# **Comparative Political Systems**

# Warmup



## How should you measure different governments?

**A.** What do you think makes a government good or bad, successful or unsuccessful? List five characteristics of a good government and five of a bad governmet.

Characteristics of Good and Bad Governments						
Good	Bad					

**B.** Where would you place the U.S. government on a scale of good government?

Best						Worst	

**C.** Explain your answer.

# **Exploration**

#### **I. Early Governments**

## Find Out

**A.** Using your print or online textbook or other resources, complete the chart by listing structures and features of Athenian democracy and the Roman Republic.

Feature	Athenian Democracy	Roman Republic
General Structure	direct democracy in which all citizens could participate	
Legislative Body/Bodies		
Executive		
Judicial Body		
Requirements for Citizenship		
Form of Law		

В.	3. What legitimacy did the governments of Athens and Rome have for their rule?								

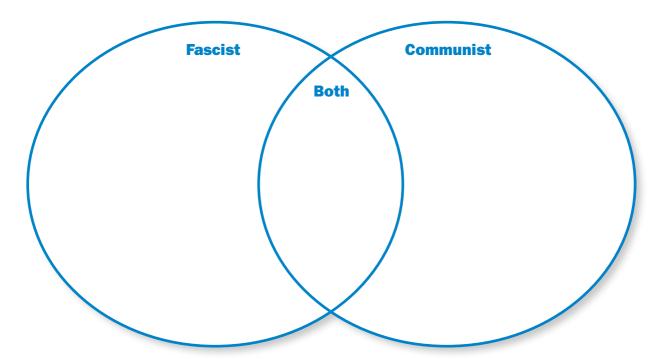
#### Mhat Do You Think?

**C.** Based on the information in your chart, under which system would you have the most rights and freedoms? Explain.

#### **II. Fascist and Communist Governments**

#### Find Out

**A.** Using your online or print textbook, complete the Venn diagram to compare and contrast features of fascist and Communist governments.



**B.** Especially since the Enlightenment, the belief has grown that political power starts with the people, who give their leaders consent to rule. This principle is called popular sovereignty. How do fascist and Communist governments use the idea of popular sovereignty to legitimize their rule?

#### Mhat Do You Think?

**C.** Review your characteristics of a good or a bad government in the Chapter 22 Warmup. Based on those characteristics, where do you think Nazi Germany and Communist U.S.S.R. would appear on the scale of best/worst government? Explain.

Name:	

#### **III. Popular Sovereignty and Democratization**

#### Find Out

A. Popular sovereignty is a necessary ingredient in building a democracy, or democratization. Using your textbook and other print or Internet sources, find out about the level of popular sovereignty and democratization in each nation below. Then grade each from 1 to 5, with 5 being failure, on its level of democratization. Explain your reasons for that grade, including other ingredients for a successful democracy that each nation may have or may lack.

Nation	Grade	Reasons for Grade
Mexico		
Russia		
Haiti		
Afghanistan		
United States	1	The United States is a democracy, based on popular sovereignty, with a free press, multiple parties, a civilian controlled military, equal economic opportunity, a professional civil service, and a lot of common trust among citizens.
United Kingdom		
Iraq		

### What Do You Think?

В.	To which na	ation did you	give the I	owest gra	de? Give	e two way	s in which	you think	this
	nation coul	d increase po	opular so	vereignty a	and mak	e the trar	nsition to d	lemocracy	/ <b>.</b>

Name:
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## **Apply What You've Learned Activity**

How well do different governments work today? Use this worksheet to answer the Apply What You've Learned questions in your print or online textbook. Interview an immigrant you may know about the government in his or her native country. Use the table below to summarize the responses you receive in preparation for completing the Essential Question Assessment.

Why did you come to the United States?	 _
How do you view the government of your native country?	
What do you think worked well?	 
How well did your government meet citizens' needs?	
How democratic do you think it is?	
How do you view the government of the United States in comparison to that of your native country?	_ _ 

- **A.** Choose three nations from three different continents—for example, China, France, and Chile. You may want to include your interviewee's nation, as well. On a separate sheet of paper, make a chart with a column for each country, and for the United States. Use your chart to record basic information about the structure and function of the U.S. government compared to each of the other countries in the chart.
- **B.** Use the information in your chart to create your comparative national government guide as directed in the Essential Question Assessment.

Name:		

## **Essav**



#### How should you measure different governments?

In the last 200 years, there has been an extension of popular sovereignty around the world. However, societies still approach government differently or are faced with specialized challenges, and democratization has not taken place everywhere. Consider the quotations about government, below.

The power . . . to cast a man into prison without formulating any charge known to the law, and particularly to deny him the judgment of his peers, is in the highest degree odious [horrible] and is the foundation of all totalitarian government whether Nazi or Communist.

— British Prime Minister Winston Churchill

The only sure bulwark [defense] of continuing liberty is a government strong enough to protect the interests of the people, and a people strong enough and well enough informed to maintain its sovereign control over the government.

- President Franklin Delano Roosevelt

#### 🔼 What Do You Think?

What is your opinion? Write a response to the Essential Question, How should you measure different governments? Consider your thoughts on the quotations above, the Guiding Questions in your textbook, and the activities you have completed in your Journal. See page 219 for a rubric for writing an Essential Question essay.



#### 🗫 Don't Forget

Your answer to this question will help you think about the Unit 6 Essential Question: How should a government meet the needs of its people?