

UNIT 10

Active Community Participation

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- understand the meaning of active community participation.
- realize the necessity and significance of active community participation.
- identify types of active community participation.
- recognize the necessity of participating in school as well as community discipline, neatness and development endeavours.

10.1 Meaning of Active Community Participation



Picture 10.1. Students cleaning school compound

- Explain what the above picture is showing.
- Why and which situation those peoples engaged in sanitation activity?

Problems of Grade 5 “B”

Majority of Grade five “B” students were not convenient about their classroom. Since a given teacher was absent for last period, they agreed to use his period for meeting. At the beginning of the meeting, Malabe, who is not trustworthy and like to play, left the class by groaning as a sick person

deliberately. Her brother Bona also left knowingly by supporting her from the class.

The first speakers of the meeting were Kemal and Hawa, who were cleaning the room for last four weeks by expecting their classmates will follow their foot steps. However, they were offended by no student to join them. Then students talked turn by turn and criticized themselves for not taking care of their classes. After a detailed discussion, they have agreed to wash their classes.

Tungamo by fearing to the possible spoil of his cloth and shoe by dust, like Alemitu, was encouraging other students who were cleaning. He was giving good comments in meeting such as “let us start, let us clean it”, but at work time due to his non-involvement, students were offended once again. But their friends such as Betese, Bogalech and Kedir were washing the class by taking off their shoes.

Eventually when their discussion of meeting became successful by cleaning the class, the class and teaching aid materials became neat. Then after, they had ten minutes evaluation of their performance. They clapped hands for their model students, Kemal and Hawa, by appreciating their performance. Eventually, all of them agreed that they have gotten good lesson for future.

Activity 1

Based on the above passage answer the following questions:

1. Were practices of Grade 5 “B” students proper? Why?
2. Among grade 5 “B” students, were there students practiced active community participation or not? What is their difference?

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3. How do you see the contribution of Kemal and Hawa, from the aspect of active community participation?

Group Work

Select one of the following issues and discuss in group.

1. Select two clubs which are active in your school. Then explain about their performance, objectives, rules and regulations, organizations, plans and implementations.
2. Select two social organizations in your community which are too active. Then explain about their performance, objectives, rules and regulations, organization, plans and implementation. In relation to it, investigate the type and level of participation of its members.

In social life, you have to make yourself always ready for active community participation. Active community participation is based on the possible achievement of peoples. Self-initiation and commitment are basis for it. To be successful in such participations, involvements showed not only be at individual but also at group level. Therefore, active community participation is the group involvement on basis of self-initiation for effective achievement.

10.2 The Necessity of Active Community Participation



Picture 10.2. Cleaned school compound due to student active participation

- What do you understand from picture 10.2?

The Debate

Nesro and Wolaite are the two classmates. Both of them are known by gentility, commitment and activeness among the class students. Sometimes, when they debate on educational issue, it is too warm and seems a quarrel. But at the end of debate, they depart peacefully. When they fail to reach on agreement after debate, they take their issues to teachers to get answer.

Once upon a day, however, both were failed to reach on agreement. Nesro said that “participating in club on basis of active community participation, can be advantageous and even non-advantageous”. But Wolaite strictly opposed his idea and said “participating in clubs through active community participation is always advantageous.” Still Nesro objects her idea and mentioned that “in participating environmental protection clubs in our school we individually have gained nothing”, he said.

But Wolaite responded that from plantation activity, there is psychological satisfaction gaining experience, knowledge and ensuring the future world. On moment both of them saw the dirty garbage dumped along the road. Then Nesro mentioned that their club has not avoided that dirty and he evidenced as that nothing has happened to them due to non-avoidance of that garbage. On occasion, his leg has slipped over bark or peer of banana and he immediately fell into the ground. Wolaite and others in together helped him to raise. But the damage was not big upon him.

Then after, he said “you are right. If we had cleaned our compound and environment, such problems had not be occurred. I accepted your advice. So, it is unnecessary to go towards a teacher to get answer”.

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Activity 2

Give appropriate answer for the following questions:

1. What kind of lesson Nesro has gotten from the practice?
2. Nesro and Wolaite are members of environmental protection club in their school. If they have been able to take care of compound and plantation through active community participation, what kind of advantage they could have been incurred?
3. Please present your intention to contribute to your school. Mention three things you may lose by taking active community participation in your school.

As you have learned here in above, you understood that active community participation is important. In addition to gaining common advantage from such participations, it has importance at individual level also.

For example, students have to take active participation in electing monitor, endorsing school regulations, school meetings, class sanitation, taking care of school and class properties etc., on basis of self-initiation. Such things have advantage for individuals by ensuring individuals security, healthy education etc.

Activity 3

Discuss on the following questions in group and present in the class:

1. Are there public and governmental properties which have not got due attention in your compound?
2. For properties have not gotten due attention, what has to be done to it?
3. For properties that have not gotten due attention, is active community participation necessary? Explain.

10.3 Types of Active Community Participations



Picture 10.3. Let us cleanse our school



Picture 10.4. Let us develop our environment

- What type of active community participation do you know?

You have understood the meaning and necessity of active community participation. Now, let you see types of active community participation. Active community participation can be divided into two. The first is participation in school while the second is participation in community or working institutions.

Activity 4

Answer the following questions:

1. Mention clubs in your school. If there is no club, mention how it should be organized.
2. Mention social organizations in your community (Kebele). If no such organization, mention what kind of organizations need to be organized.
3. What are similarities and differences of clubs existing or to be organized at school and kebele?

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Activity 5

Copy the following types of active community participation on your exercise book and identify them by saying “practiced in school” or “practiced around communities”.

1. Discharging all Idir responsibilities.
2. Leading students’ council committee.
3. Participating willingly and with commitment in kebele youth association.
4. Discharging the responsibility in the school by being the leader of scout club.
5. Giving humanitarian service to victims of HIV/AIDS.
6. Carrying full participation by being the member of Red Cross and Crescent member.
7. Carrying out responsibilities of a woreda by being chairperson of public development association.
8. Carrying out his/her duty effectively by being the member of students’ humanitarian club.
9. Being the member of farmers union.
10. By being the member of anti-malaria union, engaging and discharging the responsibilities in it.

10.4 Civic Organizations



Picture 10.5. Red Cross/Crescent



Picture 10.6. Meeting of people

- Explain the meaning of the above pictures.
- What are similarities and differences of those pictures?

A person cannot satisfy his/her needs lonely. Common efforts are more important to succeed interests. Every people has to be engaged in social developments to change its life. To be successful in this aspect, the people have to work in together.

To work in together, it is necessary to be associated. People can create different organizations. Each organization can differ from another by its character. Civic organizations are among such organizations. They are characterized by being non-governmental, not profit based, to satisfy target groups, and their source of income is from members dues and donors. Furthermore, they are non-political. Workers in civic organization work either by their willingness or being employed. Civic organizations are social organization making their contribution for progress of democracy, peace and common development.

Characteristics of civic organization

- Politically impartial
- Non-governmental
- Governed by members willingness/voluntary
- Not profit making
- Donors and members are source of income

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Summary

As you have seen in this lesson, active community participation is the involvement in practices by self-initiation for common advantage. Active community participation is highly expected from students in schools. This helps to attain knowledge, experience and achievement.

Active community participation needs common effort. Collective efforts of money, energy and knowledge results in further achievement. Among institutions organized on common effort, civic organizations are the major ones. Such kinds of participations have contribution to development of democracy, peace and progress.

Key Words

<i>Civic:</i>	Non-Political and Non-Military
<i>Self-initiation:</i>	Not by pressure of others, but by his/her own ambition
<i>Associated:</i>	Creating a group or membership for common advantage
<i>Developmental work:</i>	Effective work to bring change in life of society
<i>Labour union:</i>	Organization of workers for promoting of their rights and privileges

Unit Review Exercises

Do these review exercises in your exercise book.

I. Write "True" if the statement is correct and write "False" if the statement is incorrect

1. Active community participation need real practice of people.
2. Civic organizations and social organizations are the two types of active community participations.
3. There is no individual advantage to be gained from active community participation.
4. Commercial institutions are among civic organizations.
5. Among the main attributes of active community participation is carrying out practices in together.

II. Match words or phrases under column 'A' with correct items of column 'B'

A	B
1. Non-political	(A) A civic institution in a school
2. Idir	(B) Effects of civic institutions
3. Practical action	(C) Civic organization around residence
4. HIV/AIDS club of students	(D) Individual advantage of active community participation
5. Promoting experience	(E) Character of civic organization
	(F) Decision of active community participation
	(G) Character of active community participation

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III. Copy the following questions on your exercise book and fill the correct answer on the space provided

1. The two categories of active community participation are _____ and _____.
2. Non-governmental and non-political organization which contributes for progress of democracy, peace and development is said to be _____.

IV. Choose the correct answer for the following questions

1. Active community participation is
 - (a) By working together
 - (b) By self-initiation
 - (c) By practical action
 - (d) All are correct.
2. Which one of the following is not character of civic organization
 - (a) Not work for profit
 - (b) Non-government
 - (c) Political institution
 - (d) Source of income is from members.
3. Which one of the following is not character of active student?
 - (a) Having active community participation
 - (b) Being class monitor
 - (c) Appreciating teachers
 - (d) Cheating when examination is conducted.
4. One of civic organizations is
 - (a) Regional or woreda social administrative sector
 - (b) Union of states
 - (c) Professional association
 - (d) None of the above.
5. The advantage for an individual from active community participation is
 - (a) Gaining knowledge and experience
 - (b) Wealth and progress
 - (c) No advantage at all
 - (d) (a) and (b).
6. The common advantage of active community participation is
 - (a) For further achievement
 - (b) To strengthen knowledge, resource and skills
 - (c) (a) and (b)
 - (d) Personal benefit.

V. Give short answers for the following questions

1. What is active community participation?
2. Mention five major characteristics of civic organizations.