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# UNIT 7 TEACHING-LEARNING PROCESS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

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## Structure

- 7.1 Introduction
- 7.2 Objectives
- 7.3 Meaning, Nature and Scope of Political Science as a Discipline of Knowledge
  - 7.3.1 Meaning of Political Science
  - 7.3.2 Nature and Scope of Political Science
- 7.4 Aims and Objectives of Teaching Political Science
  - 7.4.1 Objectives of Teaching Political Science
- 7.5 Teaching-Learning Methods in Political Science
  - 7.5.1 Lecture Method
  - 7.5.2 Discussion Method
  - 7.5.3 Debate as a Method of Teaching
  - 7.5.4 Seminar Method
  - 7.5.5 Panel Discussion
  - 7.5.6 Individual and Group Projects
- 7.7 Teaching-Learning Resources
  - 7.6.1 Constitution of India
  - 7.6.2 Acts of Parliament and Legislatures
  - 7.6.3 Charts
  - 7.6.4 Atlas, Maps(Political) and Globe
  - 7.6.5 Newspapers
  - 7.6.6 Magazines
  - 7.6.7 Movies
  - 7.6.8 A-V Programmes, Internet and Multimedia
- 7.7 Let Us Sum Up
- 7.8 References and Suggested Readings
- 7.9 Answers to Check Your Progress

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## 7.1 INTRODUCTION

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The human society is a complex structure. For the existence and maintenance of human society, individuals, who are a part of it, are required to be aware of its basic elements and its functioning. In order to maintain the essence of a particular society, individuals are also required to follow certain rules and regulations and submit to an authority which can be trusted. The subject of Political Science makes an individual aware of how some of the essential functions in/ of the society are performed and how people govern and are governed in the societal set-up. Not only this, there are several other aspects which fall under the domain of the discipline of Political Science which will be explained in this unit.

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## 7.2 OBJECTIVES

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After going through this unit, you will be able to:

- explain the meaning and growth of the discipline of Political Science;
- describe the scope of teaching Political Science at secondary level;
- develop a critical understanding about the aims and objectives of teaching Political Science in a Democratic Secular Country;
- discuss the need for teaching-learning of Political Science;
- describe the various teaching-learning methods in Political Science; and
- explain the role and significance of several teaching- learning resources in Political Science.

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## 7.3 MEANING, NATURE AND SCOPE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AS A DISCIPLINE OF KNOWLEDGE

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### 7.3.1 Meaning of Political Science

Political Science is a social science discipline concerned with the study of the state, nation, government and politics, and policies of government. Aristotle defined it as the study of the state. It deals extensively with the theory and practice of politics, and the analysis of political systems, political behavior and political culture. Political Science intersects with other fields, including economics, law, sociology, history, anthropology, public administration, public policy, national politics, international relations, comparative politics, psychology, political organization and political theory.

Although it was codified in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when all the social sciences were established, Political Science has ancient roots; indeed, it originated almost 2,500 years ago with the works of Plato and Aristotle. The term ‘Political Science’ is intimately related to the word “Politics”, which itself is derived from the Greek word, “Polis”, that means a city-state, the general form of political organisation in ancient Greece. The origin of political thought in the west, therefore, goes back to Greece.

### Evolution of Political Science as a discipline

Politics is an ongoing process which aims at achieving the well-being of individuals in the organized society by solving their problems to the greatest extent possible. Aristotle called politics as a “master science”. For David Easton, politics is an attempt at “authoritative allocation of values”.

Robert Dahl and Harold J. Laski explains politics as a special case in the exercise of power. Michael Oakeshott in his book “Political Education” attempts to define political activity as an activity in which human beings related to one another as members of a civil association think and speak about arrangements and conditions of their associations from the point of view of their desirability of the proposed changes and act in such a manner as to promote the changes.

Thus, the meaning of the word 'politics' remains unclear and is used with different meanings by different people, some political thinkers distinguish between political science as a systematic study of the theoretical aspects of political process and politics as the practical side of the social process.

Seeley says, "Political Science investigates the phenomena of Government as Political Economy deals with Wealth, Biology with life. Algebra with numbers and Geometry with space and magnitude."

David E. Apter - "Political Science as a discipline is concerned with the problem of ends" the goals of the good society, the means of governing in such manner as to realize the good of society. The activities of the ruled (the public) especially political actions personified in voting, public opinion and attitude formation and the underlying connection between society and government, its key concern power, how it is shared through participation and representation and how it is affected by growth and change constitute the discipline of Political Science.

Apparently, Political Science is not the only discipline which studies human beings living in an organized society and hence it cannot exist in isolation or in a vacuum. Political science studies political psychology of human being and this psychology and tendency is influenced by other factors, pressures and so on. which are social, economic and geographical.

Paul Janet aptly observes that Political Science is closely connected with political economy or the science of wealth; with law, either natural or positive, which occupies itself principally with the relations of citizens to one another; with history which furnishes the facts of which it has had with philosophy and morals which give to it a part of its principles.

### **7.3.2 Nature and Scope of Political Science**

The nature of Political Science is dynamic as it includes the study of wide range of things so it keeps growing and developing. It includes not only the study of the government and the state but also the role of individuals in the state. By the term 'scope', we mean the breadth, comprehensiveness, variety and extent of the learning experiences, the utility in the real life situations, provided through the teaching of social science. The subject is important for its subject matter as well as the skills it develops among the students as a responsible citizen of the society. It ensures intelligibility and extension of experiences rather than mere verbal memorization of facts. The world is small and interdependent. What is happening in most remote areas of the globe affects us considerably. The world is united in terms of communication, transportation and fear for the future. The world is also divided in the way that unites people and nations in favor of or against an ideology, an economic alliance or a defence alliance. Obviously, one cannot be a good citizen in today's world without a general understanding of some of the major realities of the world as a whole.

Political Science includes the study of state and the nation and neither the state nor the nation can be taught in isolation. Thus, the scope of social sciences and especially Political Science is very wide because it includes the knowledge of every sphere of life as may be called social, political, economic, religious, cultural, psychological, philosophical, etc.

Political Science is, thus, not a separate and independent discipline but is only a part of the social sciences. Political Science, being a social science, is interdisciplinary by nature, which implies that it draws upon other social disciplines or branches of knowledge and thus dependent on them in various ways. It includes-

i) **Study of Cause and Effect Relationship-**

In our present day life every event or happening is the result of the efforts done in the past. Our social, economic, geographical, cultural and political conditions are the results of the human activities as well as the environmental activities of the past and the working of today will affect the conditions in the future. The chain of cause and effect will go on from decade to decade. Due to this relationship, we can call it as a science because science also relates with cause and effect as well as what is and what ought to be. In the same way with the help of social sciences, students will be able to understand the present conditions and their cause and also to predict the future of the world.

ii) **A study of Human Relationships-**

The relationship between the human beings can be studied under the following heads-

- a) People and People
- b) People and institutions
- c) People and earth
- d) People and goods

This explains that a peaceful world is based upon mutual respect and understanding the relationships between people and people, between people and institutions. The goals of teaching Political Science are to integrate school and society by taking an active role in social institutions, and to reveal pattern of behavior indicating democracy as a way of life such as accepting and valuing others.

iii) **Study of human beings in their surroundings-**

Social Sciences deal with the study of human beings, their way of living in the present and past, their significant achievements, their institutions and problems of life they face with the increased amount of information pertaining to new items and happenings reported in different media. It helps the learners become proficient in identifying the places where the events take place.

iv) **Study of Society-**

The subject matter of social sciences consists of different traditions, customs, rituals, and ideas of the society developed from the ancient period to the present time. The society starts from the family and goes on to the international level.

v) **Functional Study of Natural Sciences-**

Social Science and Natural Sciences are interrelated and interdependent.

The amount and thoughts and complexities of knowledge in social sciences are vastly greater than in natural sciences. Although human being has built a great material civilization, s/he has not been able to apply her/his reason to solve the problems of a complex industrial age.

Only through the application of reason and thoughts, the social scientists will be able to extend the boundaries of knowledge and many devise method that will end the lag in social process. Scientists get ideas from the society for their inventions and discoveries will be proved only when they are applicable in the society.

To sum up, political science is related to all social sciences. Its study is incomplete without realizing its relationship with other areas of social sciences. While maintaining its separate identity, it works in close relation with other disciplines in social sciences for successful outcome of educational efforts.

### **Political Science Curriculum**

Curriculum is the sum total of all planned and directed purposeful learning activities and experience provided by the school to the learners for achieving the desired learning objectives, Curriculum includes any materials or activities that affect the learning, development, attitudes, skills and behavior of the children in the school.

Curriculum in Political Science includes the subject matter and experiences which are specifically intended to develop an understanding of the working of the state, the government and various political and civic organisations. Curriculum is also intended to develop appropriate skills and attitudes relating to human relations and social and political institutions.

### **Principles of Curriculum Construction**

The following principles may be kept in view while constructing the curriculum of Political Science.

#### **1) Child Centered Curriculum**

The subject matter should not be selected at random. It should be age and stage appropriate taking into consideration the background, diversity, interests and aptitudes of the students.

#### **2) Inclusion of Direct Learning Situations and Activities.**

Efforts should be made to include direct learning situations and activities in the course. Educational trips, visits to various institutions of social interest as markets, panchayats at work, town hall, power stations, dams, cooperative societies, places of historical importance... are more educative than verbal lessons. Similarly, self-government in the school and various projects planned, executed and evaluated by the adolescents themselves form the foundations of real learning for them.

#### **3) Due Scope for Current Affairs**

The curriculum must be flexible, to some extent, to accommodate the inclusion of current affairs which are yet to happen. Sometimes, the current affairs are the most important for educational purpose: current news may be exploited fully for giving comprehensive understanding of the environment.

**4) Promotion of International Understanding**

Modern inventions have practically removed the limitations put forth by time and space. The globe is so contracted today that the whole world has come closer. No nation can afford to exist in exclusion. Far off people are our next door neighbor due to the modern means of transport .Therefore, our children must have an understanding of their neighbours and their needs. We should wipe out war itself from the minds of men and women. It is possible through international understanding and the respect for humanity.

**5) Cultivation of the Critical and Constructive Attitude**

India follows democratic social structure. In a democracy all citizens are masters of their fate individually as well as collectively. They have to decide things for themselves so as to develop critical thinking. They should be able to make wise and informed decisions and choices. They should be able to follow causal relations of events scientifically. These relations should be kept in view while selecting the material for the curriculum.

**Check Your Progress 1**

- Note:** a) Write your answers in the space given below.  
b) Compare them with those given at the end of the unit.

1) What is meant by the term “Political Science”?

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2) How is Political Science dependent on other social disciplines or branches of knowledge?

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3) What are the major principles to be kept in view while constructing the curriculum of Political Science?

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## 7.4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF TEACHING POLITICAL SCIENCE

The main aim of teaching Political Science is to help individuals develop into responsible, critical, reflective and productive citizens.

### 7.4.1 Objectives of Teaching Political Science

Students will be able to:

- understand the need for learning of Political Science in secondary classes.
- develop a critical understanding about the aims and objectives of Political Science in a Democratic and Secular country.
- develop a critical understanding about the nature and philosophy of Political Science and its interface with society.
- engage with the classroom processes in Political Science.
- understand the nature of Political Science curriculum and its Pedagogical issues.
- understand the basic ideals of our constitution.
- develop as responsible and active citizens in a democracy.
- understand the significance of national integration.
- understand the importance of international relations.
- realize the significance of peace and the protection of basic human rights.
- organize co-curricular activities and use community resources for learning Political Science.

## 7.5 TEACHING – LEARNING METHODS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Teaching-learning in Political Science takes place with the use of certain approaches which make it effective.

Approaches to Teaching-Learning Political Science	
i) Inductive Approach	ii) Deductive Approach
iii) Constructivist Approach	iv) Interdisciplinary Approach

- i) **Inductive Approach** to teaching- learning focuses on moving from particular instances to general conclusion. While adopting this approach students are provided with concrete examples and with their help they are able to arrive at certain conclusions or principles.
- ii) **Deductive Approach** to teaching-learning involves providing students with principles and generalizations and asking them to verify these with the help of particular examples.
- iii) **Constructivist Approach** to teaching-learning is based on the principle of learning which emphasizes constructing knowledge by linking with previous

knowledge. In this approach knowledge and learning are acquired together by both teacher and learners and emphasis is shifted from teaching to learning.

- iv) **Interdisciplinary Approach** to teaching-learning aims at creating connections between the subject of political science with other disciplines such as, history, geography, economics, sociology, mathematics, natural sciences, languages, art, etc.

These approaches are supplemented by a number of methods, techniques and strategies of teaching-learning. A Method is a means of procedure which a teacher follows to organize teaching-learning and make learning easy and effective. It is composed of several important steps which are logically and systematically arranged by the teacher. Method is “the process of planning, guiding, sharing and evaluating learning with a group of students”. It recognizes the importance of the learners in the teaching-learning process, considers their interests individually and lays stress on education as being a constant process of reorganizing and restructuring experiences.

A Method which is successful with one group of students may not be successful when used by the same teacher with different group of students. Method must, therefore, be flexible and workable. There should be no rigid formalism in a teaching procedure.

There are a number of methods which are used in the teaching of Political Science-

<b>Traditional Methods of Teaching-Learning Political Science</b>	<b>Modern Methods of Teaching-Learning Political Science</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lecture</li><li>• Question-Answer</li><li>• Story telling</li><li>• Textbook</li><li>• Case Study</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lived Experiences</li><li>• Community Resources</li><li>• Comparative</li><li>• Current events</li><li>• Debate</li><li>• Dialogues</li><li>• Discussion</li><li>• Dramatization/Role Play</li><li>• Empirical Research</li><li>• Excursion</li><li>• Field Research, Visits to institution of government bodies</li><li>• Individual and Group projects</li><li>• Observation</li><li>• Panel discussion</li><li>• Problem Solving</li><li>• Reflective Enquiry</li><li>• Report Writing</li><li>• Seminar</li><li>• Sources</li></ul>



Some of the significant Methods are described here:

### 7.5.1 Lecture Method

Lecture is the oldest method of teaching. In this teacher goes on pouring out information and students go on listening and taking notes. This method is best suited for large classes with senior students. Students remain passive listeners; they fail to become active partners in the bipolar process of teaching and learning.

The positive features of Lecture Method is that it can be immediately repeated and modified and it gives students good training and experience in learning by hearing. It also saves time and energy of the students and is a good means of stimulating them.

On the other hand, the demerits of Lecture Method are that it places students in the position of passive listeners and it cannot be used effectively by all types of teachers. Many teachers do not know how to lecture in an effective way and it may become monotonous and dull as there are very few teachers who can stimulate interest through their talks.

### 7.5.2 Discussion Method

The main purpose of discussion is to learn and educate individuals in the process of “group thinking” and “collective decision”. Discussion is an important means of exchanging ideas with others and “often results in pooling opinions and joint action”. Agreement is the declared purpose of a discussion. It is always organized and undertaken in a disciplined atmosphere.

The essential parts of a discussion are:

- i) **A Leader**- is the teacher himself/ herself. But the teacher must not dominate the entire scene; s/he should act as a prompt guide when the students face with difficulties.
- ii) **The Group**- is the students who are generally composed of all types of temperament and varieties of mind. The teacher’s duty is to encourage every student to participate in the discussion.
- iii) **The Problem** or a topic, which is to be discussed.
- iv) **The Content**- is the body of knowledge to be transacted during discussion.. It should also include maps, charts, diagrams, etc.

Discussion is essentially a group work and the teacher is required to ensure that it is held in a cordial atmosphere. Discussion should be promptly guided and controlled. Students should not be allowed to deviate from the main themes of the topic being discussed. No partisan feelings should be allowed to creep in. Highly controversial matters or religious discussion should be generally avoided. Formal discussions may take the form of symposium, debates, panel discussions, etc. They require a lot of pre-planning.

### 7.5.3 Debate as a Method of Teaching

Debate method is widely used for teaching certain topics of Political Science to a large group of people. Teachers often use the debate to effectively increase students’ interests, involvement and participation during tutorial/seminar sessions. When a teacher uses the debate as a framework for learning, s/he hopes to get students to conduct comprehensive research into the topic, gather supporting evidence, engage in collaborative learning, delegate tasks, improve communication

skills, and develop leadership and team-skills- all at one go.(Christudason, 1994). It must have a topic that has scope for argument, i.e. the arguments should be both in favour and against the topic.

In the process of preparing for the debate, students get to know and understand their peers better, they are involved in delegation/sharing of tasks, researching on the issues, collection of material and summarizing the points, . This plays a role in improvement of communication skills and sharpening their ability to see issues from various perspectives. At the end of the day, a larger majority of students would have obtained a better grasp of the topic and learnt not only more, but also more effectively by understanding both pros and cons (Christudason, 1994). This way is preferable to traditional teaching-learning methods, such as passively listening to the teacher's lecture or writing an essay on a topic assigned by the teacher. It is a form of experiential learning which helps students remember well as they are *active* participants in the learning process.

#### 7.5.4 Seminar Method

Seminars are simply a group of people coming together for the discussion and learning of specific techniques and topics. There are keynote speaker and several other speakers in a seminar, and these speakers are usually experts in their own fields, or areas. Several themes are scheduled on each day throughout the seminar, and attendees can usually make their choice of topics from among these scheduled themes.

The seminar method is the most modern and advanced method of teaching. Moreover, a seminar is an advanced group technique which is usually used in higher education. It is an instructional technique as it involves generating a situation for a group to have a guided interaction among themselves on a particular theme.

This method is employed to realize the higher objectives of cognitive and affective domains. The higher learning process requires the interactive and integrated methodologies based on the psychological principles. The seminar method applies such technique of human interaction and intervention with the learning and teaching experiences.

#### 7.5.5 Panel discussion

Panel discussion is a teaching-learning technique in which a few persons carry on the conversation in front of the people. At the end of the conversation people also participate.

The audience put important questions and the experts answer and clarify the points.

**Educational Panel discussions-** These are used in educational institutions to provide factual and conceptual knowledge and clarification of certain theories and principles. Sometimes these are organized to find out the solutions of certain problems (Arora,2008) like the following:

- i) To provide factual information and conceptual knowledge.
- ii) To generate awareness of theories and principles.
- iii) To provide a set of solutions to certain problems.

Members in the Panel Discussion are as follows-

- i) Instructor
- ii) Moderator
- iii) Panelists
- iv) Audience

A Panel Discussion is designed to provide a group an opportunity to hear knowledgeable speakers on a specific issue or a topic, present information and discuss personal views. A panel discussion may help the audience further clarify and evaluate their positions regarding specific issues or topics being discussed and increase their understanding of the positions of others.

Instructional benefits of a panel discussion are the following.:-

- i) It encourages social learning.
- ii) It helps in achieving higher cognitive and affective objectives.
- iii) It is used to develop ability of logical thinking and problem solving.
- iv) It develops capacity to respect others' ideas and views and ability to analyse such ideas and views.

### 7.5.6 Individual and Group Projects

Teaching-learning of Political Science can also take place by assigning individual and group projects to students. Individual project makes the learner complete a task individually and is provided with adequate opportunity to observe and gather information on a particular topic, which thereby leads to acquiring knowledge. Group projects, on the other hand, help students perform certain tasks collectively. In the process, they are able to gather information from various sources and are also given the opportunity to learn from each other.

Field research and visits to institutions of real governmental bodies like Village Panchayat, State Assembly, Parliament, etc. enable students to learn from hands-on experiences, rather than by simply reading or hearing about them. Involvement in a real world experience makes learning more meaningful and permanent compared to regular classroom instructional programs.

Places such as museums, the parliament, courts and several other governmental institutions are repositories of information. The collected artifacts, archival records, pamphlets, models, etc. can play a major role in the up-gradation of the knowledge of learners. They provide students with experiential learning experiences and involvement in a real world experience makes learning more meaningful and permanent.

#### Check Your Progress 2

**Note:** a) Write your answers in the space given below.

b) Compare them with those given at the end of the unit.

4) State two merits and two de-merits of lecture method.

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5) How is the debate method better than the traditional teaching-learning methods?

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## 7.6 TEACHING- LEARNING RESOURCES

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Teaching – learning resources are used to make the teaching-learning process effective and interesting. These resources are used to make things clear and easier to understand. With the use of these resources, the environment of the classroom becomes livelier. Learners become more active and involved when all the senses of an individual are being used in the process of learning. With the help of using teaching-learning resources, certain images related to the topic being taught are created in the minds of learners. Thus, their capacity to think and imagine enhances. They find it easier to connect with what is being taught and are able to retain what they learnt for a longer period of time. In today’s time, several resources are being used to promote effective teaching-learning. Starting from the use of blackboards to multimedia resources, there has been a major growth and development in the forms of teaching-learning resources.

These resources can be grouped into “audio”, “visual” and both “audio-visual”. The audio resources are the ones which make use of the auditory sense of the individual in order to promote learning. Individuals learn by hearing. So listening to radio, audio recordings, songs and so on fall in this category.

On the other hand visual resources make use of the sense of sight in order to promote learning, individuals see something and they learn from it. Blackboard, Globe, Charts, Pictures, PPT, some video clippings and so on can be clubbed under the category of visual teaching-learning resources.

The “audio-visual” resources combine both the hearing and sight sense in order to promote learning. T.V, Movies, Video clips, A-V programmes and so on fall in this category. We discuss some important teaching-learning resources which are used in teaching of political science.

### 7.6.1 Constitution of India

The Constitution of India can prove to be an important teaching-learning resource in a political science classroom. While teaching several topics of political science, it is important for the teacher to explain to the students what our constitution makers had to say about those significant topics.

### 7.6.2 Acts of Parliament and Legislatures

The Acts of Parliament and Legislatures are amended and upgraded from time to time. They are available on websites, archives, books, etc. They can be used as a significant primary resource of knowledge and also to learn the language of

legislation. The teacher can make use of this resource in making the students learn about the functioning of the government and the Indian democracy.

### **7.6.3 Charts**

A common, effective teaching method is to use visual presentations in a classroom. Charts and diagrams are especially helpful, as they enable students to see ideas visually laid out in an organized way. Charts are of several types such as outline charts, flow charts, flip- charts, tabular charts and organizational charts. They can be used in the teaching-learning process of political science for presenting material symbolically or diagrammatically, for introducing a topic, for summarizing some information and for depicting similarities and differences in several themes or views.

### **7.6.4 Atlas, Maps (Political) and Globe**

These are used in explaining the details of boundaries of states, continents and countries. These are helpful in explaining the regional conditions, locations and significance of regional organizations.

### **7.6.5 Newspapers**

The daily newspaper can be used as a significant teaching-learning resource. The socio-political news that is available in the newspapers is of great importance. A political science teacher and a student are supposed to be aware of the significant socio-economic and political developments taking place in our country and also around the globe. The newspaper is a medium through which an individual gets to know about the current happenings. Newspaper articles can be used in the classroom to explain certain concepts and to explain different viewpoints on this.

### **7.6.6 Magazines**

Several magazines provide the readers with important information related to the working of the government, elections, about the main ethos of our constitution, about our country's diverse population, so on and so forth. Magazines can prove to be an important teaching aid in a political science classroom.

### **7.6.7 Movies**

Movies play the role of an interesting and effective teaching- learning aid. They can be used to explain certain concepts to the students and to communicate several vital messages. Certain movies are of great educational value as they are able to present significant information in a creative and interesting manner.

### **7.6.8 A-V Programmes, Internet and Multimedia**

In today's digital era, audio- visual programmes, Internet and multimedia are used in the exchange and growth of knowledge and information. Audio- Visual programmes or instructional material includes LCD Projector, Film Projector, TV, Computer, VCD Player, Virtual Classroom, Multimedia, etc. Multimedia refers to content that uses a combination of different content forms. Multimedia includes a combination of text, audio, still images, animation, video, or interactive content forms.

### Check Your Progress 3

- Note:** a) Write your answers in the space given below.  
b) Compare them with those given at the end of the unit.
- 6) What are the uses of teaching learning resources? Name some Political Science teaching learning resources?
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- 7) Can we use audio-visual resources for the teaching of political science? Explain?
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## 7.7 LET US SUM UP

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In this unit, we explained the meaning, nature and scope of the discipline of Political Science. In order to make the teaching-learning of political science effective, a teacher is required to be aware of the various methods of teaching Political Science. This unit also explains that a Political Science teacher is required to keep her/his knowledge upgraded about the various teaching-learning resources that make teaching-learning of political science more interesting. We also presented how with changing times and growth and development of technology, new teaching-learning resources are being used in the process of teaching.

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## 7.9 ANSWER TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

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- 1) The term ‘Political Science’ is intimately related to the word “Politics”, which itself is derived from the Greek word, “Polis”, which means a city-state, the general form of political organisation in ancient Greece. Political science is a social science discipline concerned with the study of the state, nation, government and politics and policies of government. Aristotle defined it as the study of the state. It deals extensively with the theory and practice of politics, and the analysis of political systems, political behavior and political culture. Political science intersects with other fields, including economics, law, sociology, history, anthropology, public administration, public policy, national politics, international relations, comparative politics, psychology, political organization and political theory.
- 2) Political Science includes the study of state and the nation and neither the state nor the nation can be taught in isolation. Thus, the scope of social sciences and especially political science is very wide because it includes the knowledge of every sphere of life, as may be called social, political, economic, religious, cultural, psychological, philosophical, etc.

Political Science is, thus, not a separate and independent discipline but is only a part of the social sciences. Political Science, being a social science, is interdisciplinary by nature, which implies that it draws upon other social science disciplines or other branches of knowledge and thus dependent on them in various ways. It includes-

- 1) Study of Cause and Effect Relationship
  - 2) A study of Human Relationships
  - 3) Study of Man in his surroundings
  - 4) Study of Society
  - 5) Functional Study of Natural Sciences
- 3) Principles of Curriculum Construction

The following principles may be kept in view while constructing the curriculum of Political Science.



- 1) Child Centered Curriculum
  - 2) Inclusion of Directed learning situation and activities.
  - 3) Due scope for current affairs
  - 4) Promotion of International Understanding
  - 5) Cultivation of the critical and constructive attitude
- 4) Merits of Lecture Method
- Spoken word is more effective than the printed one.
  - It is a good means of stimulating students.
  - De-merits of Lecture Method
  - It places pupils in the position of passive listeners.
  - It cannot be used effectively by all types of teachers. Many teachers do not know how to lecture in an effective way.
- 5) Debate method is different from traditional teaching-learning methods-

Debate method is widely used for teaching certain topics of political science to a large group of people. Teachers often use the debate to effectively increase student involvement and participation during tutorial/seminar sessions. When a teacher uses the debate as a framework for learning, s/he hopes to get students to conduct comprehensive research into the topic, gather supporting evidence, engage in collaborative learning, delegate tasks, improve communication skills, and develop leadership and team-skills—all at one go.

In the process of preparing for the debate, students get to know and understand their peers better, they are involved in delegation/sharing of tasks, researched issues, assimilated material, summarized points, . This plays a role in improvement of communication skills and sharpening their ability to see issues from various perspectives. This way is preferable to traditional teaching/learning methods, such as passively listening to the teacher's 50-minute lecture/drone or writing a 2000-word essay on the topic concerned. It is a form of experiential learning which helps the students to remember well as they are an *active* participant in the learning process.

- 6) Uses of Teaching- Learning resources

Teaching – learning resources are used to make the teaching –learning process effective and interesting. These resources are used to make things clear and easier to understand. With the use of these resources, the environment of the classroom becomes livelier and learners become more active and involved when all the senses of an individual are being used in the process of learning. With the help of using teaching – learning resources, certain images related to the topic being taught are created in the minds of the learners their capacity to think and their imagination increases .They find it easier to connect with what is being taught and are able to retain what they learnt for a longer period of time. In today's time several resources are being used to promote effective teaching-learning. Some of the Political Science teaching-learning resources are the following-

Constitution of India, Acts of Parliament and legislatures, Charts, Maps, Atlas, Globe, Movies, A-V Programmes, Internet, Multimedia etc.

- 7) Audio-Visual resources can be effectively used in the teaching-learning of Political Science. In today's digital era, audio-visual programmes, Internet and multimedia are used in the exchange and growth of knowledge and information. Audio-Visual programmes or instructional material includes LCD Projector, Film Projector, TV, Computer, VCD Player, Virtual Classroom, Multimedia etc. Multimedia refers to content that uses a combination of different content forms. Multimedia includes a combination of text, audio, still images, animation, video, or interactive content forms.

