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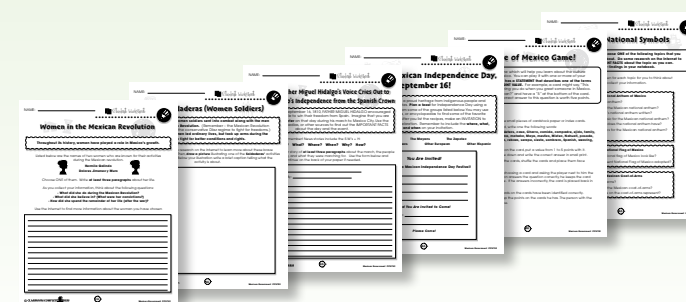
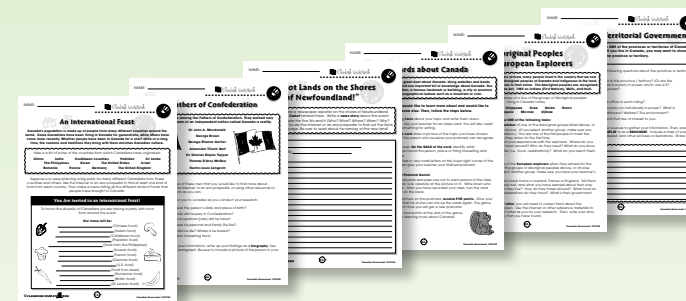
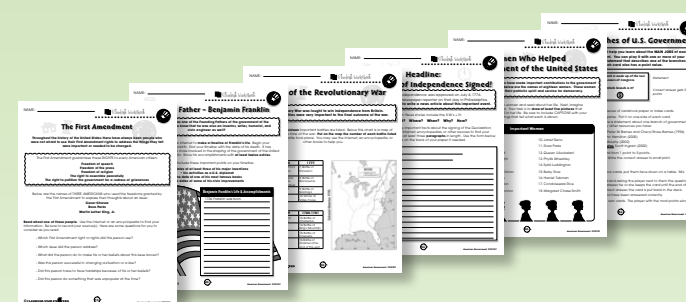
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Electing a Government

Write the correct term in each blank. You may use your dictionary if you wish.

at least every five years candidate campaign nominate Election Day
 political party secret ballot majority government 18 years old
 requirements to serve in the House of Commons major political parties of Canada
 vote provincial governments qualifications for senators

1. _____ 1. Activities designed to help a person get elected to public office
2. _____ 2. To select or choose
3. _____ 3. To propose (someone) for election to an office
4. _____ 4. A group with the same ideas about running the government
5. _____ 5. The Liberal Party, The Conservative Party, The New Democratic Party (NDP), BLOC QUÉBÉCOIS, and The Green Party of Canada
6. _____ 6. The age when a Canadian citizen can vote
7. _____ 7. A person must be a Canadian citizen and legal voting age
8. _____ 8. A person who wants to hold public office
9. _____ 9. The time when citizens vote for the candidates of their choice
10. _____ 10. Generally are set up in the same manner as the federal government
11. _____ 11. The time limit when an election must be held for the House of Commons
12. _____ 12. Must be at least 30 years old, a Canadian citizen, must possess land worth at least \$4 000 in the province for which he or she is appointed, must own real and personal property worth at least \$4 000 above his or her debts and liabilities.



Electing a Government

Canada is a constitutional monarchy and a parliamentary democracy. This means that the citizens of Canada have the opportunity to vote for people to speak for them in the government. The Constitution of 1867 and other laws state the requirements a person must have to serve in any government office. The government systems for the country and the provinces is similar.

Since the **Prime Minister** is selected from the House of Commons the requirements are the same for both offices. To serve in the **House of Commons** a person must be able to vote (age 18) and be a Canadian citizen. **Senators** are chosen by the Governor General, not elected. But there are requirements for them as well. A senator must: 1) be at least 30 years old, 2) be a Canadian citizen, 3) own land worth at least \$4 000 in the province for which he or she is appointed, and 4) own real and personal property worth at least \$4 000 above his or her debts and liabilities.

Campaigns and Elections

The Canadian Constitution states that a federal election must be held at least every five years. The Prime Minister may ask the Governor General to call an election at any time. Most of the time, elections are about four years apart.

STOP What do you think are some advantages and disadvantages of holding an election every four years?

The **Canada Elections Act** says that **campaigns**, or activities designed to get elected to a political office, must last at least 36 days. Most of the time, a prime minister will try to keep the campaigns as short as possible. This is done to keep the amount of money spent under the limit set by the Elections Act.



Electing a Government

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

- a) Members of the Senate are elected to their offices.
True False _____
- b) A citizen of the United States can become a member of the House of Commons.
True False _____
- c) A senator must be at least 30 years old before he or she can serve.
True False _____
- d) A candidate is a person who wants to be elected to a political office.
True False _____
- e) The federal government and the provincial governments of Canada are very different.
True False _____
- f) The requirements to be a member of the House of Commons and the Prime Minister are the same.
True False _____
- g) The Liberal Party and the Conservative Party are the only major political parties in Canada.
True False _____
- h) Federal elections must be held every six years in Canada.
True False _____
- i) The Governor General appoints the Senators who serve in Parliament.
True False _____
- j) A political party that wins at least half of the seats in the House of Commons is a majority government.
True False _____



Electing a Government

Answer each question with a complete sentence.

2. Think about all the **responsibilities** that go along with being the Prime Minister of Canada. Even though the Constitution says that a person can be a member of Parliament and a Prime Minister at age 18, do you believe that 18 is old enough to be Prime Minister? Give at least four good reasons why or why not.

3. The Canada Elections Act placed a limit on the amount of money a candidate can spend as he or she runs for office. Is this a good thing or not? Would being wealthy help a person get elected to a seat in government? Why or why not?

4. Describe the **qualities** that you think a person who wants to be the Prime Minister of Canada should have. Do you think that a woman can do just as good a job as Prime Minister as a man can? Give good reasons for your answers.

5. Become a Research Detective!

Use the Internet, encyclopedia, or other reference books to find out who served the shortest term as Prime Minister and who served the longest term. List their names and the years they served.

Here are six writing tasks about the government of the United States. Be sure to think about all that you have learned about the United States 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 the United States' system of government, who or what are most important?

Task #2 The Constitution of the United States has a very important purpose for its government. What is that purpose? What is the Constitution sometimes called?

Task #3 The Declaration of Independence states that all citizens have certain rights. What are three of these rights? What document gives the citizens these and other rights?

Task #4 Rights always come along with responsibilities. Think about the rights you discussed in Writing Task 3 as well as others. Discuss at least one of the responsibilities that comes along with them.

Task #5 All countries have problems which must be solved. Some of these problems are so serious that they are present in most countries (for example, poverty). If you were president of the United States, which three problems would you try to solve? What would you do to solve them?

Task #6 The powers of all three branches of the U.S. government are equal. What document limits the powers of each branch? What is this limiting of powers called? Do you think that these limitations are good or bad? Tell why.

Crossword Puzzle!

Across

- the capital city of Canada
- This branch enforces the laws
- another word for freedom
- a story of brave deeds that is sung or told
- the prime minister's advisors
- one of the houses of Parliament
- a guide or director
- A campaign ends on _____ Day
- a form of government led by a queen or king
- the branch of government that makes laws
- Fathers of _____

Down

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

Comprehension Quiz

Part A

25

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

- A government is the person or group who makes the rules for all the other citizens in a country.
True False _____
- Governments are not necessary in all countries.
True False _____
- Most governments in the Western Hemisphere are monarchies.
True False _____
- The Constitution of 1917 was written in order to set up a government for Mexico.
True False _____
- In a country with popular sovereignty the citizens hold the highest power in the government.
True False _____
- The Institutional Revolutionary Party and the National Action Party are the two most popular political parties in Mexico.
True False _____
- The government of the United Mexican States is a representative monarchy.
True False _____
- The government of Mexico is divided into four branches.
True False _____
- The Mexican president's advisors are called Secretaries of Senate.
True False _____
- In Mexico, the right to introduce laws or decrees belongs to the deputies and senators of the Congress only.
True False _____

SUBTOTAL: /10

The Federal Government





Kinds of Governments

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

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| dictatorship | anarchy | absolute monarchy | direct democracy |
| constitutional monarchy | representative democracy | | |

- a) _____ exists when a nation has no government at all.
- b) A(n) _____ is a form of government with a ruler who inherits the position, rules for life, and holds all power.
- c) In a _____, the supreme power is held by all the people and is used by them directly.
- d) In a _____, all power is held by one person who may use force.
- e) In a _____, voters choose their government representatives.
- f) In a _____, the power of the ruler or monarch is limited by law.

2. Write down each kind of government in the correct box. Use the word list from Question 1 above.

<p>a) Total rule by one person, usually a king or queen</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>b) All citizens take part in suggesting and making laws</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>c) Voters choose representatives to act in their interests</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>d) Exists when a leader rules with absolute power, usually by force</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>e) Exists when a nation has no person or group in charge, and people can do anything they wish</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>f) Government lead by a monarch whose power is limited by law</p> <p>_____</p>

<p>1. Anarchy</p> <p>absolute monarchy</p> <p>direct democracy</p> <p>dictatorship</p> <p>representative democracy</p> <p>constitutional monarchy</p>	<p>1. False</p> <p>True</p> <p>True</p> <p>False</p> <p>True</p> <p>False</p>	<p>3. The absence of any kind of government</p> <p>4. Accept any reasonable answer</p> <p>5. Very important</p> <p>6. Citizens choose representatives to communicate their wishes to government</p> <p>7. Possible answers: Germany or the United States Belgium, Cambodia, Denmark, Norway or the United Kingdom Cuba, Libya or Pakistan</p>	<p>1. citizen</p> <p>Founding Fathers</p> <p>popular sovereignty</p> <p>amendment</p> <p>Constitution</p> <p>representative</p> <p>liberty</p> <p>supreme law</p> <p>democracy</p> <p>ratify</p> <p>2. Founding Fathers</p> <p>Constitution</p> <p>liberty</p> <p>citizens</p> <p>16. Three of: Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington; the role they played in starting the United States</p>
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EASY MARKING ANSWER KEY

12. Accept any reasonable answer

13.

14.

15.

17.

