

Canadian Government

The Canadian Constitution

Chapter Slice



CANADIAN GOVERNMENT

The Canadian Constitution

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GRADES 5 - 8

Reading Levels 3 - 4



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Canadian Government

			Reading Comprehension										
	Skills For Critical Thinking	Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Section 5	Section 6	Section 7	Section 8	Writing Tasks			
LEVEL 1 Knowledge	 List Facts / Details Recall Information Match Sequence Recognize Validity (T/F) 	1	1	11 11	1 1 1	777 7	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	1	111	<i>\ \</i>			
LEVEL 2 Comprehension	Compare & ContrastSummarizeState Main IdeaDescribe	✓	1	111	1	\ \ \ \	V	1 11	✓	> > >			
LEVEL 3 Application	Apply What Is LearnedInfer Outcomes	1			1	✓		1	1				
LEVEL 4 Analysis	 Draw Conclusions Make Inferences Identify Cause & Effect 	1	1	1		< <	111	< < <	<	> > > > > > > > > >			
LEVEL 5 Synthesis	PredictDesignCreateCompile Research		1	✓	✓	\ \ \	√	1	< < <	> >> >			
LEVEL 6 Evaluation	Defend An OpinionMake Judgements	1				1		1		**			

Based on Bloom's Taxonomy





Assessment Rubric





Canadian Government

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Understanding Concepts	Demonstrates a limited understanding of the concepts. Requires teacher intervention.	Demonstrates a basic understanding of the concepts.	Demonstrates a good understanding of the concepts.	Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the concepts.
Response to the Text	Expresses responses to the text with limited effectiveness, inconsistently supported by proof from the text	Expresses responses to the text with some effectiveness, supported by some proof from the text	Expresses responses to the text with appropriate skills, supported with appropriate proof	Expresses thorough and complete responses to the text, supported by concise and effective proof from the text
Analysis & Application of Concepts	Interprets and applies various concepts in the text with few, unrelated details and incorrect analysis	Interprets and applies various concepts in the text with some detail, but with some inconsistent analysis	Interprets and applies various concepts in the text with appropriate detail and analysis	Effectively interprets and applies various concepts in the text with consistent, clear and effective detail and analysis

NEXT STEPS:	
WEAKNESSES:	
STRENGTHS:	

Assignment:



Teacher Guide





Our resource has been created for ease of use by both TEACHERS and STUDENTS alike.

Introduction

his resource provides ready-to-use information and activities for remedial students in grades five to eight. Written to grade and using simplified language and vocabulary, social studies concepts are presented in



a way that makes them more accessible to students and easier to understand. Comprised of reading passages, student activities and overhead transparencies, our resource can be used effectively for whole-class, small group and independent work.

How Is Our Resource Organized?

STUDENT HANDOUTS

Reading passages and **activities** (in the form of reproducible worksheets) make up the majority of our resource. The reading passages present important grade-appropriate information and concepts related to the topic. Embedded in each passage are one or more questions that ensure students understand what they have read.

For each reading passage there are **BEFORE YOU READ** activities and AFTER YOU READ activities.

- The BEFORE YOU READ activities prepare students for reading by setting a purpose for reading. They stimulate background knowledge and experience, and guide students to make connections between what they know and what they will learn. Important concepts and vocabulary are also presented.
- The AFTER YOU READ activities check students' comprehension of the concepts presented in the reading passage and extend their learning. Students are asked to give thoughtful consideration of the reading passage through creative and evaluative short-answer questions, research, and extension activities.

Writing Tasks are included to further develop students' thinking skills and understanding of the concepts. The **Assessment Rubric** (page 4) is a useful tool for evaluating students' responses to many of the activities in our resource. The **Comprehension Quiz** (page 48) can be used for either a follow-up review or assessment at the completion of the unit.

PICTURE CUES

This resource contains three main types of pages, each with a different purpose and use. A **Picture Cue** at the top of each page shows, at a glance, what the page is for.



Teacher Guide

Information and tools for the teacher



Student Handout

· Reproducible worksheets and activities

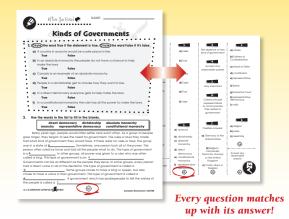


Easy Marking[™] Answer Key

• Answers for student activities

EASY MARKING™ ANSWER KEY

Marking students' worksheets is fast and easy with this **Answer Key**. Answers are listed in columns – just line up the column with its corresponding worksheet, as shown, and see how every question matches up with its answer!







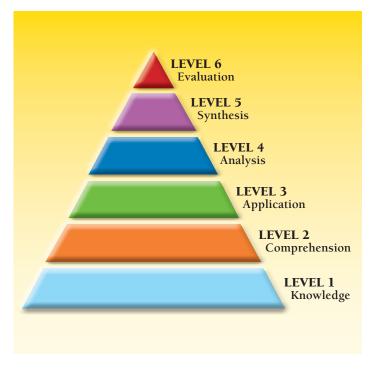
Bloom's Taxonomy

Our resource is an effective tool for any SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM.

Bloom's Taxonomy* for Reading Comprehension

The activities in our resource engage and build the full range of thinking skills that are essential for students' reading comprehension and understanding of important social studies concepts. Based on the six levels of thinking in Bloom's Taxonomy, and using language at a remedial level, information and questions are given that challenge students to not only recall what they have read, but move beyond this to understand the text and concepts through higher-order thinking. By using higher-order skills of application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation, students become active readers, drawing more meaning from the text, attaining a greater understanding of concepts, and applying and extending their learning in more sophisticated ways.

Our resource, therefore, is an effective tool for any Social Studies program. Whether it is used in whole or in part, or adapted to meet individual student needs, our resource provides teachers with essential information and questions to ask, inspiring students' interest, creativity, and promoting meaningful learning.



BLOOM'S TAXONOMY: 6 LEVELS OF THINKING

*Bloom's Taxonomy is a widely used tool by educators for classifying learning objectives, and is based on the work of Benjamin Bloom.



Vocabulary





- enforce government defend rights legislate authority power conflicts security consent
- common good dictatorship anarchy absolute monarchy direct democracy constitutional monarchy
 - representative democracy constitution liberty supreme law citizen ratify Confederation
 - legislature popular sovereignty executive legislative judicial prime minister Supreme Court
 - Parliament Senate House of Commons Governor General Cabinet Member of Parliament
 - premier justices committees appointed elected election amendments sponsor debate
 - proclamation propose Royal Assent Lieutenant-Governor Commissioner delegated power
- legislative assemblies federation unicameral Crown secret ballot majority government
 - minority government political parties nominate campaign vote senator



NAME:	

1. Complete each sentence with a word from the list. Use a dictionary to help you.

	Head of State representative ratify Fathers of Confederation
a)	A person who has rights within a government is called a
b)	The writers of the Canadian Constitution of 1867 are called the
c)	The King or Queen of Great Britain is the of Canado
d)	A set of written rules which set up a government is called a
e)	A person who is chosen to state the beliefs of and to make laws for others is called a
f)	Another word for freedom is
g)	The highest or most powerful law in the country is called the
h)	A is a form of government in which the people choose who governs them.
i)	also means to approve something.
Fi	I in the blanks below with one of these words:
•	press religion assembly
Г	very Canadian citizen has the following fundamental freedoms:
	a) freedom of conscience and;
	o) freedom of thought, belief, opinion, and expression, including freedom of the and other media of communication;
	c) freedom of peaceful; and
	d) freedom of association.
	The Constitution Act, 1982

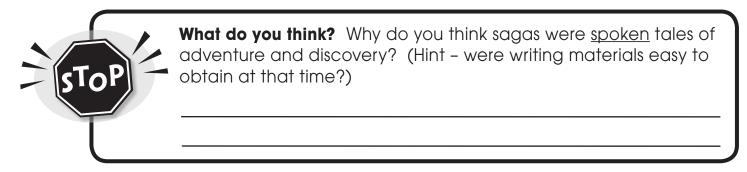
2.





A Brief History

he first people in Canada were the **Aboriginal peoples**. They lived in various groups or tribes and had their own types of government. Their way of life continued for hundreds of years. The Vikings came to Canada about the year 1000. Their arrival was recorded by Icelandic **sagas**, or spoken tales of adventure and achievement.



Later, **John Cabot**, an English explorer, landed on the east coast in 1497. In 1534, the Frenchman **Jacques Cartier** planted a cross on the Gaspé Peninsula (on the Gulf of the St. Lawrence River, in Quebec). After this, the French and the British competed for land and power in Canada. Finally, in 1763, all French claims to Canada were transferred to the British. Canada was under the government of the British monarchy.

For the next hundred years, the Canadian people followed the customs and laws of the English crown. In 1867, the four original provinces, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, formed a **federation**, or a group of separate provinces with a central government.

The plan that described the federation and the kind of government that Canada would have is the **Constitution Act of 1867**. This act was the first plan of government for the nation of Canada. It described which duties would belong to the federal government and which ones would belong to the government of the provinces. It also said that all Canadians had complete **liberty** or freedom. The men who wrote the Constitution Act of 1867 are called the **Fathers of Confederation**.

A constitution is the **supreme law** of a country. The basic rule of government of the Constitution Act of 1867 is that any power not assigned to **legislatures**, or governing bodies of the provinces, belongs to the Parliament of Canada.

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Canada is a **democracy** and a **constitutional monarchy**. The **head of state** of Canada is the Monarch (king or queen) of Canada, who is also Monarch of Britain, Australia, and New Zealand. Although there is no single constitution in Canadian law, the **Constitution Act** – a part of the **Canada Act of 1982** - declares the Constitution of Canada to be the **supreme law** of Canada and includes some 30 acts and orders that are part of it.

The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms is a very important part of the Canadian Constitution. It explains the rights of each Canadian citizen. These rights are:

- the freedom of choice of religion
- the freedom of speech, expression, and thought
- the freedom to meet peacefully with other people
- the right to vote
- the right to be treated equally by the government regardless of age, sex, race, ethnic origin, or mental or physical disability.

Responsibilities of the Federal Government

The Canadian Constitution explains which things are the jobs of the federal government and which are the jobs of the provincial governments. The federal government's jobs are:

- 1. National defense
- 2. Operating a post office system
- 3. Making criminal laws
- 4. Making immigration laws

- 5. Regulating foreign trade
- 6. Supervising Indian affairs
- 7. Supervising all national parks
- 8. Regulating employment

Parts of the Federal Government

The federal government of Canada is divided into the **executive**, **legislative**, and **judicial branches**. It is set up as a **democracy**, or a government in which the people choose who governs them. The belief that the people hold the highest power in a government is called **popular sovereignty**.



Num	nber th	ne events from 1 to 5 in the order they happened.
	a)	John Cabot, an English explorer, landed on the east coast in 1497.
	b)	The Fathers of Confederation wrote the Constitution Act, 1867.
	c)	Aboriginal peoples lived in various groups or tribes and had their own types of government.
	d)	In 1763, all French claims to Canada were transferred to the British.
	e)	The Vikings came to Canada.
		e word True if the statement is true. Circle the word False if it's false
If it	I is fals Aborig	e word True if the statement is true. Circle the word False if it's false se, rewrite the statement to make it correct. Simulation peoples were first to live in what is now called Canada.
If it	t is fals Aborig True	e word True if the statement is true. Circle the word False if it's false se, rewrite the statement to make it correct. In all peoples were first to live in what is now called Canada. False
If it	Aborig True Canac	e word True if the statement is true. Circle the word False if it's false se, rewrite the statement to make it correct. In all peoples were first to live in what is now called Canada. False da's head of state is the prime minister.
lf it a) b)	Aborig True Canac	e word True if the statement is true. Circle the word False if it's false se, rewrite the statement to make it correct. In all peoples were first to live in what is now called Canada. False da's head of state is the prime minister. False
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	Answer each question with a complete sentence.	
3.	The Charter of Rights and Freedoms explains the rights of each Canac Explain at least four of these rights.	lian citizen.
4.	Describe a democracy.	
5.	Canada is a constitutional monarchy . Who is the monarch of Great Br time? Explain what a constitutional monarchy is.	itain at this
6.	A saga is a spoken or sung tale of adventure and achievement. In you write a short saga about John Cabot landing on the coast of Canada time.	
7.	What are the three branches of the federal government?	
8.	What document was the first written plan of government for the new r Canada? Who wrote it?	nation of
9.	Use the Internet or an encyclopedia to find ten important dates in Ca history. Be sure to include the dates when European explorers came to country, and the writing of the Constitution Act of 1867. Record the even timeline on the next page.	o the new

10. Become a Research Detective! Use the Internet or encyclopedia to find the names of three of Canada's Fathers of Confederation.

NAME: _____





Important Events in the History of Canada



Here are five writing tasks about the Canadian government. Be sure to think about all that you have learned about the Canadian government as you write. Write your answers in complete sentences in your notebook.

Task #1

Every country on Earth has some kind of government even though all governments are not alike. Organize your thoughts and knowledge about government and discuss the purpose(s) of government. In Canada's system of government, who or what are most important?

Task #2

On July 1, 1867, Canada became a new nation. The Fathers of Confederation wrote the Constitution Act of 1867 to describe the kind of government the new country would have. They also wrote about the rights that Canadian citizens would have. Suppose you had the responsibility of writing a constitution for a new country. What items would you make sure to include? Describe how you would address the rights of the citizens; the manner in which laws would be made; and how the leaders of government would be selected.

Tagk #3 Canadians share common responsibilities, too. Why do you think that it's important that Canadians should:

- understand and obey Canadian laws?
- participate in Canada's democratic political system?
- vote in elections?
- allow other Canadians to enjoy their rights and freedoms?

Task #4

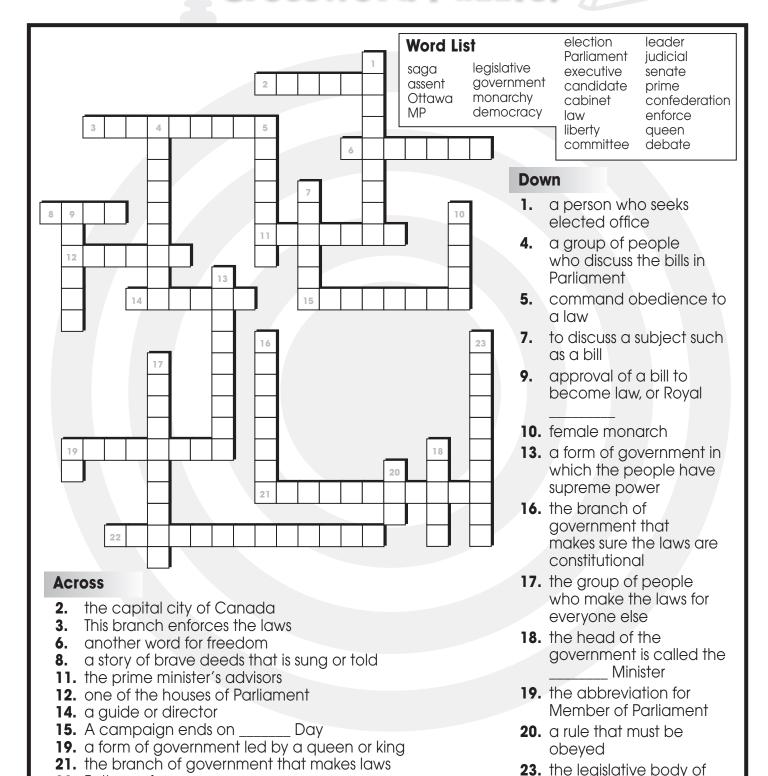
The federal government has many important jobs. It is in charge of employment for all Canadian citizens, national defense (the military), the post office system, and other important departments. Your task is to choose one of these departments and do some research about it. Collect as many facts about it as you can. Present your information as a Bulletin board display or a PowerPoint presentation. Then share your project with your classmates.

Tagk #5 All countries have problems which must be solved. Some of these problems are so serious that they are present in most governments; for example, child poverty. If you were the Prime Minister of Canada which three problems would you try to solve and what would you do to solve them?





Crossword Puzzle!



22. Fathers of

Canadian government





Word Search

Find all of the words in the Word Search. Words may be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal. A few may even be backwards! Look carefully!

freedom candidate debate power committee amendment rights democracy Cartier federation parliament election Ottawa government politics campaign anarchy bill executive enforce cabinet constitution leader vote prime minister **legislature** House of Commons monarch

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Comprehension Quiz

Part A



Circle the word True if the statement is true. Circle the word False if it's false. If the statement is false, rewrite it to make it true.

		Jili io idioc	, rewrite it to make it nact
1.	a country.		person or group of people who make the rules for everyone else in
	True	False	
2.	For some o	countries, ai	narchy is a good type of government to have.
}.	Canada is True	a constitut False	ional monarchy and a parliamentary democracy.
I.	•	ncial gover tion for its c False	nment is in charge of healthcare, education, welfare and itizens.
5.	The Consti	tution of Co False	anada is the supreme law of the country.
).	In Canado	a, federal el False	ections are held every three years.
' .	In a count governme True		ular sovereignty the citizens do not hold the highest power in the
3.	•		the only branch of the federal government in which the people for its members.
) .	A person wwrong.	vho wishes	to hold public office should have a good sense of right and
0	.Territorial g	governmen	ts get their power from the federal government of Canada while ats get their power from the Crown.
		-	SUBTOTAL: /

NAME

Comprehension Quiz



Part B

Answer each question in complete sentences.

Name	e each branch of the federal government and tell what each one does.
What '	form(s) of government is the best for its citizens and why?
Discus	s three of the duties of the federal government of Canada.
("Minc	s some of the problems that might occur if a minority government is elected. ority" means that there are more seats in the House of Commons held by overs of other parties than those held by the party of the prime minister.)

SUBTOTAL: /16











Confederation b) Fathers of



d) constitution

e) representative

f) liberty

g) Supreme Court

h) representative democracy

i) ratify



a) religion

the British

Monarch

b) False -

a) True

b) press

c) assembly



Accept any





d) True

three parts 0

e) False -



reasonable response Accept any



reasonable response Accept any



that can be verified Accept a response



Answers will vary



Executive, legislative, judicial



1867, the Fathers of Constitution Act of Confederation



that can be verified

c) False – can

own religions choose their

Accept any response

Accept any response that can be verified



0



executive

liberty saga

11. Cabinet

12. Senate

15. election 14. leader

19. monarchy 21. legislative 22. Confederation

Down:

candidate

committee enforce

debate

Assent

10. queen

13. democracy

16. judicial

17. government

18. Prime

19. MP

20. law

23. Parliament





1. True

2. False – Not good for any country

Executive - makes sure the laws conform to the Judicial - makes sure 2. Legislative - makes laws for the country laws are obeyed constitution

3. True

4. True

reasonable response 3. Accept any

5. True

reasonable response 4. Accept any

do hold the highest

power

7. False – Citizens

6. False – Every four

years

reasonable response 5. Accept any

people do not vote

for the members.

9. True

branches where

are parts of two and the Senate Supreme Court 8. False - The

16

10. True

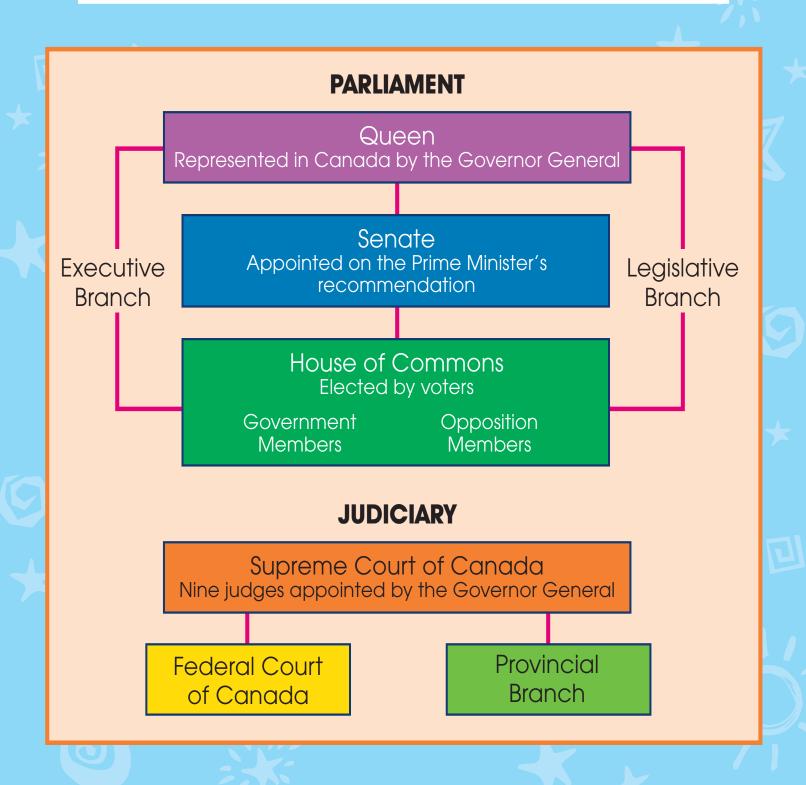
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Word Search Answers

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Three Branches of the Federal Government



Canada's Major Political Parties





The Bloc Quebecois



The New Democratic Party



The Liberal Party



The Green Party

Canadian Parliament Senate Throne



Queen's Park



The House of Commons



The Parliament Buildings

