INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

Vocabulary Journal
SET UP YOUR PAPER AS FOLLOWS:

- Get out notebook paper, OUT OF THE SPIRAL!
- From the left side, fold the paper vertically, to the center, or draw a line as follows on your paper.
- Print, SLOW DOWN, stop just trying to get something down as fast as you can. Think about it, write it in your own words, draw a visual and click words (no more than 2 words). Print NEATLY

Unit 4: Political Geography Vocabulary

1. Concept – Definition and examples
   Click Words
   Visual

2. Concept – Definition and examples
Government

The organization that people set up to protect their community and to enforce its rules.
Power
(Sovereignty – not subject to any higher authority)

- Role of government is to protect the lives, liberties (freedoms) and property of members of the community (city, county, region (state, province, etc.), State (country)).
- The authority to use force.
Types of Government

How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

- Autocratic: Rule by one
- Oligarchic: Rule by few
- Democracy: Rule by many
Political Regions

- Each government usually establishes clear boundaries, over which it asserts its authority.
- **These areas are political region or units.**
  - **CITIES**
  - **COUNTIES**
  - **States (Provinces)**
  - **STATE (National or federal government)**
- Supremacy of the National Government
  - Our highest level of government.
  - Supreme in accordance with the U.S. Constitution, federal laws preempt state law.

Preemption of Laws in the United States
# Powers of Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Limited Government</th>
<th>Unlimited Government</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Constitution</td>
<td>- May have a Constitution but it gives the government an unlimited amount of power.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- People have a voice in government.</td>
<td>- People have little if any voice in the government.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Rights</td>
<td>- Human rights issues occur frequently.</td>
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</table>
Governments around the world!

What are the similarities and differences you see in our US government, the UK’s government and Canada’s government?
Different types of Monarchies

**Absolute Monarchy**
- Considered an unlimited government.
- In an absolute monarchy, the power of the monarch is not restricted by a constitution or by the law.

**Constitutional Monarchy**
- Considered a limited government.
- In a constitutional monarchy, the monarch acts as head of state within the parameters of a constitution.
Republic

Government without a king or queen.

Sometimes, the people in a republic choose representatives to make decisions.

The US is a republic...BUT..

A Republic might also be governed by a group of hereditary nobles, and in some cases by a single party.

Calling your government a republic does not necessarily mean that it is a government with free elections.

So, can a Republic also be a Theocracy? What is a theocracy? Break the word down.
DEMOCRACY

• Government authority is based on the will of the people.

• Vote directly or elect representatives.

• DIRECT DEMOCRACY
  • First known democracy was found in ancient Athens in the 5th century B.C.
  • They voted on all issues directly.

• REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY
  • Romans built on what the Greeks had developed, but had social groups that elected their own representatives who met in assemblies. The NOBLES were represented by the Senate, and the governmental power was divided between these two branches. The Assembly and the Senate.

• DEMOCRACIES OF TODAY tend to follow the Romans form of democracy.
Dictatorship

- Single person or small group exercise complete power over others.
- They do not inherit power like a king.
- Free to do as they please.
- Ordinary citizens have little if any influence on the government.
- Seizes power through force.
- Tend to hold power until they are overthrown.
Totalitarian Systems

- Government controls all aspects of individual life.
- People can only belong to organizations controlled by the government.
- No separate political parties, labor unions, or other organizations are allowed.
- The government either controls or prohibits all churches and religious activity.
- The government also controls police, military, communications (media), economy and education.
- People who oppose the government are arrested or disappear to labor camps, or are killed.
Theocracy

- Government run by religious leaders.
- Very old form of government, the government claims to be directed by God, or divinely blessed.
- There is no legal separation between church and state, and citizens of other faiths are often excluded or expelled.

Examples in history

- Pharaohs of Egypt
- Byzantine Empire ruled by an emperor who was also head of the church.
- Catholic Church, the Pope in the Middle Ages ruled extensive territories in Italy.
- Puritan ministers helped govern Massachusetts.

Examples today

- Iran’s Theocracy
  - 1979 – Muslim religious leaders seized power.
  - The Iranian Constitution emphasizes the importance of religion and Islamic law (Sharia)
  - Iran has both a theocratic and democratic government. Voters elect the President and representatives to the legislature, however, these officials remain subject to the control of Iran’s religious leader who is an Islamic cleric who is appointed for life. The religious leader can dismiss the President or declare war.