

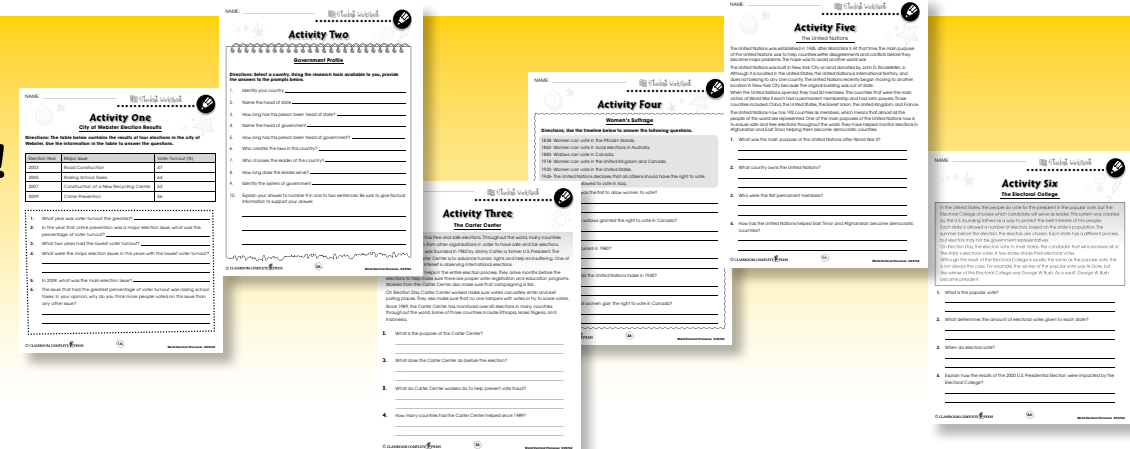
	TEACHER GUIDE	
•	Critical Thinking Skills	2
•	Table of Contents	3
•	Assessment Rubric	4
•	Teacher Guide	5
•	Blooms' Taxonomy	6
•	Vocabulary	6
	STUDENT HANDOUTS	
•	Reading Comprehension	
	1. History of the Voting System	
	2. The Legitimacy of Democratic Government	7
	3. Presidential System of Government	
	4. Parliamentary System of Government	
	5. A Dictatorship Government	
	6. Suffrage: The Voting System, Compulsory Voting, and Voter Turnout	
	7. Electoral Systems and Reform	
•	Writing Tasks, Graphic Organizers & Hands-on Activities	12
•	Crossword	16
•	Word Search	17
•	Comprehension Quiz	18
	EASY MARKING™ ANSWER KEY	20
	MINI POSTERS	22

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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 | |

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

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

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

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

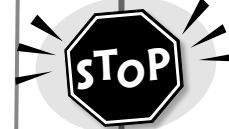
- _____
- _____
- _____



The Legitimacy of Democratic Government

Democracy means rule of the people. It describes a government where the people who live in that country choose their representatives. These representatives are chosen in an election and represent the citizens when making decisions for the good of the community or country.

How are representatives chosen in a democracy?



In a democracy, all citizens should be seen as equal by the government. This means that every citizen should have the right to vote, no matter their race, religion, or beliefs. Every citizen has the right to vote in a true democracy.

Ancient Greeks in Athens were the first to have a democracy. However, slaves and women were not able to vote. Since the majority of the people living in Athens were slaves or not citizens, very few people were allowed to vote. Democracy in ancient Greece did not last long for this reason.

Other ancient cultures had democratic governments, but not all of the people were allowed to vote. These ancient cultures include India, Rome, Pakistan, and the Iroquois tribe in North America. However, the Iroquois only allowed the oldest females of the family to elect and remove leaders.



The Legitimacy of Democratic Government

1. Below is a list of six ideas. Circle the four ideas that are democratic ideas.

- Protects human rights
- Allows only landowners to vote
- Does not allow people to study other governments
- All citizens can vote
- Protects the freedoms of its citizens
- People are allowed to express their opinions freely

2. The ancient Greeks were the first to have a democratic government. Explain how the democracy of ancient Greece is different from true democracies now. Your answer should be one to two complete sentences.

3. Explain why democracy failed in ancient Greece. Your answer should be one to two sentences.

4. Compare the Iroquois democracy to other democracies at that time. Tell how they are alike and different. Your answer should be three to four sentences.



Hands-on Activities

1. Basketball Review Game: At the end of the unit, you can use this game to help you prepare students for a unit quiz or test. Affix a basketball hoop to a wall in your classroom. On the floor in front of the basket, adhere three lines to the floor using tape. Assign each of these lines a point value. The closest line to the basket should be one point, the middle line should be two points, and the farthest line should be three points. Students will be divided into two teams, and one player will be at the hoop at a time. When the player answers the question correctly, they will throw a soft ball at the hoop in order to get points. If they miss the hoop or do not answer the question correctly, they will not be awarded points.

Before starting the activity, you will need to prepare three categories of questions: easy (1 point), medium (2 points), and challenging (3 points). You can even involve the students in writing the questions. The day before the basketball game, ask each student to write one of each type of question. You can then go through those questions and select the best questions for the game.

2. Hold an Election: Select a policy or rule that would be relevant to the running of your classroom. This could include how chores are divided or whether or not homework will be assigned on weekends for one month. Students will have to work together to decide when the election will be held, design a ballot for the election, create a voting system that allows for voting privacy and security, and decide how votes will be counted.

3. Roleplay: In the parliamentary system, the House of Representatives allows members to deliver 90 second statements about issues that are important to them. Allow students to select their own issues and speak as a member of Parliament for those 90 seconds. Each student should have the opportunity to roleplay, so you will need to set aside ample time. You may decide to act as the Speaker, the moderator of the statements, or you may decide to select a student to be the moderator. If you do decide to allow a student to be the Speaker, make sure that student can keep track of the time limitations before you begin the statements.



Crossword Puzzle!

Across

- A government by the people
- Out of date
- The power of a president to stop a law
- Under command
- To change
- The right to vote
- Turned down
- Trickery
- Changing
- To set up
- A leader with absolute power
- Very old
- To make certain
- Qualified
- The people of a country

Down

- Out of date
- Under command
- The right to vote
- Trickery
- To set up
- Very old
- Qualified
- The people of a country

WORD LIST

ancient	citizens	compulsory
democracy	denied	dictator
eligible	ensure	fluctuating
fraud	install	obsolete
reform	suffrage	veto

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

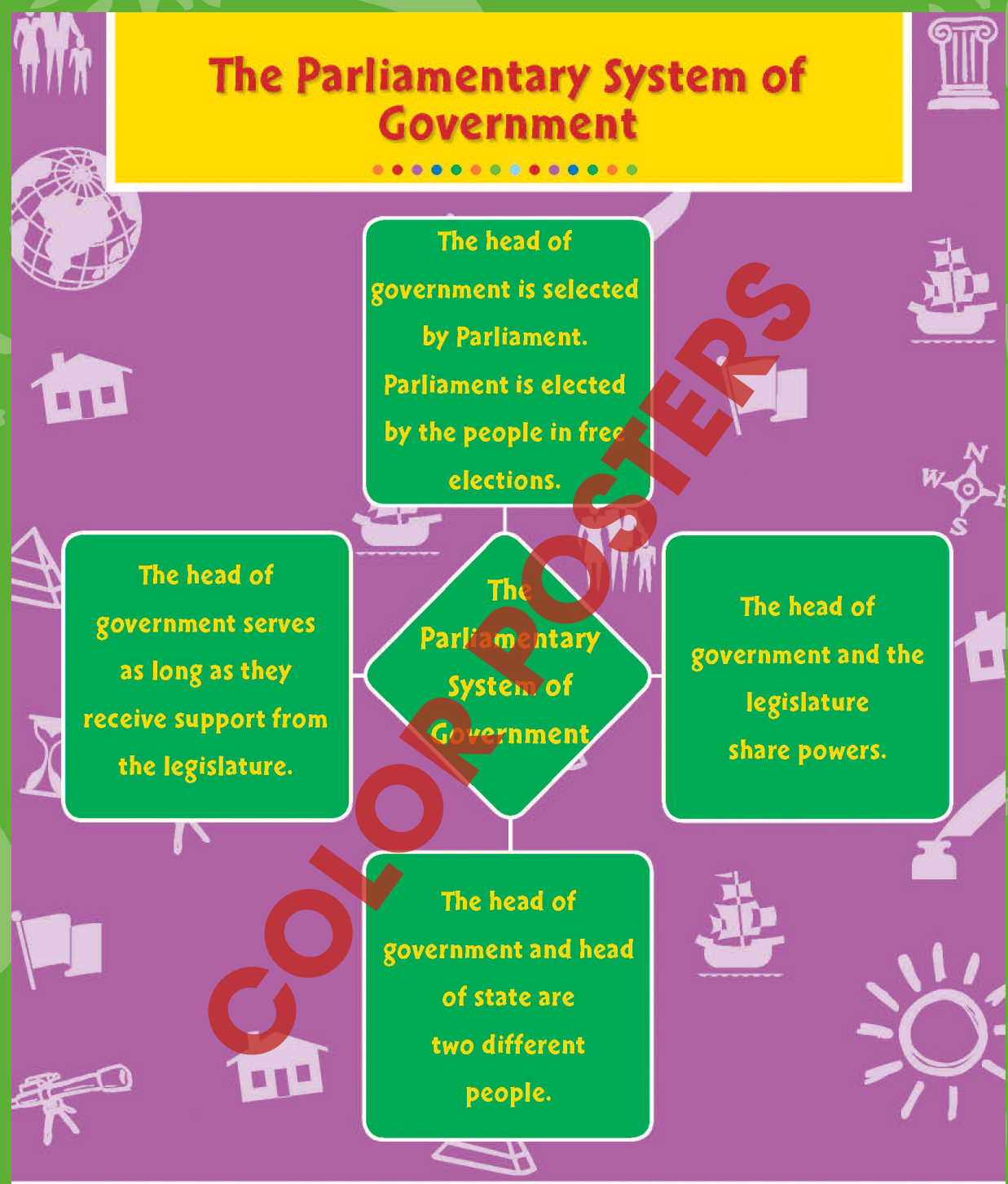
Part C

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

- Explain the purpose of the cabinet. 3
- Explain how technology can cause electoral reform. 3
- How long is a prime minister's term of office? 3
- Identify three reasons why people have been denied the right to vote. 3
- How does compulsory voting affect voter turnout? 3

SUBTOTAL: /15

The Parliamentary System of Government



NAME: _____

After You Read 



The Legitimacy of Democratic Government

5. Democracy spread quickly in the 20th century. Predict how democracy will change in the 21st century. Your answer should be three to four complete sentences.

6. Do you believe a democracy represents the people? State your opinion in three to four complete sentences.

5.

Answers will vary.

6.

Answers will vary.

Crossword Puzzle!



The crossword puzzle grid contains the following words:

- Across: DEMOCRACY, VETO, DICTATOR, REFORM, FLUCTUATING, DENIED, CENSURE
- Down: BOLSHEVISM, STALL, RAG, RAUCOUS, FUNCTION, SENSITIVE, TALENT

EASY MARKING ANSWER KEY

11

16