

TOPIC: GROUPS AND INSTITUTIONS

Terms and Definitions

	Terms	Definitions
1.	Social group	A number of individuals who share a common bond or relationship and have a goal or purpose.
2.	Primary group	Small group, members interact with one another face to face frequently and intimately
3.	Secondary group	Larger group, less frequent and intimate interaction between members
4.	Formal group	A social group with a formal structure, membership requirements and formally chosen leadership
5.	Informal group	A social group with no written rules or membership requirements
6.	Peer group	Group made up of members of the same age or social status who share a close bond
7.	Interest group	An organized collection of people who attempt to influence government policy. E.g. a lobby group, party group.
8.	Voluntary membership group	Are formed to provide some service to the community or to support a good cause. E.g. Red Cross Society
9.	Involuntary membership group	Are groups in which membership is not by individual choice or voluntary. E.g. compulsory military enlistment.
10.	Culture	All the customs, ideas, behaviours and beliefs of a society that have been passed on from generation to generation. The way of life of a society
11.	Institution	(i) Widely shared beliefs, social norms or procedures which satisfy basic needs (ii) A society or organisation created to address the concerns and needs of a given community
12.	Social Control	Is a mechanism used to regulate individuals, groups and organizational behaviour, and is useful to prevent chaos.
13.	Folkways	Traditional patterns of behaviour in society that are learned and practised from childhood. E.g. Religious celebrations- Divali, Christmas, Eid.
14.	Norms	Unwritten rules that define acceptable behaviour in society. e.g. please, thank you, teams shaking hands after a game
15.	Mores	Norms that deal with moral behaviour or practices in society. e.g. do not steal, always speak the truth, do not kill etc.
16.	Laws	Rules that have been set out by the state. E.g. traffic laws, criminal laws, civil laws

