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2nd grade | Unit 3

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

A NEW GOVERNMENT FOR A NEW COUNTRY

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 203

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Learn with our friends!



When you see me, I will help your teacher explain the exciting things you are expected to do.



When you do actions with me, you will learn how to write, draw, match words, read, and much more.

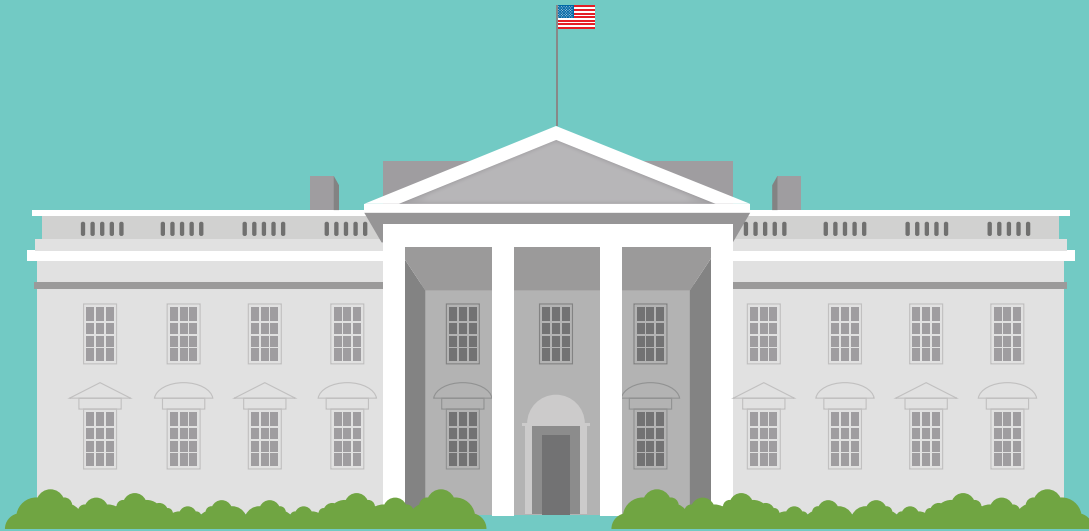


You and I will learn about matching words, listening, drawing, and other fun things in your lessons.



Follow me and I will show you new, exciting truths that will help you learn and understand what you study. Let's learn!

A NEW GOVERNMENT FOR A NEW COUNTRY



What is needed to form a new government? Who sets up the government? What freedoms should the people have? What key items make a government good? In this unit, we will look at the forms of government in other countries in the world. By studying these governments, we can get an idea for some of the building blocks that are needed to make a government successful.

The writing of the Constitution was a big step in America's history. Many men helped to write it, and it was a hard job. Each of the states wanted to see things in the new government. To agree, they had to meet in the middle. This unit will take a brief look at how our government was formed and how parts of it work.

Objectives

Read these objectives. They will tell what you will be able to do when you have finished this workbook.

1. Explain the different kinds of government.
2. Tell why the new government did not work under the Articles of Confederation.
3. Discuss the work of the Founding Fathers as they wrote the Constitution.
4. Describe the three levels of government.
5. Explain the goals that the Founding Fathers were setting in the Preamble to the Constitution.
6. Recall the three branches of government.

New Words

These words will appear in **boldface** (darker print) the first time they are used.

approval (ə prōō' vəl). The act of agreeing with or accepting something.

argument (är' gyə mənt). A disagreement.

balance (băl' əns). To hold equal; to keep equal power.

balance of power (băl' əns ūv pou' ər). Sharing power so that no branch has more power than any other branch.

citizen (sīt' ĭ zən). A person of a certain country; if you were born in the United States, you are an American citizen.

complicated (kŏm' plĭkā tĭd). Not easy to understand; hard to explain.

compromise (kŏm' prə mĭz). Settling a problem in a way that each side gives up certain things in order to reach an agreement.

Congress (kŏng' grĭs). The name given to the two houses of the legislative branch; the Congress includes the House of Representatives and the Senate.

county seat (koun' tē sēt). The town or city that serves as the center of the county; place of the county courthouse.

delegate (dĕl' ĭ gĭt). A person who acts for another person or group of people.

descendant (dĭ sĕn' dənt). The children, grandchildren, and so on of a family.

dictator (dĭk' tā tər). A ruler with complete control over a country.

dictatorship (dĭk tā' tər shĭp). A country ruled by a dictator.

elect (ĭ lĕkt'). To pick by vote.

encourage (ĕn kŭr' ĭj). To give support or push someone to keep going.

executive (ĭg zĕk' yə tĭv). The branch of government headed by the president.

federal (fĕd' ə r əl). The government of an entire country or nation.

Federalists (fĕd' ə r ə lĭsts). People who agreed with the Constitution.

founding (found' ĭng). The act of starting or creating something new.

frame (frām). Something that gives shape and support to a building, like the bones of a building.

framer (frā' mār). Someone who makes up a new plan or law or idea.

generation (jĕn ə rā' shən). All the people born and living around the same time.

judicial (jōō dĭsh' əl). The branch of government headed by the Supreme Court.

justice (jūs' tĭs). Fair treatment; also the word used for a Supreme Court judge.

kingdom (kĭng' dəm). A government ruled by a king or queen.

legislative (ləj' ĭ slā tĭv). The branch of government headed by Congress.

level (ləv' əl). A position of something.

local (lō' kəl). Close to home; a person's city, town, or village.

majority (mə jōr' ĭ tē). The larger part of a group; at least more than half of the total number.

oppose (ə pōz'). To be against or to disagree with something.

preamble (prē əm' bəl). An introduction.

ratify (rāt' ə fĭ). To agree with something in a formal way.

reference (rĕf' ə r əns). A note telling where to find something.

represent (rĕp rĭ zĕnt'). To act for someone else; to stand in place of another.

representative (rĕp rĭ zĕn' tə tĭv). A person who speaks or acts for someone else.

rural (rōōr' əl). In the country; outside a town or city.

separation of powers (sĕp ə rā' shən ŭv pou' ərs). Giving certain powers to each branch so that each one has its own jobs.

support (sə pòrt'). To agree with publicly.

unanimous (y năn' ə mäs). Complete agreement of all of the people present.

veto (vē' tō). To refuse to pass a law.

Pronunciation Key: hat, āge, cāre, fär; let, ēqual, tèrm; it, ĭce; hot, ōpen, ôrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /FH/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ or /ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.



1. A STUDY OF GOVERNMENT

Have you and your friends ever started a club? You probably picked a name for your club. Perhaps you made special rules that everyone had to obey. Maybe you chose a leader or club president. Some members had other jobs, such as planning club activities or taking notes at club meetings.

At times, your club members may have disagreed. Maybe you took a vote to settle the disagreement. You chose to do what the **majority** thought was best. Your club had formed a simple type of government.



Words to Study

descendant (dĭ sĕn dĕnt). The children, grandchildren, and so on of a family.

dictator (dĭk' tĕ tĕr). A ruler with complete control over a country.

dictatorship (dĭk tĕ' tĕr shĭp). A country ruled by a dictator.

elect (ĭ lĕkt'). To pick by vote.

federal (fĕd' ər əl). The government of an entire country or nation.

generation (jĕn ə rĕ' shən). All the people born and living about the same time.

kingdom (kĭng' dĕm). A government ruled by a king or queen.

majority (mĕ jĕr' ĭ tĕ). The larger part of a group; at least more than half of the total number.

represent (rĕp rĭ zĕnt'). To act for someone else; to stand in place of another.

representative (rĕp rĭ zĕn' tĕ tĭv). A person who speaks or acts for someone else.

Ask your teacher to say these words with you.



Teacher Check _____

Initial

Date

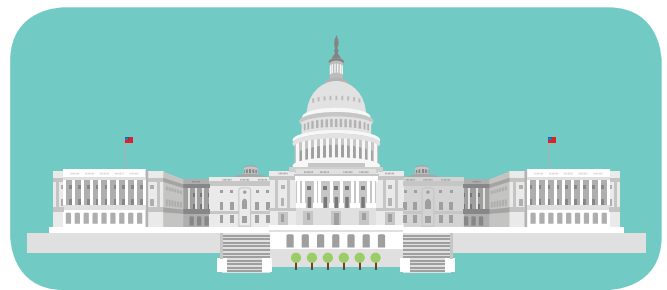


What Is Government?

The government is made up of leaders that are chosen by the people. These leaders set rules and laws that tell people how to live and act. They also make sure these laws are obeyed.

They work to help the people live together in peace.

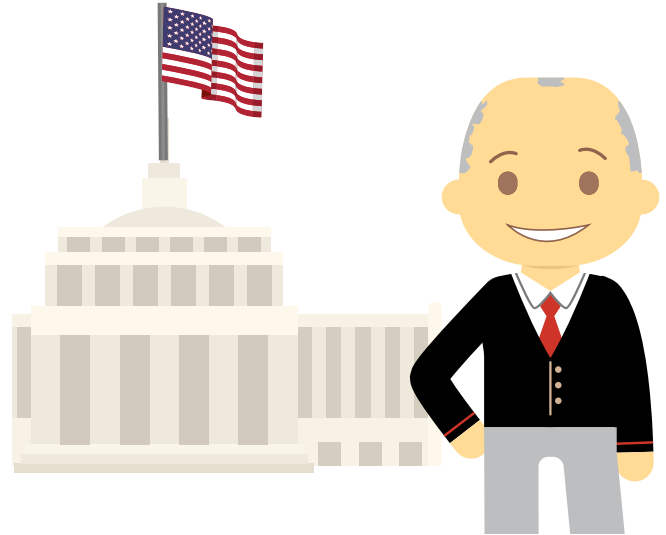
The United States has many government leaders. Some leaders live close to you. They are the men and women who govern your town or city. Others work at your state capital. They protect the laws of your state government. Still others gather in Washington, D. C., the capital of the United States. These leaders help run our country.



| U.S. Capitol Building

Government Leaders

Government leaders often work together to support the people living in their communities. By working together, government leaders can help people live happy, healthy lives. They make sure people have food, shelter, and clean water. They come up with ways to get people from place to place.



Government leaders also help protect people from danger. They prepare their communities for natural disasters, such as tornadoes, hurricanes, or floods. After a natural disaster, government leaders get people the help they need.

Often, government leaders set laws and rules in their communities. Many laws and rules keep people safe. Other laws and rules make sure everyone is treated fairly.



Circle the correct answer.

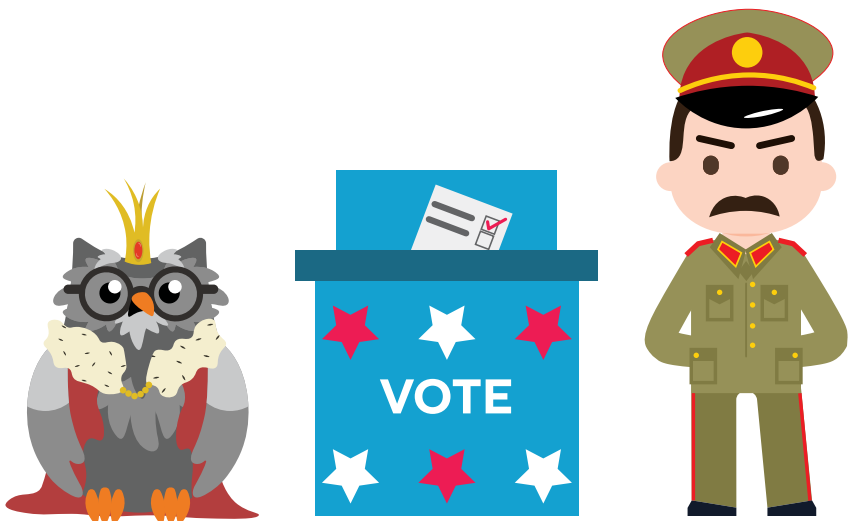
- 1.1** Government leaders help protect people from _____ .
- a. rules b. danger c. freedom

- 1.2** Many _____ help keep people safe.
- a. club presidents
 - b. natural disasters
 - c. laws and rules
- 1.3** Rules and laws make sure everyone is treated _____ .
- a. fairly
 - b. differently
 - c. as leaders
- 1.4** Government leaders work for their _____ .
- a. safety
 - b. communities
 - c. freedom



Different Kinds of Government

There are many different kinds of government in the world. But three types of government are the most common. These governments are **kingdoms**, **dictatorships**, and **representative** governments. Some governments combine different parts of these three types.



Kingdoms

Sometimes, a king or queen leads the country. These royal rulers are usually **descendants** from the same family. A leader is chosen in each **generation**. When one ruler dies, one of his or her children becomes the new leader. This type of government is called a kingdom. At one time, America was ruled by a king. But the American colonists decided they did not want to be ruled this way. They fought the Revolutionary War so that they could choose a different type of government.



Read the following sentences. Circle *correct* if the sentence is right or *incorrect* if the sentence is wrong.

- 1.5** Three common forms of government are kingdoms, dictatorships, and representative governments.
 correct incorrect
- 1.6** Kings and queens never belong to the same family.
 correct incorrect

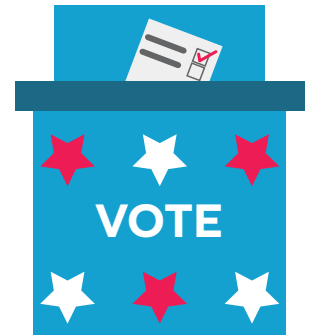
Dictatorships

Some countries have a leader called a **dictator**. This ruler has complete control over everything in their country. The dictator writes the laws and chooses how to make the people obey them. Some laws might not be kind or fair. Yet anyone who disobeys the laws could be punished in a mean and hurtful way. A dictator also controls the military and can use it as they please. Sometimes, a dictator uses the military to scare the people into obeying his rules. Under a dictatorship, the people are often poor and enjoy few freedoms.



Representative Governments

Other countries have a president or prime minister. This leader is usually chosen by the people. A president or prime minister leads for a certain period of time. The United States has this type of government. Every four years, the people **elect** a president by vote. The president leads the national, or **federal**, government. People in each state also elect representatives. These leaders serve in the national government and **represent** the people of their home states. In this way, the people have a say in the laws passed by the U.S. government.



In the next section, you will study how the early leaders of the United States decided that a representative government was the best kind of government for their new country.



Put an X in the blank for the correct (right) answers.

1.7

The three most common kinds of government are

- _____ a. representative government
- _____ b. kingdom
- _____ c. public
- _____ d. dictatorship

1.8

The kind of government that the United States has is a

- _____ a. representative government
- _____ b. kingdom
- _____ c. public
- _____ d. dictatorship

SELF TEST 1

Each answer = 1 point

Circle the answer that best fills in the blank.

- 1.01** A _____ is led by a king or queen.
dictatorship president kingdom
- 1.02** Government _____ help run the United States.
dictators
leaders
kingdoms

Circle *True* if the statement is correct (right) and *False* if the statement is incorrect (wrong).

- 1.03** A king ruled over the colonies of America.
True False
- 1.04** The kind of government that the United States has is a kingdom.
True False
- 1.05** People have the most freedom under a dictatorship.
True False
- 1.06** In a representative government, the leaders work for their communities.
True False

Put the letter of the correct answer in the blank to finish the sentence.

- a. dictatorship
- b. kingdom
- c. representative
- d. president
- e. dictator

1.07 Each leader usually belongs to the same family in a _____ .

1.08 The leaders are elected by the people in a _____ government.

1.09 The people usually have little freedom in a _____ .

1.010 The leader of a representative government is often called a _____ .

1.011 A leader who has complete control over a country is called a _____ .

Draw a line from the statement to the correct answer.

- | | | | |
|--------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| 1.012 | someone who acts for another | ▶ | a. government |
| 1.013 | rules and laws that tell people how to live | ▶ | b. representative |
| 1.014 | People can _____ to choose their leaders. | ▶ | c. majority |
| 1.015 | the larger part of a group | ▶ | d. vote |



Teacher Check

Initial Date



My Score



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