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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.

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



Kinds of Governments

When we study the countries of the world we find that each one has some kind of government. The government of a country is the person or group of people who makes the rules or laws for everyone else. Governments can be set up in many different ways.

Governments set limits for the people. The first job of a government is to protect the people's rights. If there were no government, people could say and do anything they wished. This would be called **anarchy**.

The laws of a government tell how much power the ruler or leader has. These laws should also insure that all the people are treated in a fair and respectful manner.

STOP **What do you think?** In an anarchy, people can do or say anything they wish to another person. Do you think this would be a good situation? Why or why not?

There are about 200 different countries in the world. Not all of them have the same type of government. Here are some of the main kinds of governments:

GOVERNMENT	HOW IT WORKS
Absolute monarchy	- Total rule by one person who makes all the laws for all the people - Usually, the ruler is called a king or queen - Only a few nations in the world have absolute monarchies
Constitutional monarchy	- A form of government where the power of the ruler or monarch is limited by law - The government is usually made up of representatives elected by the people - There are many constitutional monarchies today
Dictatorship	- A country whose leader rules with absolute power, usually by force - Some dictatorships still exist today
Direct democracy	- A system of government in which all the citizens take part in suggesting and making the laws - The ancient city-state of Athens in Greece is a good example of a direct democracy
Representative democracy	- A system of government in which voters choose representatives to act in their interests - The United States is an example of a modern representative democracy
Anarchy	- Exists when there is no government present in a country - The people can do or say anything they wish to anyone



Kinds of Governments

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

- a) A country in **anarchy** would be a safe place to live.
True False
- b) In an **absolute monarchy** the people do not have a chance to help make the laws.
True False
- c) The United States is an example of a **representative democracy**.
True False
- d) People in a **dictatorship** get to choose how they want to live.
True False
- e) In a **direct democracy** everyone gets to help make the laws.
True False
- f) In a **constitutional monarchy** the ruler has all the power to make the laws.
True False

2. Use the terms in the list to complete the sentences.

direct democracy dictatorship absolute monarchy
anarchy representative democracy constitutional monarchy

Many years ago, people would often settle near each other. As a group of people grew larger, they began to see the need for government. The rules or laws they made told what kind of government they would have. If there were no rules or laws, the group was in a state of **a** _____. Sometimes, one person took all of the power. This person often ruled by force and told all the people what to do. This type of government is a **b** _____. In other groups, all power was given to a ruler who was often called a king. This type of government is an **c** _____.

Governments can be as different as the people they serve. In some groups, every person has a direct voice in all of the decisions. This type of government is called a **d** _____. Some groups chose to have a king or queen, but also chose to have a voice in their government. This type of government is called a **e** _____. A government which has spokespeople to tell the wishes of the people is called a **f** _____.



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!

Word List

impeach	rights
enforce	nine
ratify	elected
Congress	nominate
government	Senate
House	resign
Ben	George
democracy	good
	power
	term
	defend
	anarchy
	veto

Across

- The person or group of people who make the rules or laws for everyone else
- In the United States government, leaders are _____ or chosen by the people
- The ability to control someone or something
- To put the president on trial
- Congress is made up of the House of Representatives and the _____
- To keep safe from danger or attack
- Privileges that are due to people by law
- To approve a rule or a law
- To say no to a proposed law or bill
- _____ Franklin
- _____ Washington

Down

- A government should provide for the common _____ of its citizens
- To command obedience to _____
- The number of justices (judges) on the U.S. Supreme Court
- Length of time in elected office
- Makes federal laws
- Exists when there is no government in a country
- To choose or select _____
- A form of government in which the people choose who governs them
- The _____ of Representatives
- To quit or leave office

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!

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|----------------|----------|
| government | powers | anarchy | resign |
| veto | branch | ratify | laws |
| Congress | legislate | run | leader |
| vote | election | party | debate |
| checks | democracy | justice | war |
| senator | president | constitutional | clerk |
| bill | poll | judges | campaign |

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

Comprehension Quiz

Part B

Answer each question in complete sentences.

- Explain why the framers of the Constitution built a system of **checks and balances** into the three branches of government. 1

- Briefly tell how a bill becomes a federal law. 3

- Describe the qualifications a person must have to run for **president** or **vice-president** of the United States. 3

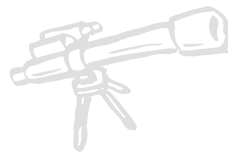
- Name each **branch** of the federal government and tell what each one does. 6

- What form(s) of government is the best for its citizens and why? 2

SUBTOTAL: /15

The Supreme Court (Washington D.C.)





Kinds of Governments

Answer each question with a complete sentence.

3. Describe **anarchy**.

4. Which do you think would be a better kind of government – an **absolute monarchy** or a **constitutional monarchy**? Explain your decision.

5. If you were designing a government, how important do you think the **rights** of each person should be?

6. Write a brief description of a **representative democracy**.

7. **Become a Research Detective!**

Use an encyclopedia or the Internet to help you find the following:

a) Name one country whose government is a **representative democracy**.

b) List the name of one country that is a **constitutional monarchy**.

c) A few countries are still **dictatorships**. Find the name of one of them.

3.

The absence of any kind of government

4.

Accept any reasonable answer

5.

Very important

6.

Citizens choose representatives to communicate their wishes to government

7.

Possible answers:

a) Germany or the United States

b) Belgium, Cambodia, Denmark, Norway or the United Kingdom

c) Cuba, Libya or Pakistan

Answers will vary

Across:

- 1. government
- 5. elected
- 6. power
- 7. impeach
- 11. Senate
- 12. defend
- 13. rights
- 14. ratify
- 17. veto
- 18. Ben
- 19. George

Down:

- 1. good
- 2. enforce
- 3. nine
- 4. term
- 8. Congress
- 9. anarchy
- 10. nominate
- 12. democracy
- 15. House
- 16. resign



EASY MARKING ANSWER KEY

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