

Types of Government



Representative Republic Democracy

- Citizens elect representatives
- Representatives pass laws
- The President, Prime Minister, or Chancellor has limited power
- Examples – United States, France, Germany, Mexico



Democracy

- A system of government where the people rule
- What sorts of problems might a pure Democracy encounter?





Constitutional Monarchy



- A monarch is head of state and a parliament or other legislature makes the laws
- For example, the Queen of England does not have political power, but she is a symbol of the English tradition of having a royal family
- Examples – England, Spain



Monarchy



- One person, or monarch, has power for life
- The monarch is a member of a noble family and inherits the crown
- Example – Before the French and American Revolutions, monarchs held importance in many European countries

Communism



- Outgrowth of socialism
- Belief that there are no social classes; everyone should be equal
- Government regulates production, industries, wages, and prices
- Examples – Former Soviet Union, Cuba
- How is this different from life in the United States?
- What are the pros and cons of a communist government?

Theocracy



- From Greek meaning “rule by God”
- The leader of the country is a political and religious leader
- Examples – Pharaohs of Ancient Egypt and the former leader of Iran *Ayatollah Khomeini*



Dictatorship



- A government ruled by an absolute, or total, ruler
- Examples on p. 382- 383 in your book
 - Benito Mussolini (Italy)
 - Adolf Hitler (Germany)
 - Joseph Stalin (The Soviet Union)
- How did these dictators gain so much power?

Limited and Unlimited

- Limited Government – the political leaders are held accountable by citizens through their constitutions and democratic processes
 - Examples – United States, England
- Unlimited Government – the political leaders have total control over their citizens
 - Examples – Cuba, North Korea

Now it's your turn!

- In a group, you are going to create a skit or interactive activity that illustrates one of the types of government:
 - Representative Republic Democracy
 - Democracy
 - Constitutional Monarchy
 - Monarchy
 - Communism
 - Theocracy
 - Dictatorship

