



CCP5758-4

Canadian Government

Three Branches of the Federal Government

Chapter Slice



CANADIAN GOVERNMENT

Three Branches of the Federal Government



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GRADES 5 - 8
Reading Levels 3 - 4



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Critical Thinking Skills

Canadian Government

Skills For Critical Thinking		Reading Comprehension								
		Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Section 5	Section 6	Section 7	Section 8	Writing Tasks
LEVEL 1 Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List Facts / Details Recall Information Match Sequence Recognize Validity (T/F) 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 2 Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare & Contrast Summarize State Main Idea Describe 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 3 Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply What Is Learned Infer Outcomes 	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	
LEVEL 4 Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw Conclusions Make Inferences Identify Cause & Effect 	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 5 Synthesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Predict Design Create Compile Research 		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 6 Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defend An Opinion Make Judgements 	✓				✓		✓		✓

Based on Bloom's Taxonomy



Assessment Rubric



Canadian Government



Student's Name: _____ Assignment: _____ Level: _____

	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:



Teacher Guide



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

Introduction

This 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.



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

How Is Our Resource Organized?

STUDENT HANDOUTS

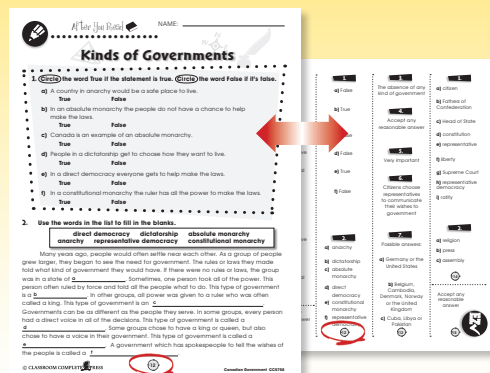
Reading passages and activities (in the form of reproducible worksheets) make up the majority of our resource. The reading passages present important grade-appropriate information and concepts related to the topic. Embedded in each passage are one or more questions that ensure students understand what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

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!



Every question matches up with its answer!



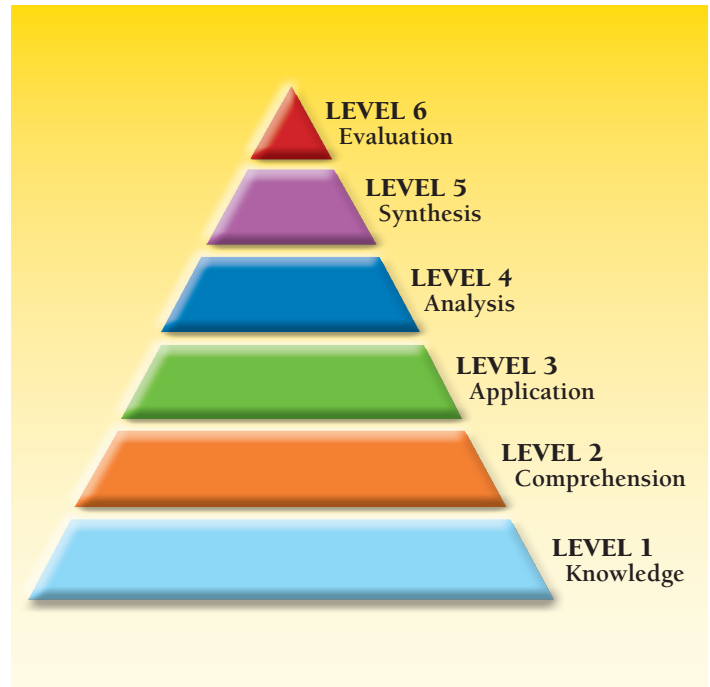
Bloom's Taxonomy

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



Three Branches of the Federal Government

Fill in each blank with the correct term. You may use a dictionary to help. Some terms will be used more than once. Some terms will be left over.

Speaker of the House	Parliament	Governor General	Senate
House of Commons	executive	MP	judicial
Supreme Court	Cabinet	Prime Minister	legislative

- The three branches of the federal government are the _____ branch, the _____ branch, and the _____ branch.
- The House of Commons and the Senate are divisions of _____.
- The leader of the governing party of Parliament is called the _____.
- The _____ is the representative of the British Crown in Canada.
- The people chosen by the Prime Minister to lead the major governing departments are called the _____.
- The _____ is the most important part of the federal government.
- Members of Parliament are also known as _____s.
- The _____ decides who may speak in Parliament.
- The _____ is made up of nine judges selected by the Governor General.
- The _____ is also called the "Upper Chamber" of Parliament.

NAME: _____



Three Branches of the Federal Government

The writers of the Constitution Act of 1867 gave the federal government three branches. Each one would have its own jobs and responsibilities. Also, each branch would be able to check on the others' work. This is called a **system of checks and balances**. The goal was to make sure that the citizens' rights were always protected.

The three branches of the Canadian government are the **legislative, executive, and judicial**. The Constitution Act of 1867 describes the duties that each branch has and the titles of the people who carry out these duties. Each branch must follow the Constitution at all times. The headquarters for each branch of government is in **Ottawa**, the nation's capital.

The **executive branch** of the federal government is the Cabinet. The **Cabinet** consists of the **Prime Minister** (the leader of the governing party in Parliament) and the Members of Parliament who lead the **departments of the government**. The **executive branch** makes sure that the laws of the country are obeyed.



Where is the federal government of Canada located? What are the three branches of the federal government?

Parliament is the **legislative branch** of the federal government. It is made up of the **House of Commons**, the **Senate**, and the Queen (British Monarch) or her representative, the **Governor General**. Most laws in Canada are first read and discussed by the Cabinet. Then they are presented for debate and approval by members of the House of Commons and the Senate. Before a bill becomes a law, the Queen or her representative, the Governor General, must also approve it.



Three Branches of the Federal Government

Parliament is divided into two sections – **the Senate and the House of Commons**. The Senate is made up of 104 people. It is also called the **Upper House**. The Prime Minister selects people to serve as senators. Since the senators are not elected, the Senate usually cannot make new laws. The Senate has very little power. However, the Senate does have three main jobs:

- After a bill is passed in the House of Commons it goes to the Senate. The bill must pass the Senate before it becomes an official law.
- Before a bill is debated in the House of Commons, the senators give advice and help make the bill better.
- The Senate helps investigate important national problems such as child poverty, needs of the elderly, and unemployment issues.

The **House of Commons** is the most important part of the legislative branch. People are elected from all the districts or ridings in Canada to serve in it. They are known as **Members of Parliament** or **MPs**. Their job is to debate issues and form bills that will later become national laws. The **Speaker of the House** keeps order and decides who can speak in Parliament. The House of Commons is also called the **Lower House**.

The **Governor General** is also a part of the legislative branch of government. Before a bill becomes a law, the Queen or her representative, the Governor General, must also approve or “assent to” it.

The **judicial branch** answers questions about the meaning of laws and whether or not they follow the Constitution. The highest court in the judicial branch is called the **Supreme Court**. Nine judges make up the Supreme Court. These judges, or **justices**, are appointed by the Governor General with the Prime Minister’s help. Their job is to interpret and apply laws and the Constitution and to give fair judgments in all cases brought before them.



Three Branches of the Federal Government

1. **Circle** the word **True** if the statement is true. **Circle** the word **False** if it's false.

a) The prime minister keeps order in the House of Commons.

True **False**

b) The capital of Canada is Toronto.

True **False**

c) The main goal of the system of checks and balances is to make sure that no person or group has all the power in the government.

True **False**

d) The main job of the legislative branch of the federal government is to make sure that all laws are obeyed.

True **False**

e) The Cabinet is part of the executive branch of the federal government.

True **False**

f) Canada's Parliament is made up of three sections or houses.

True **False**

g) The judicial branch makes sure that all laws agree with the Constitution.

True **False**

h) The Supreme Court is part of the judicial branch of the federal government.

True **False**

i) The House of Commons makes Canada's laws.

True **False**

j) It is not important for citizens' rights to be considered in government.

True **False**

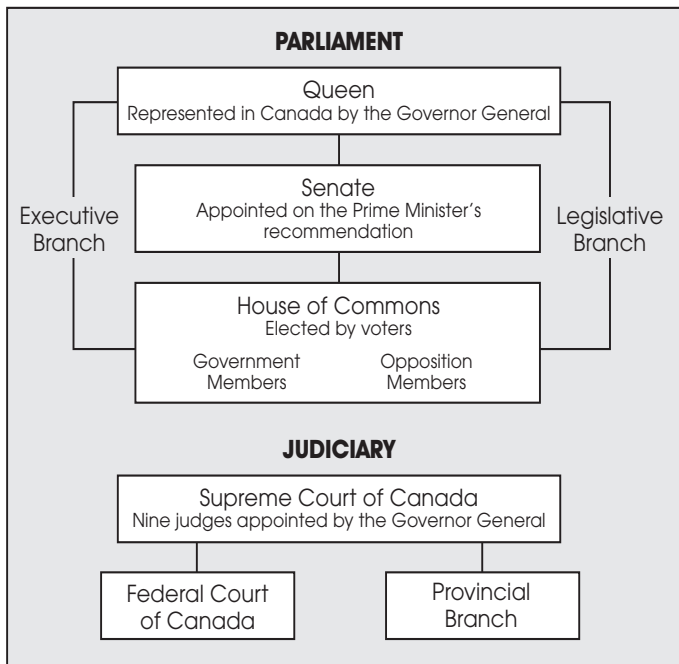
2. **Compare** the duties of the executive branch of government with those of the judicial branch.



Three Branches of the Federal Government



3. Members of Parliament (MPs) represent all the people who live in their district or “riding”. Why is it important for MPs to know how these people feel about the issues and problems that exist there?



4. Who represents the Queen in Canada?

5. How are MPs chosen?

6. How many judges are in the Supreme Court of Canada?

7. Other than the Supreme Court, what are two other parts of the judicial branch of the federal government?

8. How are members of the Senate chosen?

9. Which two branches of government make up Canada’s Parliament?

10. How are the judges of the Supreme Court of Canada chosen?



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.

Task #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.

Task #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!



Word List

- | | | | |
|--------|-------------|------------|---------------|
| saga | legislative | election | leader |
| assent | government | Parliament | judicial |
| Ottawa | monarchy | executive | senate |
| MP | democracy | candidate | prime |
| | | cabinet | confederation |
| | | law | enforce |
| | | liberty | queen |
| | | committee | debate |

Down

1. a person who seeks elected office
4. a group of people who discuss the bills in Parliament
5. command obedience to a law
7. to discuss a subject such as a bill
9. approval of a bill to become law, or Royal _____
10. female monarch
13. a form of government in which the people have supreme power
16. the branch of government that makes sure the laws are constitutional
17. the group of people who make the laws for everyone else
18. the head of the government is called the _____ Minister
19. the abbreviation for Member of Parliament
20. a rule that must be obeyed
23. the legislative body of Canadian government

Across

2. the capital city of Canada
3. This branch enforces the laws
6. another word for freedom
8. a story of brave deeds that is sung or told
11. the prime minister's advisors
12. one of the houses of Parliament
14. a guide or director
15. A campaign ends on _____ Day
19. a form of government led by a queen or king
21. the branch of government that makes laws
22. Fathers of _____

NAME: _____



Word Search



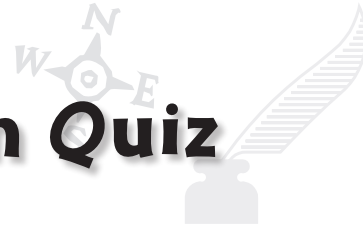
Find all of the words in the Word Search. Words may be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal. A few may even be backwards! Look carefully!

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

n	l	e	u	v	z	p	a	r	l	i	a	m	e	n	t	a	s
t	e	e	f	g	h	j	w	k	l	l	m	o	a	q	w	l	n
e	r	t	y	h	h	f	a	d	s	l	e	a	d	e	r	e	o
n	k	t	l	m	n	b	t	v	m	x	a	x	e	z	q	g	m
i	r	i	g	h	t	s	t	z	a	o	c	s	r	f	g	i	m
b	g	m	w	x	y	g	o	v	e	r	n	m	e	n	t	s	o
a	l	m	l	f	g	h	i	r	x	o	p	a	o	c	d	l	c
c	n	o	i	t	a	r	e	d	e	f	c	d	r	n	r	a	f
f	g	c	b	y	z	a	b	c	c	f	e	h	i	c	a	t	o
l	m	n	e	f	g	h	i	b	u	w	c	n	e	s	h	u	e
a	n	a	r	c	h	y	f	g	t	c	u	a	f	x	y	r	s
m	f	g	t	f	g	h	i	b	i	a	i	c	r	o	b	e	u
e	k	l	y	f	g	e	t	o	v	m	l	o	a	t	r	c	o
n	f	r	e	e	d	o	m	e	e	p	i	n	r	r	i	c	h
d	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	l	a	n	s	k	l	t	e	e
m	b	p	r	i	m	e	m	i	n	i	s	t	e	r	b	i	r
e	r	o	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	g	b	i	o	p	q	l	e
n	r	w	e	l	e	c	t	i	o	n	z	t	z	a	b	c	b
t	d	e	m	o	c	r	a	c	y	h	i	u	p	v	b	h	g
h	i	r	b	l	y	z	a	b	c	r	e	t	a	b	e	d	c
c	d	i	s	a	e	d	y	h	g	f	r	i	o	p	q	e	t
o	l	q	s	c	i	t	i	l	o	p	r	o	t	u	v	w	x
l	m	n	r	s	t	e	t	a	d	i	d	n	a	c	b	h	g



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.

1. A government is the person or group of people who make the rules for everyone else in a country.

True **False** _____

2. For some countries, anarchy is a good type of government to have.

True **False** _____

3. Canada is a constitutional monarchy and a parliamentary democracy.

True **False** _____

4. Each provincial government is in charge of healthcare, education, welfare and transportation for its citizens.

True **False** _____

5. The Constitution of Canada is the supreme law of the country.

True **False** _____

6. In Canada, federal elections are held every three years.

True **False** _____

7. In a country with popular sovereignty the citizens do not hold the highest power in the government.

True **False** _____

8. The Supreme Court is the only branch of the federal government in which the people cannot directly vote for its members.

True **False** _____

9. A person who wishes to hold public office should have a good sense of right and wrong.

True **False** _____

10. Territorial governments get their power from the federal government of Canada while provincial governments get their power from the Crown.

True **False** _____

SUBTOTAL: /10

NAME: _____



Comprehension Quiz



Part B

Answer each question in complete sentences.

1. Briefly tell how a bill becomes a federal law.

3

2. Name each **branch** of the federal government and tell what each one does.

6

3. What form(s) of government is the best for its citizens and why?

2

4. Discuss **three** of the duties of the federal government of Canada.

3

5. Discuss some of the problems that might occur if a **minority government** is elected. ("Minority" means that there are more seats in the House of Commons held by members of other parties than those held by the party of the prime minister.)

2

SUBTOTAL: /16



- 1. legislative, executive, judiciary
- 2. Parliament
- 3. Prime Minister
- 4. Governor General
- 5. Cabinet
- 6. House of Commons
- 7. MPs
- 8. Speaker of the House
- 9. Supreme Court
- 10. Senate

6

Ottawa Branches: executive, legislative, judicial.

7

- 1. a) False
- b) False
- c) True
- d) False
- e) True
- f) False
- g) True
- h) True
- i) True
- j) False

2.

Accept any reasonable response

9

- 3. Accept any reasonable response
- 4. Governor General
- 5. Elected by voters

6.

Nine

7.

Federal Court of Canada and the Provincial Courts

8.

Appointed by the Prime Minister

9.

Executive, legislative

10.

Appointed by the Governor General with the Prime Minister's help

10

- Across:
- 2. Ottawa
- 3. executive
- 6. liberty
- 8. saga
- 11. Cabinet
- 12. Senate
- 14. leader
- 15. election
- 19. monarchy
- 21. legislative
- 22. Confederation

Down:

- 1. candidate
- 4. committee
- 5. enforce
- 7. debate
- 9. Assent
- 10. queen
- 13. democracy
- 16. judicial
- 17. government
- 18. Prime
- 19. MP
- 20. law
- 23. Parliament

12



Part B

- 1. Accept any reasonable response
- 2. Legislative – makes laws for the country
Judicial – makes sure the laws conform to the constitution
Executive – makes sure laws are obeyed
- 3. Accept any reasonable response
- 4. Accept any reasonable response
- 5. Accept any reasonable response

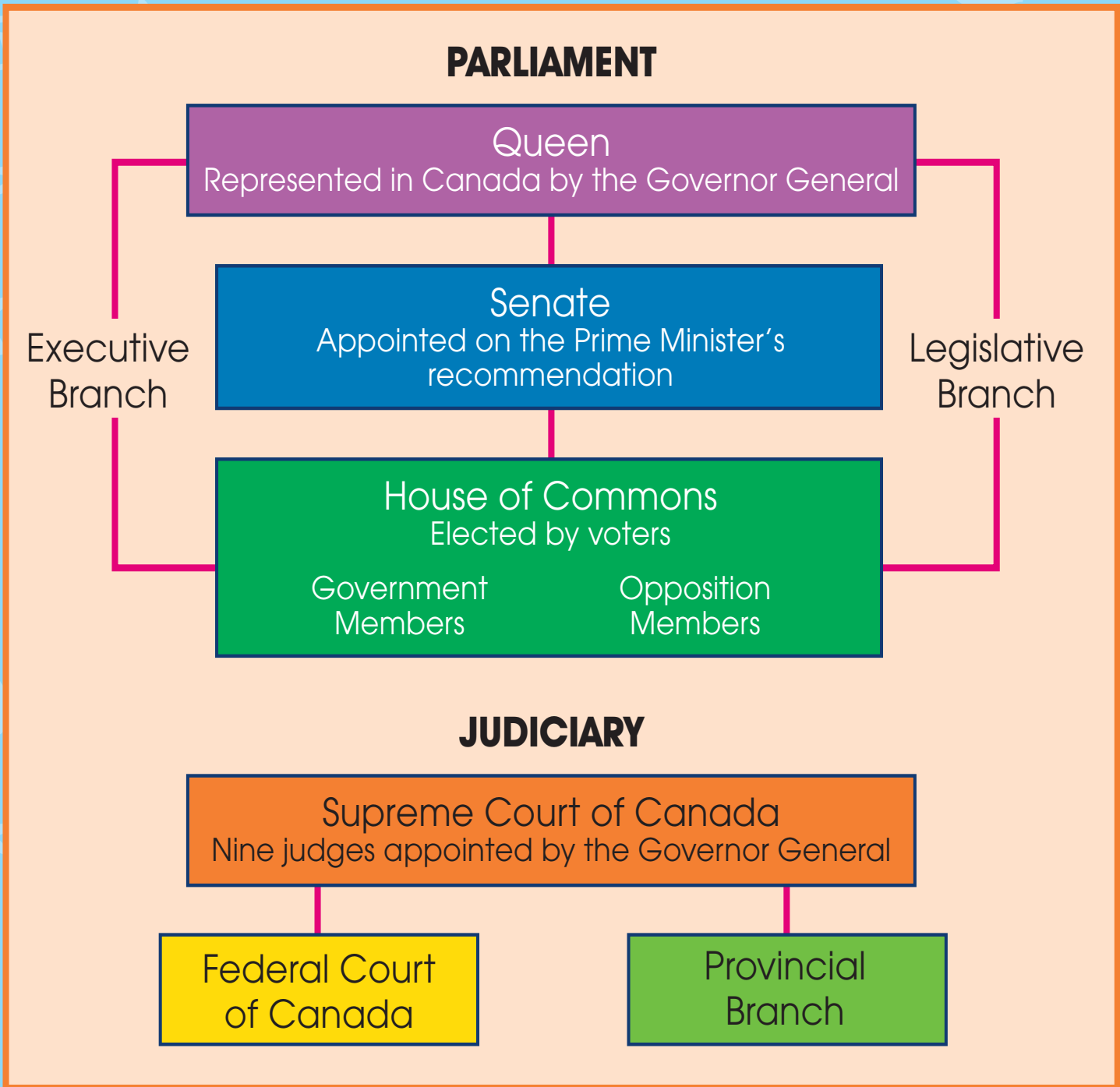
Part A

- 1. True
- 2. False – Not good for any country
- 3. True
- 4. True
- 5. True
- 6. False – Every four years
- 7. False – Citizens do hold the highest power
- 8. False – The Supreme Court and the Senate are parts of two branches where people do not vote for the members.
- 9. True
- 10. True

Word Search Answers

n	l	e	u	v	z	p	a	r	l	i	a	m	e	n	t	a	s
f	e	r	y	h	h	j	w	k	l	l	i	m	o	a	q	l	n
n	k	t	l	m	n	b	f	d	s	l	e	a	d	e	r	o	
i	r	i	g	h	t	s	t	v	z	m	x	a	x	e	z	m	
b	g	m	w	x	y	g	o	v	e	r	n	m	e	n	t	o	
a	l	m	l	f	g	h	i	r	x	o	p	a	o	c	d	i	
c	n	o	i	t	a	r	e	d	e	f	c	d	a	r	i	a	
f	g	c	b	y	z	a	b	c	c	f	e	h	i	c	a	f	
l	m	n	e	f	g	h	i	b	u	w	e	n	e	s	h	o	
a	n	a	r	c	h	y	f	g	t	c	u	a	f	x	y	e	
m	f	g	t	f	g	h	i	b	i	a	i	c	i	o	b	u	
e	k	l	y	f	g	e	t	o	v	e	l	o	a	t	t	s	
n	f	r	e	e	d	o	m	e	e	p	i	n	r	i	c	h	
d	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	a	n	s	k	i	t	e	
m	b	p	r	i	m	e	m	i	n	i	s	t	e	r	b	i	
e	r	o	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	g	b	i	o	p	q	e	
n	r	w	e	l	e	c	t	i	o	n	z	t	u	p	a	b	
t	d	e	m	o	c	r	a	c	y	h	i	e	t	a	b	g	
h	i	r	b	l	y	z	a	b	c	r	e	t	a	b	e	c	
c	d	i	s	a	e	d	y	h	g	f	i	o	p	q	e	t	
o	l	q	s	c	i	t	i	l	o	p	r	o	t	u	v	x	
l	m	n	r	s	t	e	t	a	d	i	n	d	a	c	b	h	

Three Branches of the Federal Government



Canada's Major Political Parties



The Conservative Party



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

