

Syllabus Aim	To explore the nature and pattern of human communities (Syllabus p8)
Syllabus Objectives	As a result of studying this section the students should: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be able to describe the role of communities in society• recognise the variety of roles within communities, including leadership roles (Syllabus p.10)
Key Concepts	Commitment, service, vision, leadership.
Description of Content	Looking at the work done by different types of local, community, national and international organisations. The inspiration for this work and its sources. The variety of roles within communities.
Methodology	A variety of methodologies are used including group work, research, and interpretation of data, survey work, interviewing/modelling.

Procedure

Introduction:

Recap on earlier lessons with reference to the way in which people live in different types of communities and organise themselves into communities to achieve a common aim or pursue a common interest.

Role of communities in society

Brainstorm the students as to the organisations that are active in their community by asking the question:

Name some organisations that are active in your area? Note feedback on the chalkboard and probe to name the organisations that are active at local, national and international levels.

Group Work Research: Divide the class into small groups of 5 / 6 students. Ask each small group to research one of the organisations spoken about under the headings on *Student Work: RESEARCH TASK*

When the research has been completed each group presents its findings to the whole class. Based on this presentation probe the findings of the student's research with the following questions:

1. What is each of the organisations trying to do?
2. What are the similarities / differences between the organisations?
3. How do people / does the world benefit from what the organisations are trying to do?

Inspiration for this work

Brainstorm the students about the motivation of people involved in these organisations, by asking the question: Why do people establish / get involved in organisations like these?

Research Interview / Questionnaire: Ask some of the people involved in organisations for their reasons / inspiration for their work. This could be done using *Student Work: INTERVIEW / QUESTIONNAIRE* through students writing to various people in organisations and asking them to fill in a questionnaire or asking a representative of an organisation to come in and talk to the class.

If arranging a visit from the representative of organisations take time to do the following:

1. Prepare

- Identify what the students essentially need to know from the visitor / interview.
What do you expect to find out about the organisation from the visit?

What do you expect the visitor will be like?

- Formulate precise questions, which students can put to the speaker.
- Determine which questions take precedence and who is to ask them - one student asking only one question.
- Brief visiting speaker as to what is expected of them.

2. *Interview* (something / someone credible to students)

3. *Questioning*

4. *Conclusion*

Individually or in pairs students compile a summary of the data collected from the speakers / questionnaires using the following headings:

- What organisations is the person involved in?
- How did they first heard about it?
- When did they get involved and why?
- How is the organisation run?
- What is their role in the organisation?
- What do they enjoy about being involved, and what benefits do they receive?
- What level of commitment is needed from them?
- What is their vision for the organisation?

Take feedback from the students and compare their answers with what they said about the motivation of people involved in these organisations, before they undertook their research interview / questionnaire. Students recall their expectations and identify what the interview / questionnaire confirmed for them about these organisations. Students identify the ways in which the interview / questionnaire gave them a new insight.

Discuss:

1. Are there any similarities / differences between what you said initially about the motivation of people involved in these organisations and the information you collected?
2. What have you learned by conducting this research interview / questionnaire?
3. How did your expectations of the interview / questionnaire match what really happened?
4. Did anything surprise you?

Assignment

Design a flyer with the objective of getting support for the organisation you have researched. Remember to include information on the work the organisation does, why it does this work, and how people / the world benefits from this work.

The variety of roles within communities

Write 'Role' on the chalkboard and brainstorm the students for answers to the questions:

- What words come into your mind when you hear / think of the word role?
- Are there examples of this understanding of role in any of the organizations you have researched?

or

Discuss: What does the word role mean?

Read dictionary definitions of role.

Assignment:

Describe the different roles people have in the organisations you have researched and how they are true to the dictionary definition of role. Take feedback from students.

Read the story WHY DIDN'T YOU HOLD HANDS SOONER? in *Love One Another – The New Christian Way Series 1*, p. 185.

Discuss the following questions with the whole class:

- What are the different roles people have in organising the search?
- In what ways does this story show that need to have a variety of roles?
- For the success of an activity is it always necessary for people to have different roles?
Why? Why not?
- What different roles do you think are needed within a community / organisation if it is to achieve its aim?

All communities and organisations must organise themselves in such a way that certain people have certain functions, otherwise some things may not get done and then the aim of the organisation will not be achieved - remember in the story 'Why didn't you hold hands sooner,' the first attempt to find the boy failed because they did not take on different roles. Each role is just as important as the next, if one is neglected the organisation cannot fulfil its aim.

or

Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-26 and discuss:

What is St Paul saying about the various roles in an organisation?

In taking feedback from the students probe their understanding of 1 Corinthians 12:14-26 in relation to the various roles within a community / organisation.

or

Using *Student Work: ROLES WITHIN COMMUNITIES* give students time to mark the roles which they have within their communities and to recall a person or experience, which helped them appreciate these qualities within themselves.

Written Assignment:

Write a paragraph beginning with the following: A good leader is ...

Resources which teachers have suggested include:

- A Time to Live – The New Christian Way Series 3 Veritas, p. 195.
- Community of Hope Veritas, p. 4-6.
- Community of Faith Veritas, p.7; 14-15.
- Cyberclass Manuel, pages 61-62 & Scholastech Disk 1.
- Love One Another – The New Christian Way Series 1, p. 185.
- Teach Me Your Ways - Gill and Macmillan Series, p. 55; 72; 105.

Student Work: RESEARCH TASK

Pick any one organisation you would like to research and find out the following information about it:

Research Organisation:

Research Topics:	Sources of information:	Research Findings:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When was the organisation formed? • How was the organisation formed? • What is the aim of the organisation? • How does the organisation try to achieve its aim? • What would the organisation like to see happening in the future? • Any other relevant information you would like to include about the organisation you are researching. 		

Student Work: INTERVIEW / QUESTIONNAIRE

Questions:

Answers:

• What is the name of the organisation you are involved in?	•
• What is the aim of this organisation?	•
• How does it work to achieve this aim?	•
• When did you first hear / become aware of the work of this organisation?	•
• Why did you become involved?	•
• How long have you been involved in it?	•
• How committed / dedicated are you to the organisation? Why? Why not?	•
• What are the different roles people have in the organisation?	•
• What is your particular role?	•
• Do you like it? Is it hard / easy?	•
• What are the good points / bad points about your involvement?	•
• What would you like to see your organisation achieving in the next 5 years?	•
• Anything else you would like to say?	•

Student Work: ROLES WITHIN COMMUNITIES

Outlined below are a variety of roles, which a person might have.

Place a check mark by those, which you think apply to yourself.

Recall a person or experience, which helped you appreciate these qualities within yourself?

A good listener	
A good reader	
A good cook	
A good leader	
Good with people who have special needs	
Good with your hands	
A good talker	
A good writer	
A good gardener	
A good entertainer	
A good organiser	
Good with children	
Good with old people	
Good at sports	
Good with money	
(Something else)	