



CCP5758-5

# Canadian Government

## Divisions of Each Branch of **Government**

**Chapter Slice**



# CANADIAN GOVERNMENT

## Divisions of Each Branch of Government



Written by Brenda Vance Rollins, Ed. D.

**GRADES 5 - 8**  
**Reading Levels 3 - 4**



**Classroom Complete Press**

P.O. Box 19729

San Diego, CA 92159

Tel: 1-800-663-3609 | Fax: 1-800-663-3608

Email: [service@classroomcompletepress.com](mailto:service@classroomcompletepress.com)

[www.classroomcompletepress.com](http://www.classroomcompletepress.com)

ISBN 13: 978-1-55319-344-9

ISBN 10: 1-55319-344-7

© 2007

**Permission to Reproduce**

Permission is granted to the individual teacher who purchases one copy of this book to reproduce the student activity material for use in his or her classroom only. Reproduction of these materials for colleagues, an entire school or school system, or for commercial sale is strictly prohibited.

No part of this publication may be transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, recording or otherwise without the

© **CLASSROOM COMPLETE PRESS** prior written permission of the publisher. We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Book Publishing Industry Development Program (BPIDP) for our publishing activities. Printed in Canada. All rights reserved. **Canadian Government CCP5758-4**

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

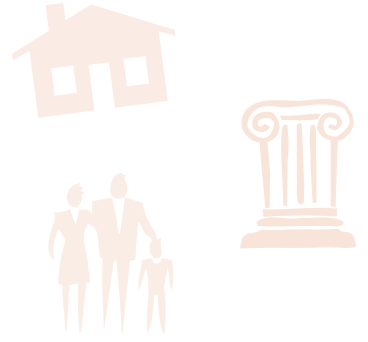
Based on Bloom's Taxonomy



# Assessment Rubric



## Canadian Government



Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_ Level: \_\_\_\_\_

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<b>Understanding Concepts</b>	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.
<b>Response to the Text</b>	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
<b>Analysis &amp; Application of Concepts</b>	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

**T**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.



**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

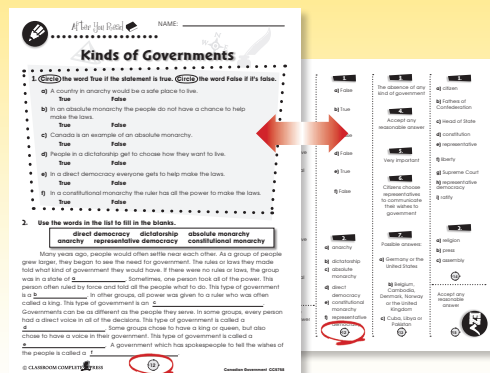
**Reading passages and activities** (in the form of reproducible worksheets) make up the majority of our resource. The reading passages present important grade-appropriate information and concepts related to the topic. Embedded in each passage are one or more questions that ensure students understand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



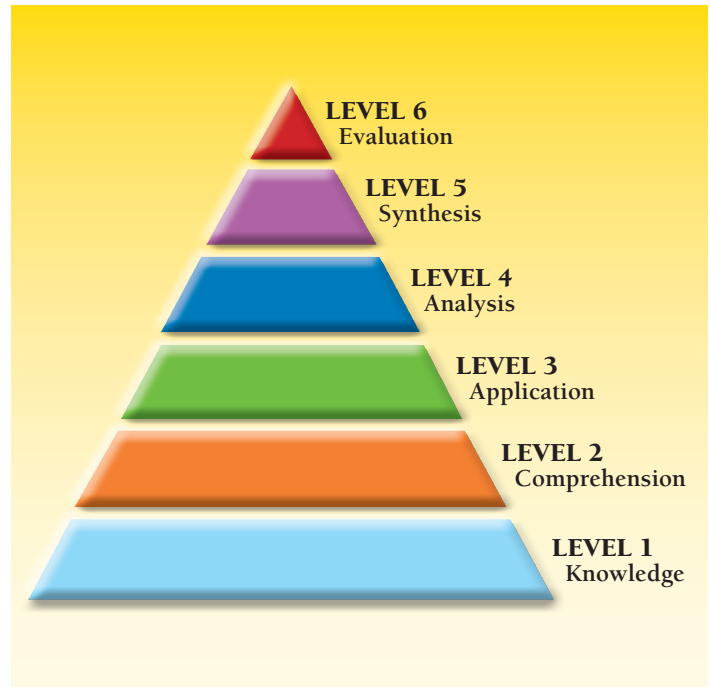
# Bloom's Taxonomy

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

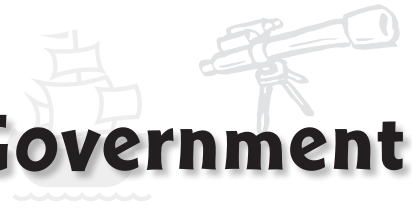
*\*Bloom's Taxonomy is a widely used tool by educators for classifying learning objectives, and is based on the work of Benjamin Bloom.*



# 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



# Divisions of Each Branch of Government

1. Use the words and phrases in the list below to complete the following sentences. Some words will be left over.

- |                  |              |            |                  |          |
|------------------|--------------|------------|------------------|----------|
| executive        | legislative  | Parliament | governor general |          |
| House of Commons | cabinet      | appointed  | Senate           |          |
| branches         | elected      | three      | divisions        | judicial |
| Prime Minister   | propose laws | pass laws  |                  |          |

Canada's federal government is divided into \_\_\_\_\_ branches.

a

Each branch has several sections or \_\_\_\_\_.

b

The prime minister and the cabinet ministers make up the \_\_\_\_\_ branch.

c

One of the main duties of the executive branch is to \_\_\_\_\_.

d

One of the main jobs of the members of Parliament is to \_\_\_\_\_.

e

The people who lead the government agencies and advise the prime minister are called

the Prime Minister's \_\_\_\_\_.

f

The two houses of Parliament are the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

g

h

The \_\_\_\_\_ branch of the Canadian government includes the

i

Supreme Court.

## 2. Who is in the Cabinet?

Use the Internet, encyclopedia, or other reference books to help you find out who is in the Prime Minister's Cabinet. List the department, or ministry, and the person who presently is in charge of it. How many Cabinet departments are there?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Divisions of Each Branch of Government

**W**e have already learned that there are three branches of the federal government: executive, legislative, and judicial. Each of these branches has sections, or divisions. The people in these divisions work hard to carry out the duties of each branch.

## The Executive Branch

The prime minister and the members of his or her Cabinet, along with all the people who help them do their jobs, make up the executive branch of the federal government. The prime minister appoints MPs to be the **Cabinet Ministers**. They lead the federal government departments. They have the important job of proposing laws and budgets.



**What Do You Think?** Why do you think the prime minister needs a cabinet? Could he or she complete all the duties of being a prime minister alone?

---

---

## The Legislative Branch

The prime minister and his or her cabinet are also elected members of Parliament. This means that they are also a part of the legislative branch of government. Rather than a complete separation of all powers, Canada has a blending of the executive and legislative branches.

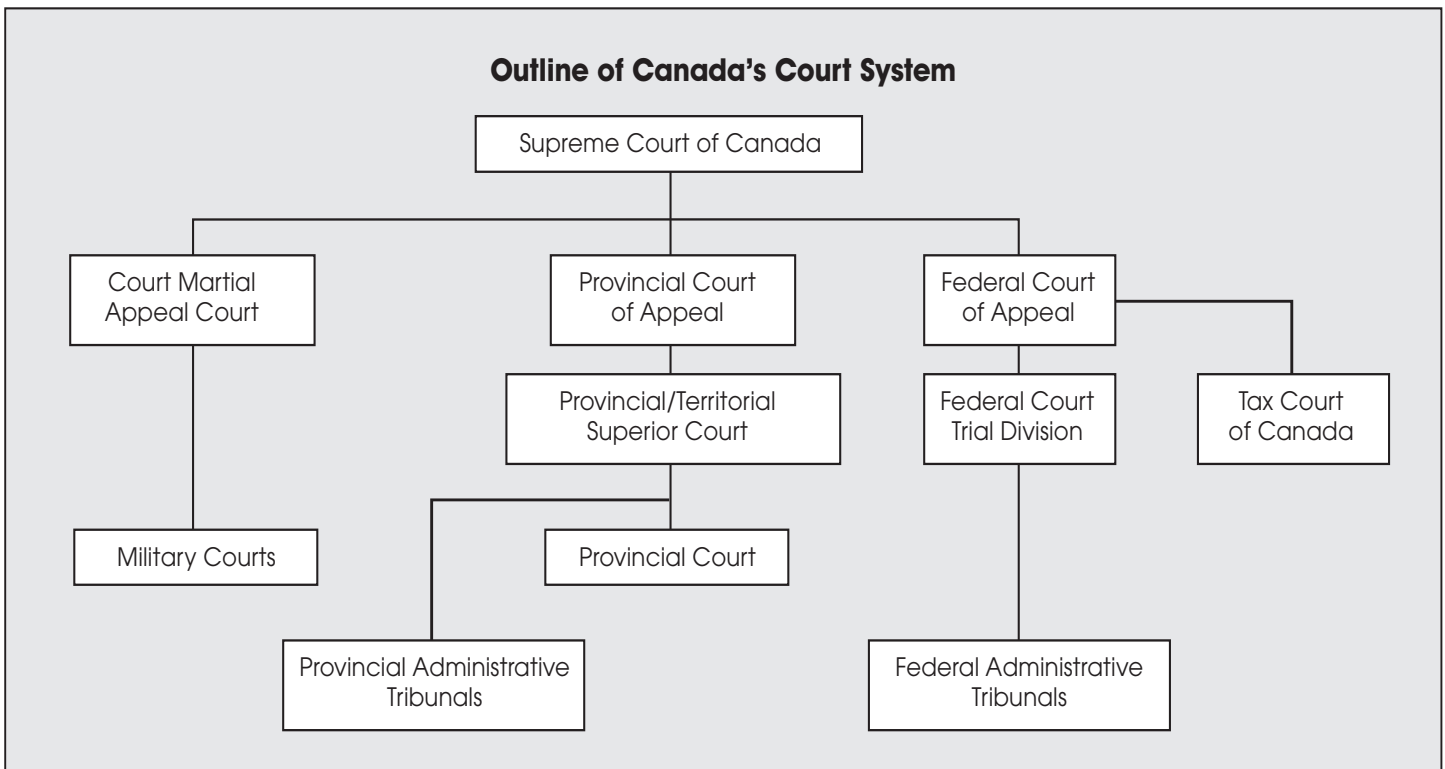
The Canadian Parliament has three parts: the House of Commons, the Senate, and the Governor General. Their job is to make laws and control the federal budget. Each member of Parliament has other people who help with the duties of his or her office. The House of Commons and the Senate debate and pass the laws of the land.



# Divisions of Each Branch of Government

The House of Commons and Senate are both divided into **committees**. Each reviews bills and budgets. Also, the House of Commons is divided into two parts: 1) the prime minister and his or her cabinet, and 2) the rest of the MPs.

## The Judicial Branch



Canadian court system (Source Canadian Department of Justice)

The judicial branch of the federal government is made up of the **Supreme Court**. The Supreme Court is composed of nine **justices**, or judges, who make decisions about questions of law. The justices are appointed by the Governor General. The Supreme Court also decides if the laws made by Parliament follow the Constitution.

The Supreme Court is the highest court of the land. **Lower Courts**, such as the provincial courts and military courts, are also part of the judicial branch of government.



# Divisions of Each Branch of Government

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

a) The Governor General appoints members of Parliament to be the Prime Minister's Cabinet.

**True**

**False**

b) The main job of the Prime Minister's Cabinet is to appear on TV and make speeches.

**True**

**False**

c) The Prime Minister is also an elected member of Parliament.

**True**

**False**

d) The executive branch and the legislative branch of Canadian government are completely separate.

**True**

**False**

e) The jobs of the members of Parliament are to make laws and control the federal budget.

**True**

**False**

f) The Supreme Court has ten justices or judges to make decisions about the laws.

**True**

**False**

2. Use the terms in the list to answer each question.

**executive   legislative   judicial**

a) The Prime Minister of Canada is the head of which branch of government?

b) Which branch of government writes, debates, and passes new laws?

c) Which branch of government oversees all military trials and legal business?



# Divisions of Each Branch of Government

**Answer each question with a complete sentence.**

**3.** Explain why a member of Parliament should have a good understanding of business and how to use money.

---

---

**4.** In which branch of government would being an attorney (lawyer) be the greatest help? Why?

---

---

**5.** Explain why the Prime Minister of Canada needs to have a great ability to understand people and to encourage them to get along with each other.

---

---

**6.** In your opinion, should the Prime Minister stay at home in Ottawa all of the time or should he or she travel throughout the country and to other countries in the world? Why?

---

---

**7. Become a Research Detective!**

a) In your opinion, can a woman be a good and effective Prime Minister? Give good reasons for your answer.

---

b) Has there ever been a woman Prime Minister of Canada? If so, when? Use the Internet, encyclopedia, or other reference books to find the answers.

---





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



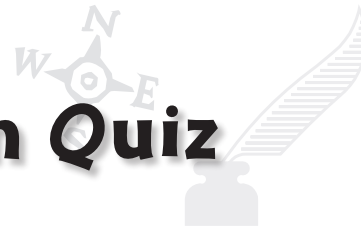
**Find all of the words in the Word Search. Words may be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal. A few may even be backwards! Look carefully!**

- |             |            |                |                  |
|-------------|------------|----------------|------------------|
| 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.**

- a) three
- b) divisions
- c) executive
- d) propose laws
- e) pass laws

f) cabinet

- g) House of Commons / Senate
- h) Senate / House of Commons
- i) judicial

**2.**

Accept any answers that can be verified

**6**

Accept any reasonable answer

**7**

**1.**

- a) False – Prime Minister appoints cabinet members
- b) False – Advise the prime minister and oversee their departments
- c) True
- d) False – They are blended
- e) True
- f) False – nine

**2.**

- a) executive
- b) legislative
- c) judicial

**9**

**3.**

Accept any reasonable response

**4.**

Judicial. Answers will vary.

**5.**

Accept any reasonable response

**6.**

Accept any reasonable response

**7.**

- a) Accept any reasonable response
- b) Accept any answer that can be verified (Yes – Kim Campbell, June 25 to November 3, 1993)

**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

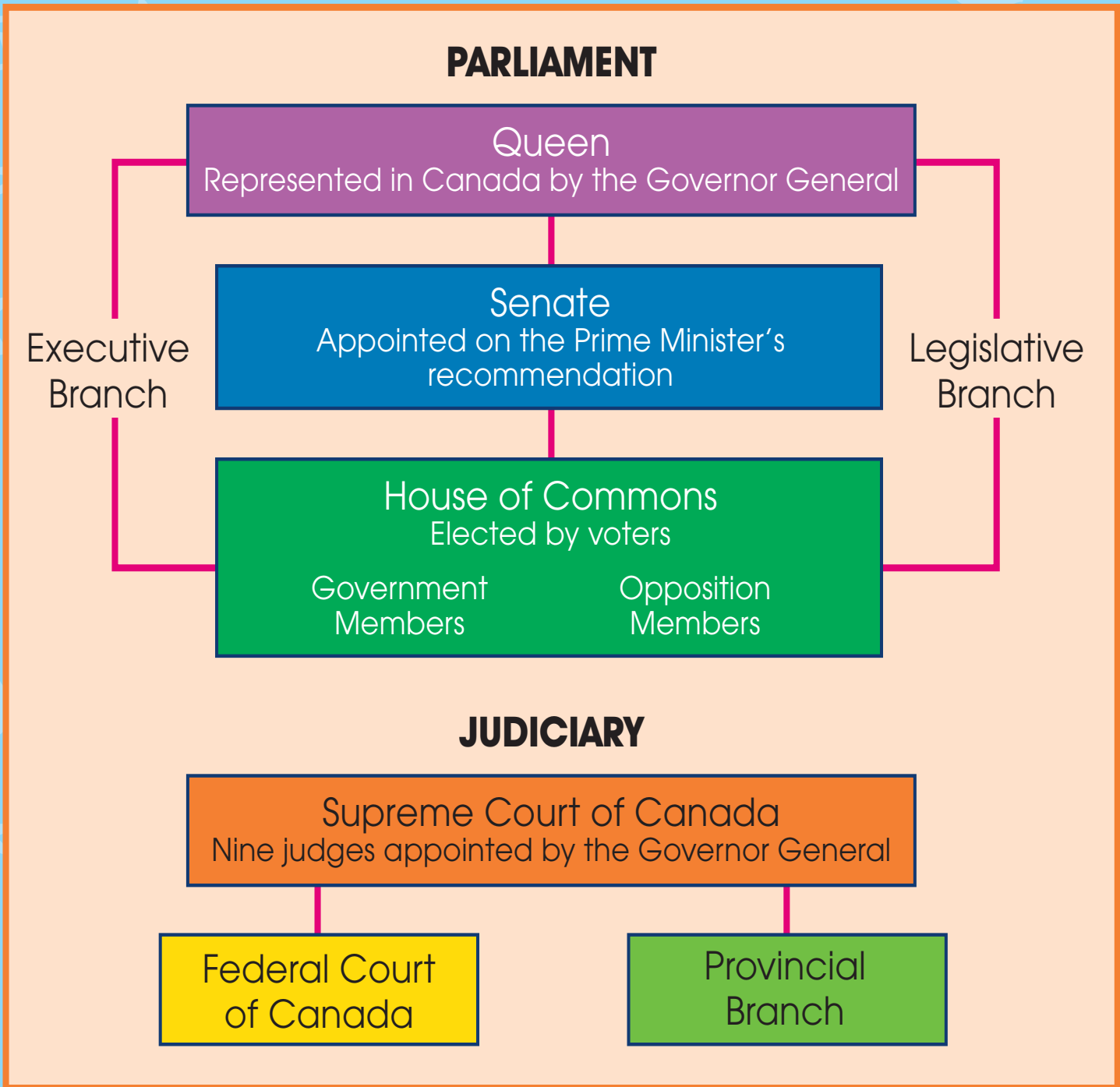
**Part A**

- 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	e	z	q	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	u	
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	a	b	c	r	e	t	a	b	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

