

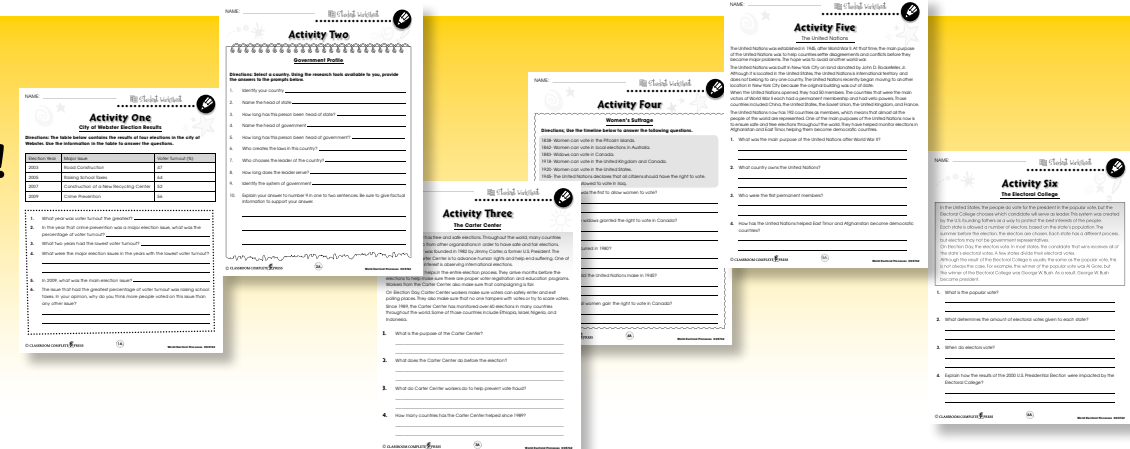
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The Legitimacy of Democratic Government

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

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------|
| violate | citizens | democracy |
| representatives | persecution | |

- a) The _____ are elected by the people.
- b) If you _____ the rules, you will be grounded.
- c) A _____ is a government for the people.
- d) The people who live in an area or country are the _____.
- e) Many people have left their own country because of _____.

2. Using the resources in your classroom, list five countries that are democracies.

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____

3. Now use your classroom resources to list three countries that are not democracies.

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____



Presidential System of Government

The presidential system of government is a government ruled by a president who won a national election. The president is both the head of state and the head of the government.

The president is elected by the people in a free election. Each government has a fixed presidential term of several years. The most common term is four years. During this time, the president acts as a representative of the people who elected him when meeting with foreign representatives and making important decisions.

In most governments that use the presidential system, the president cannot introduce bills to the legislature. However, there is one exception. In Puerto Rico, the president can introduce a bill. This does not usually occur in other countries that follow the presidential system of government.

The president also cannot vote in the legislature on bills or other issues. If the president does not agree with a bill passed by the legislature, the president can veto the bill. When the president vetoes a bill, the bill is sent back to the legislature to be approved or not approved. If the bill does not receive enough support from the legislature at this point, the bill dies. If the bill does get enough support, it becomes a law.

Why does a president veto a bill?





Electoral Systems and Reform

1. Below is a list of five statements. Circle the three statements that are true about electoral reform.

- Ballot stuffing is a fair electoral process.
- Reform helps make elections fair.
- Technology can lead to election reform.
- Voting machines cannot be tampered with.
- Electoral systems are always changing.

2. What is voter fraud?

3. In your own words, explain how ballot stuffing can impact an election. Your answer should be two to three complete sentences.

4. Why are democracies always working toward electoral reform? Your answer should be one to two complete sentences.



Parliamentary System of Government

4. Explain why it is easier to pass laws in the parliamentary system than in the presidential system. Your answer should be at least three to four sentences.

5. Do you think the people should elect their head of government or do you think the representatives elected by the people should choose their head of government? Your answer should be three to four sentences.



Dictator vs. Elected Leader Graphic Organizer

Directions: In the two outer columns, list the characteristics of each type of leadership. In the inner column, list the characteristics that are similar.

DICTATOR	SIMILARITIES	ELECTED LEADER

Word Search

Find all of the words in the Word Search. Words are written horizontally, vertically, diagonally, and some are even written backwards.

- | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| option | select | obsolete | bill |
| monarch | component | democracy | suffrage |
| fluctuating | election | install | veto |
| cast | dictator | fraud | denied |
| parliament | ensure | term | cabinet |
| reform | citizens | funding | enforce |
| medieval | military | execute | |



Comprehension Quiz

Part A

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Circle the word **TRUE** if the statement is TRUE or Circle the word **FALSE** if it is FALSE.

5

- a) The people elect the prime minister.
TRUE **FALSE**
- b) Technology can lead to electoral reform.
TRUE **FALSE**
- c) There are free and open elections in a dictatorship.
TRUE **FALSE**
- d) The ancient Romans were the first to vote.
TRUE **FALSE**
- e) Women have not always been allowed to vote.
TRUE **FALSE**

Part B

Match the term on the left with the correct definition on the right.

5

- | | | | |
|---|------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | Term | A | The power to stop a law |
| 2 | Veto | B | To change |
| 3 | Democracy | C | A period of time |
| 4 | Compulsory | D | A government by the people |
| 5 | Reform | E | Under command |

SUBTOTAL: /10

The Parliamentary System of Government



NAME: _____

After You Read 



Presidential System of Government

5. The vice-president has the power to break a tie in the Senate. The president does not have this power. Do you think the president has influence on the vice-president's decision? Explain your answer in two to three sentences.

6. The president has to share powers with the legislature in the presidential system. Predict what would happen if the president has total power and did not share power. What do you think would happen to the country? Your answer should be four to five complete sentences.

5.
Answers will vary.

6.
Answers will vary.

1.
a) indefinite

b) parliament

c) execute

d) select

e) monarch

2.
Answers will vary.

22

The three names are prime minister, premier, and president.

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1.
The head of state approves the prime minister.

Parliament is elected by the people.

Parliament chooses the prime minister.

2.
The head of state attends ceremonies and agrees to the laws created by the representatives.

3.
Parliament selects a candidate for prime minister. The monarch approves the candidate, who then becomes the prime minister.

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4.
Parliament selects the prime minister they want. In the presidential system, the people elect their leader. The president may not agree with the other representatives.

5.
Answers will vary.

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EASY MARKING ANSWER KEY

