

Types of Government

TEKS 113.42(c) 19 (b) World History Studies, High School

Instructions: Fill in the blank with the type of government and give an example of a modern day country with that type of government.

Governments can be classified by who holds the power! Is one person in charge? Is there a group of people who share the power? Governments can also be classified by how power is attained. Did the citizens or subjects authorize the power to be given to an individual or group? Are there governing documents that outline and prescribe by law how the power will be held or divided?

Although there are many ways to classify governments, we will utilize these two criteria: Who holds the power and how was power attained?

Students will search online for definitions of each form of government and then give a modern day example of a country with each form of government to complete the worksheet. Class discussion can follow the completion of the worksheet to reinforce the concepts.

Vocabulary List:

Democracy

Dictatorship

Oligarchy

Republic

Communism

Theocracy

Absolute Monarchy

Constitutional Monarchy

Socialism

1. _____ A government by the people and majority rule. Example of country with this type of government. _____

2. _____ A government in which power resides in elected individuals representing the citizen body and government. Example of country with this type of government.

3. _____ A government ruled by a king or queen who has absolute power over his/her subjects. Example of country with this type of government.

4. _____ A government ruled by a single person. Example of country with this type of government. _____
5. _____ A government that controls/owns all resources and property. Example of country with this type of government. _____
6. _____ A government in which church officials rule in the name of God or a god. Example of country with this type of government. _____
7. _____ A government in which a small group of people control a country. Example of country with this type of government. _____
8. _____ A government in which the powers of the monarch are limited by a constitution. Example of country with this type of government. _____
9. _____ A government which includes social ownership of all property and wealth. Example of country with this type of government. _____

Follow up questions:

- 1. Can a country be described by more than one of these terms? Example: The U.S. is a Republic. Is it also a type of democracy?**
- 2. Do most countries change their form of government through time? What events might cause a change in government?**
- 3. How many countries can you name that were monarchies but changed to a democratic form of government after revolution?**
- 4. How did a people's revolution against a monarch effect Texas?**
- 5. What is meant by the concept of "consent of the governed?"**

Answer Key

Vocabulary List:

Democracy

Republic

Absolute Monarchy

Dictatorship

Communism

Constitutional Monarchy

Oligarchy

Theocracy

Socialism

1. _____ Democracy _____ A government by the people majority rule.

Example of country with this type of government.

_____ Switzerland _____

2. _____ Republic _____ A government in which power resides in elected individuals representing the citizen body and government. Example of country with this type of government. _____ U.S. _____

3. _____ Absolute Monarchy _____ A government ruled by a king or queen who has absolute power over his/her subjects. Example of country with this type of government.

_____ Vatican City _____

4. _____ Dictatorship _____ A government ruled by a single person.

Example of country with this type of government. _____ North Korea _____

5. _____ Oligarchy _____ A government that controls/owns all resources and property. Example of country with this type of government.

_____ Saudi Arabia _____

6. _____ Theocracy _____ A government in which church officials rule in the name of God or a god. Example of country with this type of government.

_____ Iran _____

7. _____ Communism _____ A government in which a small group of people control a country. Example of country with this type of government.

_____ China _____

8. _____ Constitutional Monarchy _____ A government in which the powers of the monarch are limited by a constitution. Example of country with this type of government.

_____ England _____

9. _____ Socialism _____ A government which includes social ownership of all property and wealth. Example of country with this type of government.

_____ Vietnam _____