

Types of Governments



Grade 7
Social Studies Online
Presentation



Blueprint Skill: Governance & Civics

Grade 7

- Define the different types of governments (i.e., democracy, autocracy, oligarchy, monarchy, and dictatorship).



VOTE



Democracy



- In a democracy, the government is elected by the people. Everyone who is eligible to vote has a chance to have their say over who runs the country. It is distinct from governments controlled by a particular social class or group (aristocracy; oligarchy) or by a single person (despotism; dictatorship; monarchy).
- A democracy is determined either directly or through elected representatives.

Autocracy

- Government by a single person having unlimited power; despotism (domination through threat of punishment and violence) .



Oligarchy

- A government in which a few people such as a dominant clan or clique have power.





Monarchy

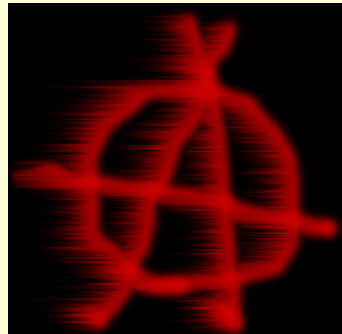


- A monarchy has a king, queen, emperor or empress.
- The ruling position can be passed on to the ruler's heirs.
- In some traditional monarchies, the monarch has absolute power.
- But a constitutional monarchy, like the UK, also has a democratic government that limits the monarch's control.

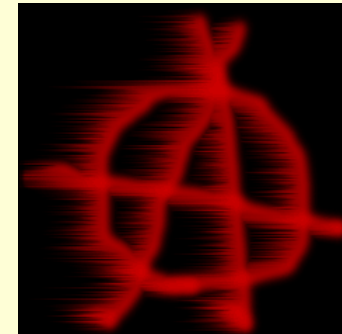
Dictatorship

- A country ruled by a single leader. The leader has not been elected and may use force to keep control.
- In a military dictatorship, the army is in control.





Anarchy



- Anarchy is a situation where there is no government. This can happen after a civil war in a country, when a government has been destroyed and rival groups are fighting to take its place.
- Anarchists are people who believe that government is a bad thing in that it stops people organizing their own lives.



Capitalist



- In a capitalist or free-market country, people can own their own businesses and property. People can also buy services for private use, such as healthcare.
- But most capitalist governments also provide their own education, health and welfare services.



Communist



- In a communist country, the government owns property such as businesses and farms.
- It provides its people's healthcare, education and welfare.



Republic

- A republic is a country that has no monarch.
- The head of the country is usually an elected president.



Revolutionary

- If a government is overthrown by force, the new ruling group is sometimes called a revolutionary government.



Totalitarian

- This is a country with only one political party.
- People are forced to do what the government tells them and may also be prevented from leaving the country.





Resources

- [The Democracy Project](#)
 - [BBC Types of Government](#)
 - [World Population Under Various Governments](#)
 - [Dictator for A Day](#)
 - [Types of Governments](#)
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