Name: _____

CHAPTER 1

Principles of Government

Warmup

Is government necessary?

A. Read the quotation below from Alexander Hamilton, a statesman and an officer in the American Revolution.

> **Why has government been instituted at all? Because the passions of men will not conform to the dictates of reason and justice, without constraint.**
>
> — *Alexander Hamilton,* The Federalist No. 11, *1787*

Do you agree or disagree with Hamilton? Explain your answer.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

B. How important is government to your personal well-being? Use the scale to show your response. Explain your answer.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Not Important ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Extremely Important

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Exploration

I. Government and the State

Find Out

A. Every nation state has population, territory, sovereignty, and government. Give two examples of nation states. Identify the population, territory, and type of government of each one, using an almanac, encyclopedia, the Internet, or other sources. Identify the sources used.

1. Nation State: _____

Population: _____

Territory: _____

Type of Government: _____

Source(s): _____

_____

2. Nation State: _____

Population: _____

Territory: _____

Type of Government: _____

Source(s): _____

_____

B. Philosophers have long tried to explain the origin of the state. Over time, four major theories have evolved. Identify and define these theories, using your print or online textbook or other sources.

Theories of the Origin of the State
1.
2.
3.
4.

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What Do You Think?

C. Which theory of the origin of the state do you think makes the most sense? Explain.

_____

_____

_____

Find Out

D. Read the Preamble to the Constitution. Then list the six purposes of our government outlined there.

1. _____

_____

_____

2. _____

_____

_____

3. _____

_____

_____

4. _____

_____

_____

5. _____

_____

_____

6. _____

_____

_____

What Do You Think?

E. Which purpose of government do you consider most important? Why?

_____

_____

_____

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II. Forms of Government

Find Out

A. Review the forms of government in your print or online textbook to complete the chart below.

Form of Government	Example	Purposes
Democracy		
Unitary		
Federal		
Presidential		
Parliamentary		
Dictatorship		
Autocracy		
Oligarchy		

What Do You Think?

B. How do the purposes of democracy and dictatorship differ? Explain your answer.

_____

_____

_____

_____

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III. Basic Concepts of Democracy

Find Out

A. Review the guiding principles of United States democracy in your print or online textbook. Then complete the chart below.

Definition of Basic Ideas	Significance: What Does It Mean?
Worth of the Individual	Example:
Equality of Every Person	Example:
Majority Rule, Minority Rights	Example:
Need for Compromise	Example:
Individual Freedom	Example:

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What Do You Think?

B. Responsibilities of a good citizen include voting (starting at age 18), staying informed, and volunteering. Should these responsibilities become duties, required by law? Explain.

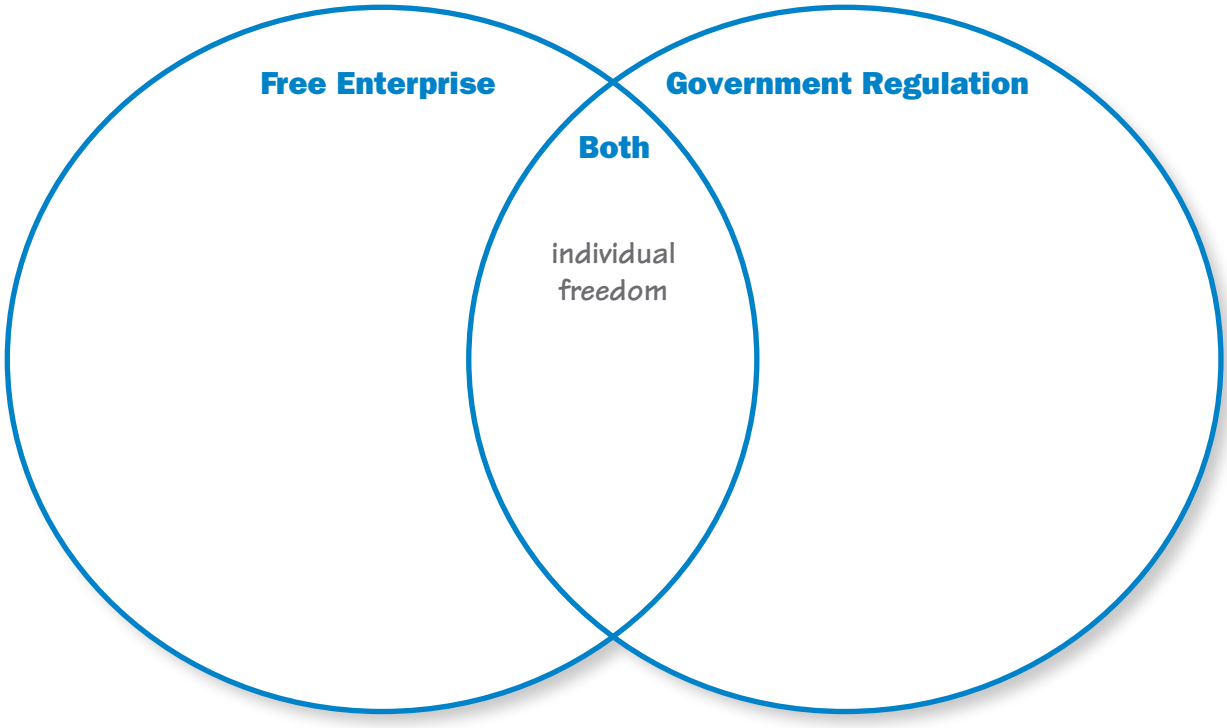
_____

_____

_____

Find Out

C. The economic system of a state is different from its government. However, all modern states have a role in overseeing or regulating the economy. What are the most important features of the U.S. economy? Review these features in your print or online textbook or other sources. Then complete the Venn diagram below.



What Do You Think?

D. How much should your government oversee the economy? Explain your answer.

_____

_____

_____

_____

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Apply What You've Learned Activity

Suppose that you were to create a government for a country formed from previously independent states. Use this worksheet to help you complete the Apply What You've Learned questions in your print or online textbook.

A. Check each classification that applies to this government.

1. ☐ Democracy ☐ Dictatorship
2. ☐ Unitary ☐ Federal ☐ Confederate
3. ☐ Presidential ☐ Parliamentary

B. Can all citizens participate in this government? Explain. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

C. Are the legislative and executive branches separate and independent? _____

_____

D. What powers does each branch hold? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

E. Does the new nation run under a free enterprise system? _____

_____

F. How much power does the government have to oversee the economy? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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Essay

Is government necessary?

Political thinkers, philosophers, and historians have all had their say about government. Humorists have also weighed in on this topic. Each quotation below has an amusing approach to a serious message.

> **The worst thing in this world, next to anarchy, is government.**
>
> — *Henry Ward Beecher,* Proverbs from Plymouth Pulpit, *1887*

> **If government were a product, selling it would be illegal.**
>
> — *P. J. O'Rourke,* The Liberty Manifesto

What Do You Think?

What is your opinion? Write a response to the Essential Question, **Is government necessary?** Consider your thoughts on the quotations above, the Guiding Questions in your textbook, and the activities you have done in your Journal. See page 219 for a rubric on writing an Essential Question essay.

Don't Forget

Your answer to this question will help you think about the Unit 1 Essential Question: **What should be the goals of government?**

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