



World Studies for Georgia Students-Grade 6

Chapter 2: Government and Civics

Section 1: What is Government?

Guided Reading

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. Do you believe _____ should be “of the people, by the people, for the people”?
2. To put it simply, _____ is the system by which a country is organized.
3. Still, every _____ across time has had some form of government, either as simple as the _____ of a group of prehistoric people or as complex as the government of the United States in the 21st century.
4. People create governments to keep civil _____ and _____ the people.
5. A county needs not only to protect its citizens from one _____ but also to prevent an outside _____.
6. Government functions are usually broken down into three main branches: _____, _____, and _____.
7. The _____ branch is usually made up of people who are elected by the citizens of the country. Its main purpose is to create _____ for the country.
8. The main purpose of the _____ branch is to _____, or carry out, the laws passed by the legislative branch.
9. The final branch of the government is the _____ branch. It is in charge of the _____ in a country that settle disputes among citizens and between citizens and the government.

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Section 2: Distribution of Power in Government

Guided Reading

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. Countries must decide how to organize and how to _____ power.
2. In a _____ government, the central (national) government holds almost all the power. Local governments, like _____ or _____, have very little power.
3. In a _____ government, local governments hold all the power. The _____ government is weak, and it depends on the local governments for its existence.
4. In a _____ government, power is shared among different levels of government. Power is shared between the _____ (central) government and the _____ governments.



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Section 3: Citizen Participation in Government

Guided Reading

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. Another way to look at the structure of a government is to look at _____ participation. In other words, how much _____ do the citizens in a country have in terms of rights and selecting their leaders?
2. There are three types of citizen participation: _____, oligarchy, and _____.
3. In an _____, the ruler has absolute, or total, power to do whatever the ruler wishes.
4. Citizens who live in an autocracy have very few _____. They do not get to choose their _____.
5. There are two main types of autocracy in the world today: _____ and absolute _____.
6. In a _____, one person controls the entire country. The dictator is usually supported by the _____.
7. In an _____, the sovereign, such as a king or queen, has all the power.
8. The dictator or sovereign serves as _____ of government, that is, the person in charge of the day-to-day business of running the country.
9. In an _____, a political party or other small group makes all the major decisions. The name _____ means “rule by a few.”

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10. In a _____, citizens have the power in choosing their leaders. The word *democracy* comes from the Greek words *demos*, which means _____, and *kratia*, which means _____.

11. In this type of government, the citizens have most of the _____ because they have the ability to _____ for the leaders who will make laws.



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Section 4: Two Types of Democracies

Guided Reading

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. A _____ government is one in which citizens vote on laws and make decisions directly or vote for _____ to do these tasks.
2. In a _____ democracy, the citizens can vote for a _____ from a political party that they feel best represents their views and opinions.
3. After the election, the _____ party that wins the most seats in parliament picks the head of government, who is called a _____ or _____.
4. In many parliamentary democracies, there is also a position called _____ of state. The head of state may be a leader who does not have very much _____.
5. For example, the country of Australia is a _____ monarchy with a sovereign as head of state.
6. In a _____ democracy, citizens elect the president as head of government separately from the _____.
7. The _____ and _____ branches are separate from each other and usually serve as checks (having the power to stop) the other branches' powers.