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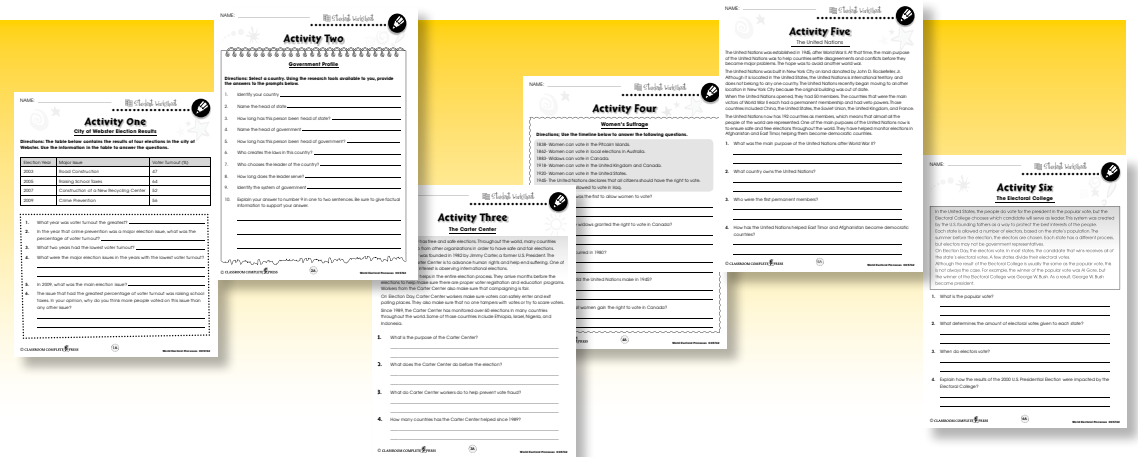
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Electoral Systems and Reform

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

reform ensure fraud
component obsolete tampered

- a) We could not finish putting the table together because we are missing one _____.
 - b) I want to _____ that everyone has a cupcake before I give you two.
 - c) He committed _____ when he lied about the check.
 - d) If you do not _____ you find yourself in serious trouble.
 - e) We did not purchase the aspirin because it looked like it had been _____ with _____.
 - f) After the invention of the automobile, the horse-drawn carriage became _____.
2. Election reforms are intended to make elections safer and more fair. Make a list of two changes that would make elections safer and more fair.
- a) _____
 - b) _____
3. The United Nations helps ensure safe elections. Using the resources in your classroom, find two more facts about the United Nations.
- a) _____
 - b) _____



Electoral Systems and Reform

Electoral systems are always changing because the needs and wants of citizens are always changing. As time goes by, countries may find that some of their electoral practices are out of date and need reform. Other countries may decide to become democracies.

A free and fair election is a major component of all democracies. If people do not have the opportunity to elect their leaders, their country is not a democracy. Whenever a country changes from a dictatorship to a democracy, there are safety concerns for the citizens.

Many times, the people who worked for the former dictator try to prevent people from voting. There are several organizations, such as the United Nations Fair Elections Commission, that can help ensure that the people can vote safely.

STOP What does the United Nations Fair Elections Commission do?

Technology can also lead to electoral reform. Old voting systems may not be as accurate as new voting systems. In many countries, paper ballots that the voters punch out are becoming obsolete because they can be difficult to read. Many voting districts in the United States are changing from voting booths to computerized voting because the results are faster.

Voter fraud is a common concern for voters. There have been many elections around the world that have been affected by fraud. Voter intimidation is one way fraud can affect an election. People have even threatened violence and made bomb threats in order to disrupt elections.



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.



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 |
|----------|--------------|----------------|
| | | |



Crossword Puzzle!

WORD LIST

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

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
- Qualified
- The people of a country

Down

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

25

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

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

Part B

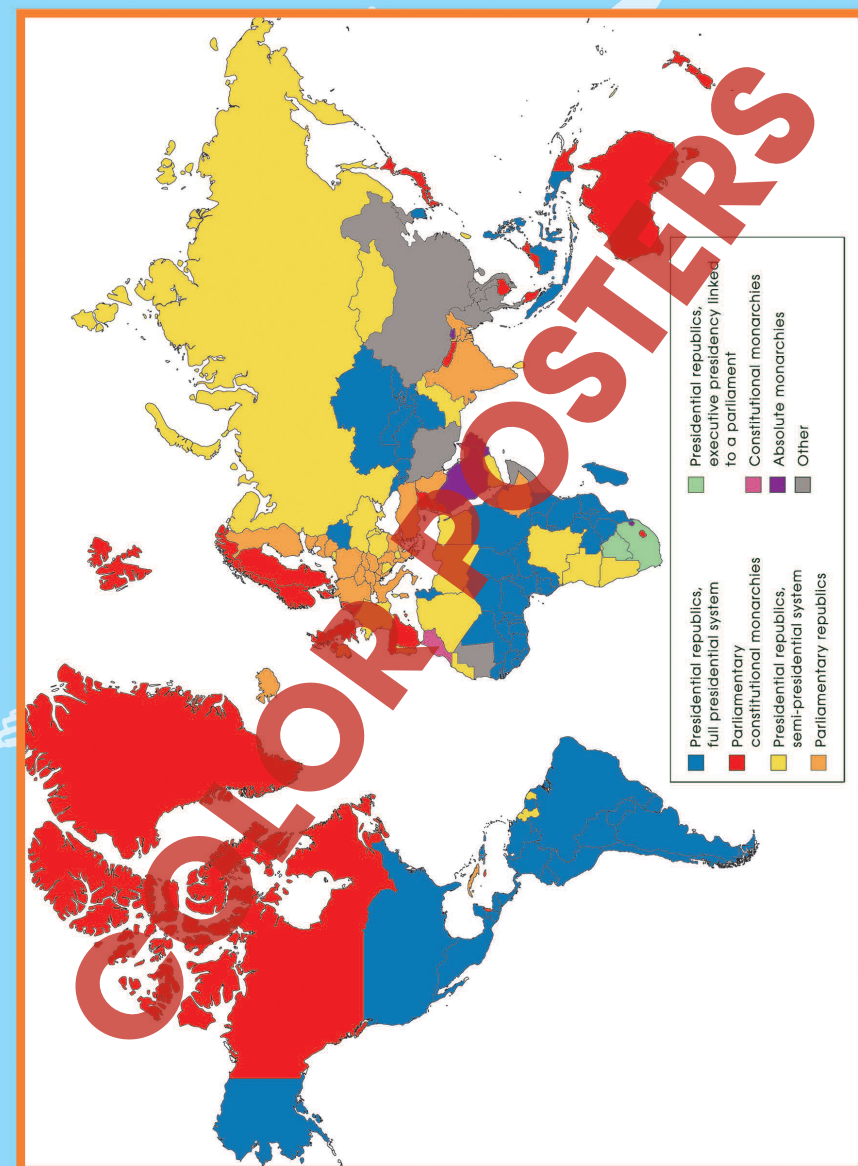
Match the term on the left with the correct definition on the right.

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

Presidential & Parliamentary Systems



NAME: _____

After You Read 



Electoral Systems and Reform

5. Predict what would happen if it was discovered your president or prime minister tampered with the election. Your answer should be at least three to four sentences.

6. In your opinion, what should be the consequences of tampering with an election?

5.

Answers will vary.

6.

Answers will vary.

Crossword Puzzle!



A crossword puzzle grid with the following words filled in:

- Across: DEMOCRACY (1,3), VETO (5,3), FLUCTUATING (10,10), DICTATOR (10,13), REFORM (10,15), DENIED (10,17), CENSURE (10,19), TENSURE (10,21).
- Down: BOSOM (2,2), VET (3,2), NSTALL (4,2), REFRACTOR (6,2), S (7,2), F (8,2), I (9,2), N (10,2), C (11,2), E (12,2), L (13,2), U (14,2), L (15,2), N (16,2), S (17,2).

EASY MARKING ANSWER KEY

