controlling the state, especially its oil revenues.
7. **The "Contagion" Effect:** The first Nigerian coup in January 1966 was preceded by coups in other African countries (e.g., Togo, 1963). A successful coup in one country often gives soldiers in a neighbouring country the "idea" that it is possible.

1.3 GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE UNDER MILITARY RULE

When the military takes power, it dismantles the democratic structure and replaces it with a military chain of command. The structure is **highly centralized, authoritarian, and hierarchical**.

Key Features of Military Government Structure:

1. **Suspension of the Constitution:** The first act of a coup is to suspend or (partially) abrogate the national constitution, especially the parts guaranteeing democratic processes and fundamental rights.
2. **Rule by Decree:** The military governs by issuing **Decrees**. A decree is a law made by the military, which cannot be challenged in a court of law. State-level edicts are called **Edicts**.
3. **Abolition of Democratic Institutions:**
 - **Legislature:** Parliament (Senate and House of Reps) is dissolved. The military combines legislative and executive functions.
 - **Political Parties:** All political parties are banned.
4. **The Hierarchical Ruling Councils:**

- **Head of State:** The leader (usually the most senior coup plotter) is the Head of State and Commander-in-Chief (e.g., Aguiyi-Ironsi, Gowon, Murtala, Obasanjo, Buhari, Babangida, Abacha).
- **Supreme Military Council (SMC):** This was the highest legislative and executive body, composed of the Head of State and the other senior military officers. It was later renamed the **Armed Forces Ruling Council (AFRC)** by Babangida.
- **Federal Executive Council (FEC):** This was the "cabinet," responsible for the day-to-day running of ministries. The military often appointed civilian professionals (technocrats) as Ministers (called "Commissioners") to this council, but they served at the pleasure of the military.
- **National Council of States:** An advisory body composed of the Head of State and all the State Military Governors.

5. State Level Administration:

- The 3- or 4-region structure was abolished (by Gowon, who created 12 states).
- Elected Premiers/Governors were replaced by **Military Governors** (or "Administrators"), who were active military officers appointed by, and loyal only to, the Head of State.

6. The Judiciary: The judiciary was not abolished, but it was severely weakened.

- Decrees often included "**ouster clauses**," which stated that "no court of law shall inquire into the validity of this decree."
- The military also created special military tribunals to try cases (including for civilians), which operated outside the normal court system.

1.4 PERFORMANCE OF MILITARY ADMINISTRATION (ACHIEVEMENTS & FAILURES)

A. Achievements (Positive Performance):

1. **Creation of States:** The military successfully broke Nigeria's "unbalanced" 4-region structure. Gowon (1967) created 12 states, Murtala (1976) created 19, Babangida created

21 then 30, and Abacha created 36. This helped address "minority fears" and brought development closer to the people.

2. **Infrastructure Projects:** Military regimes (especially during the 1970s oil boom) embarked on massive infrastructure projects (e.g., building national highways, ports, airports, and the new Federal Capital Territory, Abuja).
3. **Dynamic Foreign Policy:** The military (especially the Murtala/Obasanjo regime) pursued a strong, decisive, and "Afrocentric" foreign policy, most notably in the fight against Apartheid in South Africa.
4. **Social Discipline:** The Buhari/Idiagbon regime's **War Against Indiscipline (WAI)**, though harsh, did (temporarily) instill a sense of public order, sanitation, and nationalism.
5. **Economic Indigenization:** The Gowon regime's "Indigenization Decree" (1972) helped transfer ownership of foreign companies to Nigerians.

B. Failures (Negative Performance):

1. **Systemic Corruption:** While they claimed to be "corrective," military regimes (especially the Babangida and Abacha regimes) became notorious for systemic corruption, looting, and mismanagement on an unprecedented scale.
2. **Human Rights Abuses:** Military rule was a dictatorship. Freedom of speech, press, and assembly were abolished. Critics, journalists, and activists were jailed, exiled, or (in cases like Ken Saro-Wiwa's) executed.
3. **Destruction of Federalism:** The military's unified chain of command is *unitary*, not *federal*. Military governors were *not* independent; they were "prefects" who took orders from Lagos/Abuja. This centralized all power and wealth (especially oil revenue) in the federal government, a problem that still exists.
4. **Economic Collapse:** Poor economic planning, mismanagement of the oil boom, and corruption (compounded by the "Structural Adjustment Programme" - SAP) led to massive debt, high inflation, and the collapse of the industrial and educational sectors.
5. **Loss of Military Professionalism:** The army became a "political" institution. Officers were promoted based on loyalty, not merit. This led to internal rivalries, instability, and a cycle of coups and counter-coups, destroying the army's professionalism.

1.5 WAYS MILITARY COUPS CAN BE AVOIDED

A stable democracy is the only true way to prevent military intervention.

1. **Good Governance:** Civilian leaders must be transparent, accountable, and fight corruption. When the people see good governance, they will not welcome a coup.
2. **Free, Fair, and Credible Elections:** An independent electoral body (INEC) must ensure that votes count. When leaders are chosen fairly, the government is legitimate.
3. **Respect for the Rule of Law:** The government must obey the law, and the judiciary must be independent to check the executive.
4. **Professionalism of the Military:** The military must be well-trained, well-paid, and kept out of politics. Their role is to defend the nation's borders, not run the government.
5. **Strong Civil Society and Public Opinion:** An active, free press and a vigilant citizenry that will protest and resist any unconstitutional takeover.

EVALUATION (WEEK 1–2)

1. Define "Coup d'état."
2. Explain three (3) major reasons for military intervention in Nigerian politics.
3. What is a "Decree," and how does it affect the power of the judiciary?
4. Describe the typical government structure under military rule, from the Head of State to the State Governors.
5. List three (3) achievements and three (3) failures of military rule in Nigeria.
6. Suggest four (4) ways military coups can be avoided in the future.

ASSIGNMENT (WEEK 1–2)

1. "Military rule did more harm than good to Nigeria's political and economic development." Write a two-page essay, providing strong arguments and specific examples to support this statement.
2. Draw a simple organisational chart of the government structure under a typical military regime (e.g., the Supreme Military Council).

WEEK 3: CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND MANAGEMENT

3.1 EXPLAIN THE MEANING OF CONFLICT

Conflict is a disagreement, struggle, or clash of interests, opinions, or principles between two or more individuals, groups, or states. Conflict is a natural and inevitable part of all human interaction. It can range from a mild disagreement to a violent, armed confrontation.

3.2 DISCUSS CAUSES OF CONFLICT

Conflicts arise when the interests or values of different parties are incompatible or are perceived to be incompatible.

1. **Resource-Based Conflicts:** Competition over scarce or valuable resources.
 - *Examples:* Farmer-herder clashes (over land and water), Niger Delta militancy (over control of oil resources), land disputes between families or communities.
2. **Value-Based Conflicts:** Clashes over fundamental beliefs, ideologies, or ways of life.
 - *Examples:* Religious conflicts (e.g., intolerance between different faiths), ethnic conflicts (e.g., based on ethnic superiority or historical grievances).
3. **Power-Based Conflicts:** Struggles to gain or maintain political power and influence.
 - *Examples:* Election violence (between rival political parties), chieftaincy disputes (between rival ruling houses), coups d'état (military vs. civilian).
4. **Psychological Needs Conflicts:** When a group's fundamental psychological needs for identity, security, or recognition are threatened.
 - *Example:* A minority ethnic group that feels marginalized, disrespected, and excluded from government may resort to conflict to demand recognition.

3.3 EXAMINE THE CONSEQUENCES OF CONFLICT

While mild conflict can lead to positive change, violent and protracted (long-lasting) conflict is devastating.

1. **Loss of Life and Human Suffering:** This is the most tragic consequence.

2. **Destruction of Property and Infrastructure:** Homes, schools, hospitals, bridges, and farms are destroyed, setting development back by decades.
3. **Displacement of People:** Conflict creates **Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)** and **Refugees**, leading to humanitarian crises and refugee camps.
4. **Economic Collapse:** The economy stagnates. Farms are abandoned (leading to famine), factories close, foreign investors flee, and all government funds are diverted to security/war.
5. **Social Disintegration:** Conflict destroys trust between communities. It breaks social bonds and creates a legacy of hatred, suspicion, and a "cycle of violence" that can last for generations.
6. **Political Instability:** Leads to failed states, military coups, and a complete breakdown of law and order.

3.4 IDENTIFY WAYS OF RESOLVING CONFLICT

Conflict Management refers to the processes used to limit the negative aspects of conflict, while **Conflict Resolution** refers to the processes used to *end* the dispute.

- **Traditional Methods:**

- Involves village elders, religious leaders, or traditional rulers who meet with the disputing parties and use wisdom, proverbs, and community values to find a solution. It is often focused on *reconciliation*.

- **Modern (Legal & Diplomatic) Methods:**

1. **Negotiation:** The two conflicting parties communicate *directly* with each other to try and find a compromise. (No third party).
2. **Mediation:** A *neutral third party* (the mediator) is invited to help the two parties talk. The mediator *facilitates* the discussion but does *not* have the power to impose a solution.
3. **Arbitration:** A *neutral third party* (the arbitrator) is brought in to *act as a judge*. Both sides agree in advance to *obey* the arbitrator's final, binding decision.

4. **Adjudication (Litigation):** Taking the dispute to a formal court of law (like the High Court or the International Court of Justice - ICJ). The judge's decision is binding and enforced by the state. (e.g., The Nigeria-Cameroon Bakassi dispute).
5. **Peacekeeping:** Using neutral military forces (like the UN or ECOMOG) to physically separate warring parties and enforce a ceasefire, creating a space for negotiation.

EVALUATION (WEEK 3)

1. Define "Conflict" and list its four (4) main causes.
2. Using a Nigerian example, explain a "resource-based conflict."
3. List five major consequences of violent conflict.
4. What is the main difference between "Mediation" and "Arbitration"?

ASSIGNMENT (WEEK 3)

1. Choose one specific conflict in Nigeria (e.g., Farmer-herder crisis OR Niger Delta militancy).
2. Write a one-page report on:
 - The primary *causes* of the conflict.
 - One *consequence* of the conflict.
 - One *method* you think could be used to resolve it.

WEEK 4: PEACE EDUCATION

4.1 EXPLAIN THE MEANING OF PEACE

Peace is often misunderstood as just "the absence of war." This is only part of the definition.

- **Negative Peace:** This is the simple absence of direct, organized violence, war, or physical conflict. It is a state of "non-war," but it can still be filled with injustice, fear, and oppression.
- **Positive Peace:** This is a much deeper and more desirable state. It is the *presence* of social justice, equity, fairness, harmony, and the rule of law. It is a society where institutions are fair, resources are distributed equitably, and all citizens can flourish without fear of structural or physical violence.

Peace Education is the process of teaching people the knowledge, skills, and values needed to create and maintain *positive peace*.

4.2 DISCUSS THE NEED FOR PEACE (IMPORTANCE)

1. **Prerequisite for Development:** Peace is the foundation upon which all economic and social development is built. You cannot build schools, hospitals, or factories in a warzone.
2. **Protection of Human Rights:** Peace is essential to guarantee the most fundamental right—the Right to Life. In peacetime, citizens are free to exercise their rights to free speech, movement, and assembly.
3. **Economic Prosperity:** A peaceful environment encourages both local and foreign investment, which creates jobs and economic growth.
4. **Social Cohesion:** Peace fosters trust, cooperation, and understanding among different ethnic and religious groups, strengthening the bonds of the nation.
5. **Psychological Well-being:** Peace provides a stable, secure environment where citizens (especially children) can live free from fear, trauma, and anxiety.

4.3 IDENTIFY WAYS PEACE CAN BE PROMOTED

1. **Upholding Justice and the Rule of Law:** This is the *most important* way. When citizens believe the justice system is fair, they will not resort to violence. (See Week 3).
2. **Good Governance:** An accountable, transparent government that fights corruption and is *seen* to be working for *all* people, not just one ethnic group, prevents conflict.
3. **Equitable Resource Allocation:** Ensuring that the wealth of the nation (e.g., from oil, from taxes) is shared fairly to develop all parts of the country, reducing feelings of marginalization.
4. **Promoting Tolerance and Dialogue:**
 - **Education:** Teaching tolerance, mutual respect, and "Peace Education" in schools.
 - **Inter-faith/Inter-ethnic Dialogue:** Creating forums where leaders from different groups can meet, talk, and build understanding.
5. **Disarmament and Control of Arms:** Reducing the number of small arms and light weapons (SALW) in circulation.
6. **Providing for Basic Needs:** Tackling the root causes of conflict, such as poverty, unemployment, and lack of education.

EVALUATION (WEEK 4)

1. Differentiate between "Negative Peace" and "Positive Peace."
2. What is "Peace Education"?
3. List four (4) reasons why peace is necessary for a nation's development.
4. What is the *most important* way to promote lasting (positive) peace in a society?
5. How can "equitable resource allocation" promote peace?

ASSIGNMENT (WEEK 4)

1. "Peace is not just the absence of war." Write a one-page essay explaining this statement, using Nigeria as your case study.

WEEK 5: THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF NATIONS AND GLOBALIZATION

5.1 DISCUSS INTERDEPENDENCE OF NATIONS

Interdependence is the concept that nations, in the modern world, are mutually dependent on each other. No country is 100% self-sufficient. The decisions, economy, and security of one nation are deeply linked to the decisions and economy of other nations. **Globalization** is the *process* that has driven this interdependence. It is the rapid and increasing integration of national economies, cultures, and politics, driven by technology (internet, cheap travel) and free-trade policies.

5.2 EXPLAIN NIGERIA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Nigeria is highly interdependent with the rest of the world.

- **Economic Relations:**
 - **Exports:** Nigeria's economy is almost entirely dependent on *exporting* crude oil to other countries (e.g., India, Netherlands, Spain). The price we get is set by the global market.
 - **Imports:** We are dependent on *importing* refined petroleum, high-tech goods (phones, computers), machinery, and even food (wheat, rice) from other countries (especially China, Europe, USA).
 - **Investment:** Nigeria's economy depends on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from multinational corporations (e.g., Shell, MTN, Unilever) to build infrastructure and create jobs.
 - **Debt:** Nigeria's budget is often financed by loans from international bodies (World Bank, IMF) or other nations (China).
- **Political Relations:**
 - Nigeria is a member of many international bodies (UN, AU, ECOWAS, Commonwealth) and must abide by their treaties.
 - We are dependent on other nations for cooperation on trans-national issues like terrorism (Boko Haram), piracy, and arms control.
- **Cultural and Social Relations:**

- **Cultural Exports:** Nollywood and Afrobeats have made Nigeria a dominant cultural exporter.
- **Cultural Imports:** We are heavily influenced by global (especially American and European) media, fashion, and technology.
- **Migration:** Nigeria is dependent on its **Diaspora** (Nigerians living abroad) who send back billions of dollars in remittances.
- **"Brain Drain":** We are negatively affected by the "brain drain" of our skilled doctors, nurses, and tech experts who migrate to Europe and America.

5.3 ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF INTERACTION AMONG NATIONS

Advantages of Globalization/Interdependence

1. **Access to Global Markets:** Allows Nigeria to sell its products (oil, gas, music) to a global audience, earning foreign exchange.
2. **Access to Goods and Services:** Gives citizens access to a wider variety of goods (e.g., phones, cars, medicines) that are not produced locally.
3. **Technology Transfer:** Allows a developing country to "leapfrog" by adopting technology (e.g., mobile phones, internet) developed elsewhere, rather than inventing it from scratch.
4. **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI):** Attracts foreign capital to build factories, oil rigs, and tech hubs, creating jobs.
5. **Global Cooperation:** Allows nations to work together to solve problems that no single nation can fix (e.g., pandemics, climate change, terrorism).
6. **Cultural Exchange:** Enriches society through exposure to new ideas, food, music, and art.

Disadvantages of Globalization/Interdependence

1. **De-industrialization:** Local industries (e.g., Nigeria's textile industry) can be *killed* by competition from cheap, mass-produced imports (e.g., from China).

2. **Economic Vulnerability:** The economy is vulnerable to "global shocks." If the world oil price crashes, the Nigerian economy goes into recession. A financial crisis in the USA (2008) can affect Nigerian banks.
3. **"Brain Drain":** Skilled professionals leave for better opportunities abroad.
4. **Cultural Imperialism:** The dominance of Western (American) culture via media (movies, music) can threaten to "drown out" local languages, traditions, and values.
5. **Spread of Trans-national Problems:** Globalization allows for the rapid spread of negative things, such as diseases (pandemics), terrorism, and illicit drugs.

EVALUATION (WEEK 5)

1. Define "Interdependence" and "Globalization."
2. What is the *primary* product Nigeria depends on exporting, and what is a primary product it depends on *importing*?
3. List three (3) advantages and three (3) disadvantages of globalization for Nigeria.
4. Explain how "Brain Drain" is a negative effect of interdependence.

ASSIGNMENT (WEEK 5)

1. "Globalization has been a net negative for Nigeria's economy." Write a one-page essay arguing *for* or *against* this statement, using specific examples.

WEEK 6: NIGERIA'S FOREIGN POLICY I

6.1 EXPLAIN FOREIGN POLICY

Foreign Policy is a set of strategies, principles, and goals that a state (a country) pursues in its interactions with other states and international actors (like the UN or IMF). It is the "face" a nation shows to the world.

A nation's foreign policy is designed to achieve its "**National Interest.**"

6.2 OUTLINE THE PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF NIGERIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

A. Objectives (The "Goals")

The "National Interest" is the goal. For Nigeria, these are defined by the 1999 Constitution (Chapter 2, Section 19):

1. **Protection of Nigeria's Sovereignty, Territorial Integrity, and Independence:** This is the #1 goal (self-preservation).
2. **Promotion of Nigeria's Economic Interest:** To enhance the economic well-being of Nigerians through trade, investment, and protecting its resources.
3. **Promotion of Self-Reliance:** To reduce dependency on other nations.
4. **Promotion of World Peace and Justice:** To be a responsible global citizen.
5. **Promotion of African Interests:** (This is the most famous part) To promote the total liberation and unity of Africa.

B. Principles (The "Guidelines")

These are the guiding principles Nigeria uses to *achieve* its objectives.

1. **Afrocentrism (Africa as the "Centrepiece"):** The core principle. Nigeria's foreign policy prioritizes Africa. (See Week 8).

2. **Non-alignment (Historical):** During the Cold War, this was the principle of *not* formally siding with the USA (capitalism) or the USSR (communism). Today, it means maintaining a "functional" neutrality and the freedom to be friends with all powers (e.g., USA, China, Russia).
3. **Non-interference in Internal Affairs:** The principle (from the OAU) of respecting the sovereignty of other states and not trying to change their governments (this has been modified by the AU's "non-indifference").
4. **Peaceful Settlement of Disputes:** The belief in using diplomacy, negotiation, and international law (like the ICJ) to solve problems, rather than war.
5. **Legal Equality of all States:** The belief that all nations (big or small) are equal under international law.

6.3 EXAMINE FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE NIGERIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

A country's foreign policy is shaped by its internal realities and external pressures.

A. Internal Factors

1. **National Interest (Security & Economy):** This is the main driver. (e.g., our policy on Niger is driven by *security* in the North; our policy on OPEC is driven by our *economic* reliance on oil).
2. **Size (Population & Geography):** As the most populous Black nation on earth, Nigeria sees itself (and is seen) as the "Giant of Africa," with a special responsibility to lead.
3. **Economic Strength (or Weakness):**
 - *Strength (1970s Oil Boom):* Our oil wealth allowed us to have a very *assertive* foreign policy (e.g., confronting Britain over Apartheid).
 - *Weakness (1980s-90s Debt):* Our debt forced us to be *less* assertive and to follow the policies of the IMF/World Bank.
4. **Type of Government (Military vs. Civilian):**
 - *Military Regimes:* Often had decisive, assertive foreign policies (e.g., Murtala, Obasanjo).

- *Civilian Regimes:* Can be slower, but are seen as more legitimate (e.g., Obasanjo's "shuttle diplomacy" as a civilian president).
5. **Public Opinion & Media:** A strong, free press and public opinion (e.g., on the South African or Israeli-Palestinian issue) can influence government policy.

B. External Factors

1. **Global Power Structure:** The "weather" of the world.
 - *Cold War Era:* The USA vs. USSR dynamic forced Nigeria to adopt its "non-alignment" policy.
 - *Post-Cold War:* The dominance of the USA.
 - *Modern Era:* The new USA vs. China rivalry.
2. **International Organizations:** Nigeria's membership in ECOWAS, AU, UN, and the Commonwealth shapes its actions. (e.g., if ECOWAS votes for sanctions on Niger, Nigeria (as a member) must follow).
3. **Actions of Neighbours:** Instability in a neighbouring country (e.g., Chad, Niger, Cameroon) will *force* a Nigerian foreign policy response due to border security and refugee flows.

EVALUATION (WEEK 6)

1. Define "Foreign Policy" and "National Interest."
2. List the three (3) main principles and three (3) main objectives of Nigeria's foreign policy.
3. Explain how Nigeria's *economic strength* (or weakness) influences its foreign policy.
4. How does the *type of government* (military vs. civilian) affect foreign policy?

ASSIGNMENT (WEEK 6)

1. Explain the "Concentric Circles" theory of Nigeria's foreign policy. Draw a simple diagram showing the "inner," "middle," and "outer" circles and what they represent.

WEEK 7: MIDTERM TEST / OPEN DAY / MIDTERM BREAK

This week is for assessment of all topics covered in Weeks 1-6.



WEEK 8: NIGERIA'S FOREIGN POLICY II

8.1 ORIGIN OF AFRICA AS THE CENTREPIECE OF NIGERIA'S POLICY

- **Origin:** This policy was first articulated by Nigeria's first Prime Minister, **Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa**, in his first major foreign policy speech at independence in 1960.
- **His Statement:** Balewa declared that Nigeria was a "big brother" to the continent and that "we shall not impose ourselves... but we shall not shrink from that responsibility which is our historic destiny."
- **Core Idea:** The policy is based on the "Concentric Circles" model.
 1. **Innermost Circle:** Nigeria's own security and development.
 2. **Second Circle:** The West African (ECOWAS) sub-region.
 3. **Third Circle:** The entire African continent (OAU/AU).
 4. **Outer Circle:** The rest of the world (UN, Commonwealth).
- **Afrocentrism** means that Nigeria's foreign policy *prioritizes* circles 2 and 3.

8.2 JUSTIFY REASONS FOR ADOPTING AFRICA AS THE CENTREPIECE

1. **National Security:** This is the most practical reason. Nigeria cannot be truly safe if it is surrounded by failed, unstable, or warring states. It is in our "enlightened self-interest" to promote peace in Liberia, Chad, and Niger.
2. **Economic Interest:** Nigeria is the "giant" of West Africa. A peaceful, integrated ECOWAS region (with free trade) creates a *massive* market for Nigerian-made goods and services.
3. **Identity and "Black Leadership":** As the most populous Black nation on Earth, Nigeria feels it has a *moral duty* and *historical destiny* to lead the Black race and fight for the dignity of all African peoples.
4. **Anti-Colonial/Anti-Racist Stance:** The policy was born in the 1960s, when many African nations were still fighting for independence. Nigeria took on the role of "liberator" to end colonialism (in Angola, Mozambique) and racist white-minority rule (in South Africa, Zimbabwe).

8.3 WAYS NIGERIA HAS DEMONSTRATED AFRICA AS THE CENTREPIECE

1. **The Fight Against Apartheid (South Africa):** This was Nigeria's *finest hour*.
 - Nigeria was a leading "**Frontline State**" (even without a border).
 - It gave *direct financial aid* (millions of dollars) to the **ANC** and **PAC** (liberation movements).
 - It nationalized the assets of **British Petroleum (BP)** in 1979 because of its dealings with apartheid South Africa.
 - It led the **boycott** of the 1976 Montreal Olympics (and two Commonwealth Games) to protest racist sports policies.
2. **Peacekeeping (ECOMOG):**
 - When civil war erupted in **Liberia (1990)** and **Sierra Leone (1997)**, Nigeria *created, funded, and led* (with its soldiers) the **ECOMOG** force, spending billions of dollars and losing hundreds of lives to restore peace.
3. **Liberation Movements:** Nigeria gave massive financial and military support to the MPLA in **Angola (1975)** and the ZANU/ZAPU movements in **Zimbabwe** to help them win independence.
4. **Founding Regional Bodies:** Nigeria was a key founder of the **OAU (1963)** and **ECOWAS (1975)**.
5. **Diplomatic Action:** Nigeria often acts as the "mediator" in African disputes and has led the continent in condemning coups (e.g., in The Gambia, 2017).

8.4 NON-ALIGNMENT POLICY

- **Meaning:** The **Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)** was a formal group of states (founded in 1961) that declared their neutrality in the **Cold War** between the USA (the "West") and the USSR (the "East").
- **Aims and Objectives:**
 1. **Independence:** To maintain their national independence and sovereignty without being "puppets" of a superpower.
 2. **Peace:** To act as a "third force" to reduce tensions between the USA and USSR.
 3. **Economic:** To get aid, trade, and technology from *both* sides.
- **Problems Associated with Non-Alignment:**

1. **It Was Often Not "Real":** Many "non-aligned" countries were forced to "lean" one way or the other. (e.g., Cuba leaned East, while Nigeria often leaned West due to its oil trade).
2. **Lack of Power:** The NAM had no military power and was often ignored by the superpowers.
3. **Economic Pressure:** It was hard to get loans (e.g., from the IMF) if a country was seen as "too friendly" with the USSR.
4. **Irrelevance:** After the Cold War ended (1991), the movement lost its primary purpose.

EVALUATION (WEEK 8)

1. What is "Afrocentrism"?
2. Explain the "Concentric Circles" model of Nigeria's foreign policy.
3. Give three (3) specific examples of how Nigeria has demonstrated that Africa is its centrepiece.
4. What was the "Non-Aligned Movement"? What was its main goal?
5. Why was it difficult for Nigeria to be truly "non-aligned" during the Cold War?

ASSIGNMENT (WEEK 8)

1. "Nigeria's role as 'big brother' in Africa has cost us too much money and too many lives, with little benefit."
2. Write a one-page essay arguing *for* or *against* this statement.

WEEK 9: INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION: UNITED NATIONS (UNO)

9.1 ORIGINS AND ORGANS OF UNO

- **Origin:** The **United Nations Organisation (UNO)** was founded in **1945** in San Francisco, USA, immediately after the end of World War II. Its primary purpose was to replace the failed "League of Nations" and to prevent another world war.
- **Founding:** 51 nations (including Nigeria, though still a colony) were original members. Today, it has 193 member states.
- **Organs of the UNO (The 6 Main Organs):**
 1. **The General Assembly (UNGA):** The "parliament" of the UN. All 193 members have one seat and one vote. It is a forum for global discussion, but its resolutions are *not* legally binding.
 2. **The Security Council (UNSC):** The most powerful organ, responsible for maintaining international peace and security.
 - It has 15 members:
 - **5 Permanent ("P5") Members:** USA, UK, France, China, Russia. (The victors of WWII).
 - **10 Non-Permanent Members:** Elected for 2-year terms.
 - Its resolutions *are* legally binding.
 - Its great weakness is the **Veto Power** – any *one* of the P5 can block any resolution.
 3. **The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC):** Manages the UN's work on economic development, social issues, and human rights. It coordinates the work of the specialized agencies.
 4. **The Secretariat:** The "civil service" of the UN. It is headed by the **Secretary-General** (the UN's chief administrator, currently António Guterres).
 5. **The International Court of Justice (ICJ):** Based in The Hague, Netherlands. It is the "World Court." It settles *legal disputes between states* (e.g., the Nigeria-Cameroon Bakassi case).

6. **The Trusteeship Council:** (Now dormant). It was set up to manage the former "trust territories" (colonies) as they moved towards independence. Its work is complete.

9.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF UNO

1. To maintain international peace and security.
2. To develop friendly relations among nations, based on respect for equal rights and self-determination.
3. To achieve international cooperation in solving economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian problems (e.g., poverty, disease).
4. To promote and encourage respect for human rights for all.

9.3 ENUMERATE ACHIEVEMENTS OF UNO

1. **Preventing World War III:** Its primary goal. Despite the Cold War, it has (so far) prevented a direct nuclear war between superpowers.
2. **Peacekeeping:** The UN has deployed "Blue Helmet" peacekeeping forces to dozens of conflict zones (e.g., Congo, Liberia, Sudan, Lebanon) to monitor ceasefires.
3. **Decolonization:** The UN Trusteeship Council and the UN's promotion of "self-determination" were major factors in the peaceful end of colonialism in the 1960s.
4. **Humanitarian & Health:** Through its agencies, it has saved millions of lives:
 - **WHO:** Eradicated smallpox, leads the fight against malaria, Ebola, and COVID-19.
 - **UNICEF:** Saves millions of children through vaccination and nutrition programs.
 - **WFP (World Food Programme):** Feeds millions in famine zones and refugee camps.
5. **International Law & Human Rights:** The 1948 **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)**, created by the UN, is the foundational document for all modern human rights law.

9.4 DISCUSS PROBLEMS CONFRONTING UNO

1. **The Veto Power:** This is the #1 problem. The Security Council (which has the power to act) is often *paralyzed* because one of the P5 (e.g., USA, Russia, China) will "veto" any resolution that goes against its own national interest. (e.g., Russia on Ukraine, USA on Israel/Palestine).
2. **Lack of Funding:** The UN is constantly "broke." Many member states (including the USA) fail to pay their dues, which cripples its ability to run programs.
3. **Lack of an Independent Army:** The UN has no army. It must *ask* member states to "donate" soldiers for peacekeeping. This makes it slow to respond to crises.
4. **"Big Power" Dominance:** It is often accused of being a tool for the foreign policy of its most powerful (and richest) members, particularly the P5.
5. **Ineffectiveness in Stopping Internal Conflicts:** The UN Charter was designed to stop wars *between* states, not *within* them (civil wars). It has often failed to stop genocides (e.g., Rwanda 1994, Srebrenica 1995).

EVALUATION (WEEK 9)

1. Why was the UNO founded in 1945?
2. List the six (6) main organs of the UN.
3. What is the **Veto Power**, and which organ uses it?
4. List three (3) major achievements of the UN.
5. What is the single biggest problem/criticism of the UN Security Council?

ASSIGNMENT (WEEK 9)

1. The UN has many "Specialized Agencies." Research and write one sentence *each* on the specific function of:
 - **WHO** (World Health Organization)
 - **UNICEF** (UN Children's Fund)
 - **UNESCO** (UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)

WEEK 10: INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION: OAU / AFRICAN UNION (AU)

10.1 EXPLAIN THE ORIGIN OF OAU/AU

A. Origin of the OAU (Organisation of African Unity)

- **Context:** In the early 1960s, a wave of African countries gained independence. They were divided on the *best* way to achieve unity.
 1. **The Casablanca Bloc (The "Radicals"):** Led by Kwame Nkrumah (Ghana), Gamel Nasser (Egypt). They wanted *immediate, total* political federation—a "United States of Africa."
 2. **The Monrovia Bloc (The "Conservatives"):** Led by Nigeria (Tafawa Balewa), Liberia (Tubman). They were *cautious*. They wanted a *gradual* economic cooperation first, believing that political unity was unrealistic and threatened their new sovereignty.
- **The Compromise:** The two blocs met in **Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**, and reached a compromise.
- **Founding:** The **OAU** was founded on **May 25, 1963**, based more on the *gradualist* Monrovia "charter of cooperation" than the radical "political union" of Casablanca.

B. Origin of the AU (African Union)

- **The Problem with the OAU:** By the 1990s, the OAU was seen as a failure. It had succeeded in ending colonialism, but its core principle of "**non-interference**" made it powerless. It was a "dictators' club" that watched silently during the genocides in Rwanda and civil wars in Liberia and Somalia.
- **The "Rebirth":** Led by leaders like Thabo Mbeki (South Africa), Olusegun Obasanjo (Nigeria), and Muammar Gaddafi (Libya), a new "Constitutive Act" was written.
- **Launch:** The **African Union (AU)** was officially launched in **Durban, South Africa, in 2002**, replacing the OAU.
- **Key Change:** The AU's philosophy is "**non-indifference**." It has the *right to intervene* in member states in cases of genocide, war crimes, and unconstitutional changes of government (coups).

10.2 OUTLINE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES (OAU vs. AU)

- **Aims of OAU (Historical):**

1. To promote the unity and solidarity of African states.
2. To coordinate and intensify cooperation for a better life.
3. To defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence of members.
4. To **ERADICATE ALL FORMS OF COLONIALISM** (its most important goal).
5. To uphold strict **non-interference** in the internal affairs of members.

- **Aims of AU (Modern):**

1. To achieve greater unity and solidarity.
2. To promote peace, security, and stability (the **non-indifference** principle).
3. To promote democratic principles, good governance, and human rights.
4. To accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent (its main goal).

10.3 ENUMERATE ACHIEVEMENTS OF OAU/AU

- **Achievements of the OAU (The "Father"):**

1. **Decolonization:** The OAU was *highly* successful in this. Its **Liberation Committee** provided the weapons, training, and diplomatic support that ended apartheid in South Africa and colonialism in Angola, Mozambique, etc.
2. **Unity:** It provided a single "African voice" at the UN.
3. **Boundary Disputes:** Its 1964 Cairo Declaration (respecting colonial borders) *prevented* hundreds of potential inter-state wars.

- **Achievements of the AU (The "Son"):**

1. **Peace and Security:** The AU has been much more "hands-on" than the OAU. It has deployed its own peacekeeping forces (e.g., **AMISOM** in Somalia to fight Al-Shabaab, and in Sudan).
2. **Norm-Setting:** The AU *suspends* countries that have military coups (e.g., Niger, Mali, Guinea). This creates real political pressure.

3. **Economic Integration:** The AU's greatest achievement (on paper) is the launch of the AfCFTA (African Continental Free Trade Area), which aims to create the world's largest free-trade area.

10.4 DISCUSS PROBLEMS CONFRONTING OAU/AU

1. **Financial Dependency:** The AU is *chronically* underfunded. Most of its peace and security operations are paid for by *foreign donors* (e.g., the European Union, USA, China), which is a form of neo-colonialism.
2. **Lack of Political Will:** The AU is still a "club of presidents." Leaders are often slow to criticize each other, especially over human rights abuses or flawed elections.
3. **Implementation Gap:** The AU has "great ideas" (like the AfCFTA or the Pan-African Parliament) but lacks the power and resources to *implement* them fully.
4. **Internal/External Conflicts:** The continent is still plagued by civil wars, terrorism (Al-Shabaab, Boko Haram), and a new wave of military coups (the "Sahel Coup Belt"), which the AU struggles to contain.

EVALUATION (WEEK 10)

1. What was the main difference between the "Casablanca Bloc" and the "Monrovia Bloc"?
2. What is the *single most important* difference between the OAU's charter and the AU's Constitutive Act?
3. What was the *main success* of the OAU?
4. What is the *main problem* of the AU?

ASSIGNMENT (WEEK 10)

1. Research the AfCFTA (African Continental Free Trade Area). Write a one-page report explaining what it is and what *one* major challenge Nigeria faces in benefiting from it.

WEEK 11: INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION: COMMONWEALTH

11.1 EXPLAIN THE ORIGIN OF THE COMMONWEALTH

- **Origin:** The Commonwealth of Nations is a *voluntary* association of 56 member states, almost all of which are former colonies or territories of the **British Empire**.
- **"From Empire to Commonwealth":** As Britain's empire dissolved (decolonization), it sought to maintain a "family" relationship based on shared history, language, and legal systems.
- **London Declaration (1949):** This was the key event that created the *modern* Commonwealth. It allowed India (a new republic) to remain a member, *even without* having the British Monarch as its Head of State. This set the precedent for all other republics (like Nigeria) to join.
- **Nature:** It is *not* a political union. Membership is voluntary. It has no constitution. Its Head is (symbolically) the British Monarch (currently King Charles III).

11.2 LIST AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To promote **democracy** and good governance.
2. To protect **human rights** and the **rule of law**.
3. To promote international peace and security.
4. To promote economic and social development (e.g., in trade, health, education).
5. To support the needs of small and vulnerable states.

11.3 MENTION PRINCIPLES OF THE ORGANISATION

- The core principles were set out in the **Harare Declaration (1991)**.
- These are the values members are *supposed* to uphold:
 - Democracy and democratic processes.
 - Fundamental human rights.
 - The rule of law and an independent judiciary.
 - Equality between men and women.
 - Sustainable economic and social development.

11.4 EXPLAIN ORGANS OF THE COMMONWEALTH

The Commonwealth is a very loose organization.

1. **Head of the Commonwealth:** A *symbolic*, ceremonial position (King Charles III). Not a political one.
2. **Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM):**
 - This is the main "organ." The leaders (Presidents, Prime Ministers) of all member states meet every two years (in a different member country) to discuss common issues, set policies, and issue joint statements (communiqués).
3. **Commonwealth Secretariat:**
 - The main administrative body, based in London.
 - Headed by a **Secretary-General** (e.g., Patricia Scotland).
 - It organizes CHOGM, provides policy advice, and runs the Commonwealth's technical assistance programs.
4. **Commonwealth Foundation:** Focuses on supporting "civil society" (NGOs) and promoting cultural exchange.

11.5 IDENTIFY ACHIEVEMENTS

1. **Anti-Apartheid Struggle:** The Commonwealth (especially the African members, led by Nigeria, Zambia, and Tanzania) was a *major* force in isolating South Africa, forcing its withdrawal in 1961 and imposing sanctions.
2. **Promotion of Democracy:**
 - Its *main* tool is **suspension**. It suspends members who have military coups or violate democratic principles.
 - **Examples:** **Nigeria** was suspended (1995-1999) after the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa by the Abacha regime. **Pakistan** and **Fiji** have also been suspended.
 - It also sends **Election Observer Groups** to monitor elections in member states.
3. **Education:** The **Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan** is a very successful program that has given thousands of students from developing member states the chance to study at universities in other member countries (e.g., UK, Canada, Australia).

4. **The Commonwealth Games:** A "friendly" international sports-meet that promotes goodwill.

11.6 CRITICIZE BASED ON SHORTCOMINGS

1. **Neo-colonialism ("Empire 2.0"):** It is often criticized as a "relic" of the British Empire, a neo-colonial tool for the UK to maintain influence over its former colonies.
2. **"A Talk Shop" (No Real Power):** It has no army, no binding legal authority (unlike the UN Security Council), and its decisions are non-binding.
3. **Limited Enforcement:** Its only real "tooth" is *suspension*, which is often seen as a weak punishment. It has been criticized for being soft on members with poor human rights records.
4. **Irrelevance:** In a globalized world, some argue its "shared history" is less important than joining more powerful economic blocs (like the EU or ASEAN).

EVALUATION (WEEK 11)

1. What is the "Commonwealth of Nations," and what is the main criterion for membership?
2. What was the importance of the "London Declaration (1949)"?
3. What are the "Harare Principles"?
4. What is **CHOGM**, and what is the "Secretariat"?
5. What is the main "power" or "tooth" the Commonwealth has to enforce its principles?
Give a specific example of when it was used.

ASSIGNMENT (WEEK 11)

1. Differentiate between the **AU**, the **UN**, and the **Commonwealth** in a table.
2. Include columns for: (a) Who can join? (b) What is its main enforcement power? (c) What is one major achievement?

WEEK 12: REVISION

- **Comprehensive Review:** This week is for a complete review of all topics from the First Term.
- **Key Themes:**
 - **Military Rule:** Why it happens, its structure (SMC, Decrees), and its legacy (Pros/Cons).
 - **Conflict & Peace:** Causes of conflict (resources, values) and methods of resolution (Mediation, Arbitration, Adjudication). The difference between "Negative" and "Positive" peace.
 - **Globalization:** The interdependence of nations (advantages and disadvantages).
 - **Foreign Policy:** Nigeria's principles (Afrocentrism, Non-alignment) and how they are demonstrated (ECOMOG, Anti-Apartheid).
 - **International Organisations:** This is a major exam topic. You *must* be able to compare the:
 - **UN (Global):** P5 Veto, ICJ, WHO, UNICEF.
 - **AU (Continental):** Replaced OAU, "Non-indifference," AfCFTA.
 - **Commonwealth (Historical):** Ex-British, voluntary, CHOGM, Suspension.
- **Exam Strategy:** Practice past essay questions that ask you to "compare and contrast" these organizations (e.g., "Differentiate the aims and objectives of the AU and the Commonwealth").

SS3 GOVERNMENT LESSON NOTES

SECOND TERM

WEEKS 1–2: INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION: ECOWAS

2.1 EXPLAIN THE FORMATION OF ECOWAS

Historical Context: After independence in the 1960s, West Africa was fragmented. The new, independent states were weak and inherited colonial boundaries that split ethnic groups and traditional trade routes. The region was divided into two main blocs, which hindered any form of regional cooperation:

1. **Anglophone Bloc:** The English-speaking countries (e.g., Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, The Gambia).
2. **Francophone Bloc:** The French-speaking countries (e.g., Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Togo), which had their own monetary union (the CFA franc) and were still heavily tied to France.

The Need for Formation: Visionary leaders recognized that this fragmentation made the region politically weak and economically stunted. They argued that only a united West African bloc could achieve true economic independence, manage shared resources (like the Niger River), and have a stronger voice on the global stage.

The Formation Process:

- **Key Proponents:** The movement for integration was championed by **General Yakubu Gowon** (Nigeria) and **President Gnassingbé Eyadéma** (Togo). They bridged the Anglophone-Francophone divide.
- **The Treaty:** After several years of diplomacy and negotiations, the **Treaty of Lagos** was signed on **May 28, 1975**, by 15 West African heads of state. This treaty officially established the **Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)**.
- **Headquarters:** Abuja, Nigeria.
- **Current Membership:** 15 member states (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria,

Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo). *Note: Mauritania was a founding member but withdrew in 2000. Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali have been suspended due to military coups.*

2.2 OUTLINE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF ECOWAS

The primary goal of ECOWAS, as stated in its treaty, is to promote economic cooperation and integration, leading to the establishment of an economic union in West Africa.

Specific objectives include:

1. **Economic Integration:** The eventual creation of a **Common Market** and a single **Monetary Union** (with a single currency, the **Eco**).
2. **Free Movement:** The removal of all obstacles to the free movement of **people, goods, services, and capital** between member states.
3. **Standardization:** The harmonization of agricultural, industrial, transport, and economic policies across the region.
4. **Peace and Security:** To promote and maintain regional peace, stability, and security (this became a primary focus).
5. **Infrastructure:** The joint development of transport, communications, and energy infrastructure (e.g., a West African power pool or a coastal highway).
6. **Self-Sufficiency:** To improve the standard of living of its people and increase economic self-reliance.

2.3 EXPLAIN ORGANS OF ECOWAS

ECOWAS is governed by several key institutions or "organs":

1. **The Authority of Heads of State and Government:**
 - **Composition:** Consists of the 15 Presidents/Heads of State of all member countries.
 - **Function:** This is the **supreme** decision-making body. It meets at least once a year. It sets the general policy, and its decisions are final and binding.
2. **The Council of Ministers:**

- **Composition:** Composed of two ministers from each member state (usually the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Finance/Economic Planning).
 - **Function:** It is the "cabinet" of ECOWAS. It meets twice a year to oversee the day-to-day functioning of the community, implement the policies set by the Authority, and approve the budget.
3. **The ECOWAS Commission:**
- **Composition:** The permanent "civil service" or secretariat of ECOWAS, based in Abuja. It is led by a **President of the Commission** (appointed by the Authority for a non-renewable four-year term).
 - **Function:** It handles the day-to-day administration, research, and implementation of all ECOWAS programmes.
4. **The Community Parliament:**
- **Composition:** Composed of 115 members elected from the national assemblies of member states (or, more recently, by direct universal suffrage).
 - **Function:** A representative body that provides a forum for dialogue and public consultation. Its role is largely **advisory and consultative** (it cannot pass binding laws like a national parliament).
5. **The Community Court of Justice:**
- **Composition:** Independent judges.
 - **Function:** It is the judicial organ. It interprets the ECOWAS treaty and settles disputes between member states. Crucially, it also **hears cases of human rights abuses** brought by citizens against their own governments.
6. **Specialized Agencies:**
- **ECOMOG (ECOWAS Cease-Fire Monitoring Group):** The regional peacekeeping force.
 - **WAHO (West African Health Organisation):** Coordinates health policies.
 - **GIABA:** The Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa.

2.4 HIGHLIGHT ACHIEVEMENTS OF ECOWAS

Despite many challenges, ECOWAS is considered one of Africa's most successful regional blocs.

1. **Peace and Security (ECOMOG):** This is its most significant achievement.
 - **Liberia (1990s):** ECOMOG successfully intervened to end the brutal civil war.
 - **Sierra Leone (1990s):** ECOMOG intervened to stop the RUF rebellion.
 - **Guinea-Bissau (1999):** Intervened to restore peace.
 - **The Gambia (2017):** ECOMOG forces (led by Senegal and Nigeria) intervened to force the long-time dictator, Yahya Jammeh, to step down after he lost an election, thus enforcing a democratic outcome.
2. **Free Movement of People (Protocol on Free Movement):**
 - This is the most tangible benefit. It allows an ECOWAS citizen (with a valid travel document) to enter any other member state without a visa and stay for up to 90 days.
 - It has fostered social and cultural integration (e.g., the ECOWAS passport).
3. **Democratic Consolidation:**
 - ECOWAS has adopted a strong "zero-tolerance" policy for unconstitutional changes of government (military coups). It has consistently suspended and sanctioned member states where coups have occurred (e.g., Mali, Guinea, Niger).
4. **Infrastructure:**
 - Some progress has been made on joint projects like the West African Gas Pipeline (WAGP) and the ongoing project for a coastal highway from Lagos to Abidjan.

2.5 IDENTIFY PROBLEMS CONFRONTING ECOWAS

1. **Lack of Political Will / National Interest:** This is the biggest problem. Many states are reluctant to give up their sovereignty. They often prioritize their own *national* interests over the *regional* interest.
2. **Linguistic and Political Blocs:** The old Anglophone/Francophone divide still exists. The Francophone countries also have their own monetary union (the **UEMOA**), which complicates the goal of wider economic integration.
3. **Failure of the Common Currency (Eco):** The goal of launching a single currency has been postponed for decades due to members failing to meet the economic "convergence criteria" (e.g., low inflation, low debt).

4. **Non-Payment of Dues:** Many member states fail to pay their membership contributions on time (or at all), which cripples the ECOWAS budget.
5. **Over-dominance of Nigeria:** Nigeria's massive size (population and economy) causes fear of "domination" among smaller member states. Nigeria also bears the largest financial and military burden (e.g., funding ECOMOG).
6. **Political Instability:** The recent wave of military coups in Mali, Guinea, Burkina Faso, and Niger (the "Sahel Coup Belt") is the greatest modern threat to ECOWAS's authority and democratic principles.
7. **Smuggling:** Porous borders and different tariff policies (e.g., Benin's low tariffs) encourage massive smuggling, which undermines the ECOWAS Trade Liberalization Scheme.

EVALUATION (WEEKS 1–2)

1. What was the "Treaty of Lagos," and when was it signed?
2. List the five main organs (institutions) of ECOWAS.
3. What is the "supreme" decision-making body of ECOWAS?
4. Explain the primary function of the ECOWAS Commission.
5. What is ECOMOG? Name two countries where it has successfully intervened.
6. List and explain three (3) major problems confronting ECOWAS today.

ASSIGNMENT (WEEKS 1–2)

1. "The achievements of ECOWAS in peacekeeping and security far outweigh its failures in economic integration." Write a 2-page essay discussing this statement, using specific examples to support your argument.

WEEKS 3–4: INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION: OPEC

3.1 EXPLAIN THE FORMATION OF OPEC

Context (Pre-OPEC): In the 1950s, the global oil industry was *not* controlled by oil-producing countries. It was completely dominated by the "**Seven Sisters**"—a group of Western oil companies (like Shell, BP, Exxon, Chevron). These companies, not the host countries, set the price of oil and the production levels. They paid only a small royalty to the host countries (like Venezuela or Iran) and often cut the price without even consulting them.

The Formation:

- **The "Spark" (1959-1960):** The Seven Sisters, in a move to compete with Russian oil, unilaterally *cut* the "posted price" of crude oil, which in turn cut the revenues of the producing countries.
- **The Response:** Five of these producing countries decided to unite to take back control of their most valuable natural resource.
- **Founding:** The **Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)** was founded at a conference in **Baghdad, Iraq, in September 1960**.
- **The Five Founding Members:**
 1. Iran
 2. Iraq
 3. Kuwait
 4. Saudi Arabia
 5. Venezuela
- **Nigeria's Entry:** Nigeria recognized the power of this new bloc and joined OPEC in **1971**.
- **Headquarters:** Vienna, Austria.

3.2 OUTLINE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

OPEC's mission is to act as a "**cartel**" (a group of producers who collude to control price and supply). Its main objectives are:

1. **Coordinate and Unify Petroleum Policies:** To ensure members act as a bloc, not as competitors against each other.
2. **Stabilize the Oil Market:** This is the primary goal. To prevent wild price swings (both crashes and spikes) that are bad for both producers and consumers.
3. **Secure a Fair and Stable Price:** To ensure a "fair price" for crude oil and a "steady, predictable income" for the member countries.
4. **Protect Member Interests:** To defend the sovereignty of member states over their own natural resources.
5. **Ensure a Regular Supply:** To ensure a stable and efficient supply of oil to consuming nations.

3.3 EXPLAIN ORGANS OF OPEC

1. **The Conference:**
 - **Composition:** The Oil Ministers from all member countries.
 - **Function:** This is the **supreme** authority of OPEC. It meets twice a year (or more, in emergencies) to set the organization's overall policy. Its most important job is to set the **production quotas** (output limits) for each member.
2. **The Board of Governors:**
 - **Composition:** Governors (representatives) appointed by each member state.
 - **Function:** It is the "cabinet" that implements the decisions of the Conference and manages the organization's budget.
3. **The Secretariat:**
 - **Composition:** The permanent "civil service" of OPEC, based in Vienna.
 - **Function:** Led by the **Secretary-General**, it handles the day-to-day administration, and its **Research Division** provides the critical data and economic analysis that the Conference uses to make its decisions.

3.4 HIGHLIGHT ACHIEVEMENTS OF OPEC

1. **The 1973 Oil Crisis (Its Finest Hour):**
 - **Context:** The Yom Kippur War (Egypt/Syria vs. Israel).

- **Action:** Arab members of OPEC (OAPEC) declared an **oil embargo** (ban) on the USA and other Western nations that supported Israel.
 - **Result:** They cut production. The price of oil *quadrupled* (400% increase) in just a few months.
 - **Significance:** This was a massive shift in global power. It proved that the "Third World" (developing countries) could control their resources and challenge the West. This event is the direct cause of Nigeria's "**Oil Boom**" in the 1970s.
2. **Price Management:** OPEC has, at various times (e.g., 2008, 2020), successfully *stabilized* or *raised* oil prices by agreeing to massive, coordinated production cuts.
 3. **Sovereignty:** OPEC successfully shifted control of the oil industry from the "Seven Sisters" (MNCs) to the *producer states*. This led to the creation of NNPC in Nigeria, as the state took majority control.
 4. **Data and Research:** OPEC's Research Division is a world-class source of data on the global energy market.

3.5 DISCUSS PROBLEMS CONFRONTING OPEC

OPEC's power has declined since its 1970s peak.

1. **Internal Conflicts (Lack of Unity):** This is the biggest weakness of any cartel.
 - **Political Rivalries:** OPEC is often split by politics, especially the rivalry between **Saudi Arabia** (which has a huge capacity) and **Iran**.
 - **Quota Cheating:** Members (especially those in economic trouble, like Nigeria) have a strong incentive to *cheat* on their production quota. They secretly pump *more* oil to get more revenue, but this oversupply crashes the price for everyone.
2. **The Rise of Non-OPEC Producers:** OPEC no longer has a monopoly.
 - **The USA (Shale Oil):** The "Shale Revolution" has made the US the world's largest oil producer, outside of OPEC's control.
 - **Russia:** Another massive producer (now an ally in "OPEC+," but still a rival).
 - This means that even if OPEC cuts production, these non-OPEC countries can just pump more, taking OPEC's market share.
3. **The Global Shift to Renewable Energy:** This is the long-term, existential threat.

- As the world (especially Europe and China) moves towards electric cars (EVs) and green energy to fight climate change, the *long-term demand* for oil is projected to fall.
- This will make OPEC's job of managing prices much harder.

EVALUATION (WEEKS 3–4)

1. Why was OPEC formed in 1960? What were the "Seven Sisters"?
2. What are the two (2) primary aims of OPEC?
3. What is the "Conference," and what is its most important decision?
4. Describe the 1973 Oil Crisis and its impact on Nigeria.
5. List three (3) major problems that challenge OPEC's effectiveness today.

ASSIGNMENT (WEEKS 3–4)

1. "OPEC is a cartel." Explain this statement.
2. Write a one-page essay on the topic: "Is Nigeria's membership in OPEC still a benefit, or is it now a burden?"

WEEK 5: MDGS & NEPAD

5.1 MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGS)

A. Explain the Meaning of MDGs

- **What:** The **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)** were a set of **8** time-bound, global goals adopted by all 189 United Nations member states (including Nigeria) in the year **2000**.
- **The Target:** The deadline for achieving these goals was **2015**.
- **The Purpose:** They represented an unprecedented global partnership to fight poverty in its many dimensions. They were a "blueprint" for development for the 21st century.
- **The 8 Goals:**
 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.
 2. Achieve universal primary education.
 3. Promote gender equality and empower women.
 4. Reduce child mortality.
 5. Improve maternal health.
 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases.
 7. Ensure environmental sustainability.
 8. Develop a global partnership for development.

B. Identify Achievements of MDGs by 2015

- **Global Achievements (A Major Success):**
 - The world *met* Goal 1: The number of people living in extreme poverty was *cut in half* (from 1.9 billion in 1990 to 836 million in 2015).
 - Primary school enrolment in developing regions reached 91%.
 - Global child mortality rate fell by more than half.
 - Access to improved drinking water (Goal 7) was achieved for 2.6 billion people.
- **Nigeria's Achievements (Mixed/Poor):**
 - Nigeria did *not* meet most of the targets.

- **Success:** Nigeria *did* make significant progress in reducing child mortality and achieving universal primary school enrolment (though quality was an issue).
- **Failure:** Nigeria *failed* to meet the goals for poverty eradication, maternal health, and environmental sustainability.
- **Legacy:** The MDGs were replaced in 2015 by the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, a more ambitious set of 17 goals for the year 2030.

5.2 NEPAD (NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT)

A. Describe the term NEPAD

- **What:** NEPAD is an economic development programme of the **African Union (AU)**. It was launched in 2001.
- **Key Feature:** It was a *vision and framework* developed by *African leaders, for Africa*. It was not a plan imposed by the West (like the SAPs).
- **The "Grand Bargain":** NEPAD was based on a "grand bargain" between Africa and the developed world:
 - **Africa's Pledge:** African leaders pledged to uphold **good governance, democracy, human rights, and fight corruption**.
 - **The "Ask":** In return, they asked the developed world for **increased foreign aid, debt relief, fairer trade, and foreign direct investment**.

B. Outline Aims of NEPAD

1. **To eradicate poverty** in Africa.
2. To place African countries on a path of **sustainable growth and development**.
3. To halt the marginalization of Africa in the globalization process and **integrate the continent into the global economy**.
4. To empower women.
5. To promote **good governance** and regional cooperation as the foundation for development.
6. To achieve **food security** and invest in infrastructure (especially ICT, Energy, and Transport).

- **Key Mechanism: The APRM**

- The **African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)** was the *most innovative* part of NEPAD.
- It was a voluntary system where African leaders would "review" each other's performance on good governance and human rights. This was meant to create "peer pressure" for reform.

EVALUATION (WEEK 5)

1. What were the MDGs, and what was their 2015 deadline?
2. What new set of goals replaced the MDGs in 2015?
3. What does NEPAD stand for?
4. Explain the "Grand Bargain" that was the foundation of the NEPAD framework.
5. What is the "African Peer Review Mechanism" (APRM)?

ASSIGNMENT (WEEK 5)

1. Research the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that replaced the MDGs.
2. List five (5) of the SDGs, and in one sentence for each, explain why it is a critical goal for Nigeria.

WEEK 6: E-GOVERNMENT, LEADERSHIP AND FOLLOWERSHIP

6.1 E-GOVERNMENT

A. Explain the Meaning of E-Government

- **E-Government** (Electronic Government) is the use of **Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)**—such as the internet, mobile devices, and computers—to deliver government services to citizens, businesses, and other government agencies.
- It is the move from "paper-based" government to "digital" government.

B. Give Examples of E-Government in Nigeria

1. Identity Management:

- **BVN (Bank Verification Number):** Links all your bank accounts to one identity.
- **NIN (National Identification Number):** A single digital identity for all citizens.

2. Financial Services:

- **REMITA:** The single payment gateway used by citizens to pay all government fees (e.g., for passports, school fees, customs duties).
- **IPPIS:** The Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System (used to pay federal civil servants, aimed at removing "ghost workers").

3. Citizen Services:

- **JAMB Portal:** Used for university admissions, from registration to checking results.
- **CAC (Corporate Affairs Commission) Portal:** Used to register a new business online.
- **Passport Application:** Applying and paying for a Nigerian passport online.

4. Elections:

- **INEC's BVAS (Bimodal Voter Accreditation System):** A device that uses fingerprints and facial recognition to accredit voters.
- **IREV (INEC Result Viewing Portal):** Uploads polling unit results for public viewing.

C. Discuss Advantages and Disadvantages of E-Government

Advantages:

1. **Efficiency and Speed:** Services are delivered much faster (e.g., registering a business can take 24 hours online, vs. 6 months manually).
2. **Transparency:** E-government (especially in payments, like REMITA) creates a clear digital trail. This makes it harder to divert or steal money.
3. **Reduces Petty Corruption:** It removes the face-to-face contact with "the man in the window," who might demand a bribe.
4. **Convenience and Accessibility:** Citizens can access services 24/7 from their homes or phones.
5. **Cost-Saving:** In the long run, it reduces the cost of "paperwork," "ghost workers," and physical offices.

Disadvantages (Challenges):

1. **The Digital Divide:** A large portion of the population (especially in rural areas) lacks access to the internet, smartphones, or the digital skills needed to use e-government services.
2. **Poor Infrastructure:** Relies heavily on **stable electricity** and **reliable internet**, both of which are major challenges in Nigeria.
3. **Cybersecurity Risks:** A centralized digital system (like a national ID database) is a high-value target for hackers. A breach can be catastrophic.
4. **High Initial Cost:** Building, securing, and maintaining these platforms is very expensive.
5. **Resistance to Change:** Both from older citizens (who are not "digital natives") and from corrupt officials (who stand to lose their "cut" from the old manual system).

6.2 LEADERSHIP AND FOLLOWERSHIP

A. Describe Leadership and Followership

- **Leadership:** The ability, art, or process of **influencing** a group of people (followers) to identify and pursue a common goal with enthusiasm and commitment. A leader sets the *vision* and *direction*.
- **Followership:** The ability, art, or process of **supporting** a leader and working *with* other members of the group to achieve the common goal. A follower *implements* the vision.
- **The Relationship:** Leadership and followership are *not* separate; they are a *symbiotic partnership*. There can be no leader without followers, and no followers without a leader.
Good followers create good leaders, and vice-versa.

B. Discuss Qualities of a Good Leader

1. **Integrity and Honesty:** The most important. Must be trustworthy and "practice what they preach."
2. **Vision:** Has a clear, long-term, and inspiring idea of where the group is going.
3. **Competence:** Has the knowledge, skills, and experience to do the job.
4. **Empathy and Compassion:** Understands and cares about the needs and welfare of the followers.
5. **Courage and Decisiveness:** Is not afraid to make difficult decisions.
6. **Accountability:** Takes responsibility for failures, not just successes.
7. **Good Communication:** Can clearly articulate the vision and listen to feedback.
8. **Selflessness:** Puts the group's interest above their own personal gain.

C. Explain Roles of Leaders and Followers in Politics

Roles of Leaders (Government)	Roles of Followers (The Citizenry)
1. Set the Vision: Formulate national policy (e.g., a 5-year development plan).	1. Participate: Vote in elections, attend rallies, pay attention to issues.
2. Provide Resources: Create the budget and allocate resources (e.g., to build schools).	2. Be Loyal and Obey the Law: Pay taxes, obey traffic laws, respect national symbols.
3. Protect the People: Maintain law and order (military, police).	3. Hold Leaders Accountable (Constructive Criticism): This is the <i>most important</i> role.
4. Make Decisions: Make the final, tough	4. Provide Feedback: Tell leaders what is (and

calls on policy and governance.	is not) working in the community.
5. Be Accountable: Explain their actions to the people and to parliament.	5. Defend the Nation: Be patriotic and (if needed) serve in the armed forces.

The "Followership Problem": Nigeria's problems are often described as a "followership problem" as well. If followers (citizens) are apathetic, sell their votes for a bag of rice, and only support leaders from their own ethnic group, they *create* the environment for bad leadership to thrive.

EVALUATION (WEEK 6)

1. What is E-Government? List two examples in Nigeria.
2. State three advantages and two disadvantages of E-Government.
3. Define "Leadership" and "Followership."
4. List five (5) qualities of a good leader.
5. What is the *most important* role of a follower in a democracy?

ASSIGNMENT (WEEK 6)

1. "Nigeria's problem is not just a 'leadership crisis' but also a 'followership crisis'."
2. Write a one-page essay on this topic, arguing *for* or *against* this statement. Use specific examples.

WEEK 7: MIDTERM TEST / BREAK

This week is for the Midterm Test, covering all topics from Weeks 1-6, and the Midterm Break.



WEEKS 8–11: CONTINUATION / PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS (SSCE REVISION)

This extended period is dedicated to **SSCE Revision** and applying the term's concepts to practical, exam-style case studies. The core content is complete, and the focus now shifts to synthesis and analysis.

8.1 CASE STUDY 1: THE NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR (1967–1970)

This is a core topic in SSCE Government. It is a practical case study of what happens when leadership, followership, and national unity (covered this term) fail.

- **Remote Causes:**

1. **Amalgamation (1914):** Lumping diverse, rival nations into one "artificial" state.
2. **Regionalism:** The "tripod" structure (North, West, East) where the three major ethnic groups (Hausa-Fulani, Yoruba, Igbo) controlled the regions, leading to a "zero-sum game" for power at the centre.
3. **1963 Census Crisis:** A controversial census that was seen as flawed, heightening fears of political domination.
4. **1964/65 Election Crises:** Massive rigging, violence, and the "Wild, Wild West" led to a total breakdown of law and order.

- **Immediate Causes:**

1. **January 15, 1966 Coup:** Led by (mostly Igbo) "Majors." It was bloody. Key Northern and Western leaders (Balewa, Sardauna, Akintola) were killed, while Igbo leaders were spared. This led to it being seen as an "Igbo coup."
2. **Ironsi's Unification Decree (Decree 34, 1966):** General Aguiyi-Ironsi (an Igbo) abolished the federal system. This was the "last straw" for the North, who saw it as confirmation of an Igbo plot to dominate Nigeria.
3. **July 29, 1966 Counter-Coup:** Northern officers staged a "revenge coup," killing Ironsi. Lt. Col. Yakubu Gowon (a Northerner, but a Christian from a minority) was made Head of State.
4. **Massacres (Pogroms):** Mass killings of Igbo civilians in the North led to a mass exodus of Igbos back to the East.

5. **Aburi Accord (1967):** A "last-ditch" meeting in Aburi, Ghana, where leaders agreed to a *confederation* (a very weak centre). This agreement was disputed upon their return.
 6. **Creation of 12 States (May 27, 1967):** Gowon's political masterstroke. He broke the 4 regions into 12 states. This (a) broke the North's monopoly and (b) *liberated* the non-Igbo minorities (who lived in the oil-rich areas) from the Eastern Region.
 7. **Secession (May 30, 1967):** The Eastern leader, Lt. Col. Emeka Ojukwu, saw the 12-state decree as a final act of aggression and declared the independence of the **Republic of Biafra**.
 8. **War began** in July 1967.
- **Consequences:**
 1. Massive loss of life (1-2 million).
 2. Total destruction of infrastructure in the East.
 - **Political:**
 - End of regionalism; creation of a powerful, dominant Federal Government.
 - Prolonged military rule in Nigeria.
 - **Gowon's "3 Rs":** Reconciliation, Rehabilitation, and Reconstruction (the post-war policy).

8.2 CASE STUDY 2: PUBLIC CORPORATIONS (PRIVATIZATION VS. COMMERCIALIZATION)

This is a practical application of economic policy and the drive to reform government (a key NEPAD goal).

- **Public Corporation:** A company owned and funded by the government (State-Owned Enterprise - SOE) to provide essential services (e.g., NEPA, NITEL, Nigeria Airways).
- **Problems (Why Reform?):**
 - Massive Inefficiency (poor service).
 - High Corruption (a "drain" on the national budget).
 - Nepotism (jobs for "family," not for merit).

- Poor management.
- **The Solutions:**
 1. **Privatization:** The government *sells* the corporation to private owners.
 - *Example:* The sale of NITEL, leading to the GSM revolution (MTN, Glo, etc.).
 - *Pro:* Brings in private-sector efficiency, capital, and technology.
 - *Con:* Can lead to price hikes for consumers (as the goal is profit, not service) and job losses.
 2. **Commercialization:** The government *re-organizes* the corporation to run *like* a business, but *still owns it*. It is expected to make a profit.
 - *Example:* The NNPC being transformed into the NNPC Ltd. under the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA).
 - *Pro:* Keeps a strategic asset in state hands, but (in theory) makes it efficient.
 - *Con:* Can be "fake" reform if political interference continues.

8.3 SSCE ESSAY PREPARATION: "HOW TO ANSWER"

- **Verb is Key:** "List" = List. "Explain" = Define the term, give 2-3 sentences of explanation, and (most importantly) give a **Nigerian example**.
- **Example Question:** "Discuss four (4) major problems confronting ECOWAS."
- **Bad Answer:**
 1. Language
 2. Money
 3. Nigeria is too big
 4. Coups
- **Good Answer (SS3 Level):**
 - (*Intro: Define ECOWAS...*)
 - **1. Political Instability:** A major problem is the high rate of political instability and military coups, such as the recent coups in Mali, Guinea, and Niger. This

forces the bloc to spend its resources on sanctions and peacekeeping (ECOMOG) rather than on economic integration.

- **2. Linguistic and Monetary Division:** The bloc is still divided. The Francophone countries have their own currency union (UEMOA) and are often seen as having a different agenda from the Anglophone countries (WAMZ). This has made the goal of a single currency (the Eco) almost impossible to achieve.
- **3. Non-Payment of Dues:** Many member states fail to pay their membership contributions. This cripples the ECOWAS budget, meaning Nigeria (as the "big brother") is often forced to bear an unfair financial burden for the community's operations.
- **4. Non-Implementation of Protocols:** While ECOWAS has good policies on paper (like the Trade Liberalization Scheme), they are often *not* implemented by member states. Porous borders, high levels of smuggling, and countries protecting their own national interests often undermine the goal of a common market.

EVALUATION (WEEKS 8–11)

(This section is a "Mock Essay Bank" for SSCE practice.)

1. (a) What is E-Government? (b) Highlight two (2) advantages and two (2) disadvantages of its implementation in Nigeria.
2. (a) Define Leadership. (b) Explain four (4) qualities of a good leader.
3. "The main failure of ECOWAS is its inability to create a common currency." Discuss.
4. (a) What is OPEC? (b) Explain three (3) major problems facing OPEC today.
5. (a) What are the MDGs? (b) State three of its 8 goals.
6. Explain the "Grand Bargain" of the NEPAD framework.
7. Differentiate between "Privatization" and "Commercialization," using a specific Nigerian example for each.

ASSIGNMENT (WEEKS 8–11)

1. Using your notes from SS2 and SS3, write a full answer (2-page minimum) to the following SSCE question:

"Trace the remote and immediate causes of the Nigerian Civil War (1967-1970)."

WEEK 12: REVISION

- **Final Review:** This week is for a comprehensive review of all topics from the Second Term in preparation for the final examination.
- **Key Topics Checklist:**
 - **ECOWAS:** Formation (Treaty of Lagos), Aims, Organs (Authority, Council, Commission, Court, Parliament), Achievements (ECOMOG), Problems (Divisions, Coups).
 - **OPEC:** Formation (1960, Baghdad), Aims, Organs (Conference), Achievements (1973 Oil Boom), Problems (Quotas, Shale).
 - **MDGs & NEPAD:** MDGs (8 goals, 2000-2015, replaced by SDGs). NEPAD (AU, 2001, African-led, "Grand Bargain," APRM).
 - **E-Government:** Definition, Examples (BVN, REMITA, JAMB), Pros/Cons (Efficiency vs. Digital Divide).
 - **Leadership/Followership:** Definitions, qualities, and the "symbiotic" roles of each.
 - **Case Studies:** (a) Nigerian Civil War (causes, consequences), (b) Privatization vs. Commercialization.
- **Exam Strategy:** Focus on writing clear, well-structured essay answers. Use the "Define, Explain, Example" method for all "explain" or "discuss" questions.