



GOVERNMENT

How govern
Citizen

High

Government Power

Citizen Participation

Government Power

Citizen Participation

Low/No Participation

Autocracy

Democracy



Standard: SS6CG1 – Compare and contrast various forms of government

Element: a. Explain citizen participation in autocratic and democratic governments. [i.e.; role of citizens in choosing the leaders of the United Kingdom (parliamentary democracy), Germany (parliamentary democracy), and Russia (presidential democracy)].

Autocratic Governments

Pro

One benefit from this type of government is that decisions for a country can be made **quickly**.

Con

The needs of the people may be ignored or unheard. The leader may make **poor** or **selfish** decisions that work **against** the well-being of the people.

Autocratic Governments

The amount of power governments has and the amount of participation allowed by its citizens, can be classified as either an **autocratic** system or **democratic** system.

In an **autocratic government**, the citizens are not permitted any say in the decisions of their countries government.

The word autocracy comes from the Greek words autos (meaning “**self**”) and Kratos (meaning “**power**”).



Autocratic Governments

The people in such a country have **no ability** to participate in the selection of the ruler or in the creation of laws.

Next in line for power are usually through **bloodlines**.

Autocratic governments do not allow the citizens to **vote**.



Autocratic Governments

Think of how
many people
it takes to
drive an
automobile.

1

Democratic Government

Form of government that puts the power of the government in the **citizens** of the country.

The word democracy comes from the Greek words demos (meaning **people**) and Kratos (meaning "**power**").



Democratic Government

The people in such a country have **total** ability to participate in the selection of the ruler or in the creation of laws.

The people **vote** what they want.

Power in **numbers**.



Democratic Government

Pro

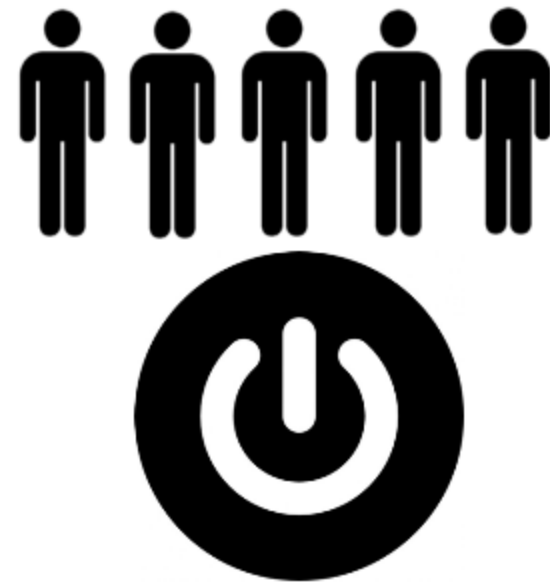
All citizens are involved in the **decision-making** process of the government, and all groups in the country are represented.

Con

Often **slow** to make decisions since people must discuss and vote on issues.

Democratic Government

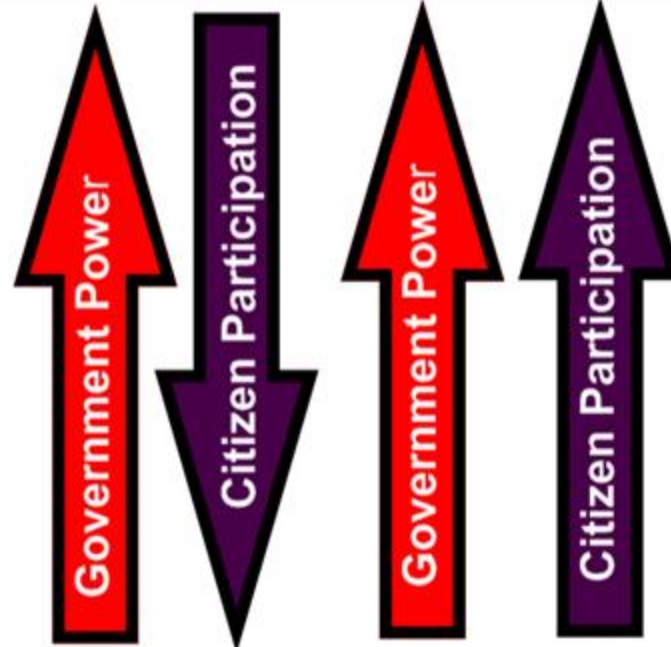
Just remember
what the word
“Demo” and
“cratic” means.
Demo = People
Cratic = Power



Democratic Government

How governments Determine Citizen Participation

High Participation



Low/No Participation

Autocracy

Democracy

Standard: SS6CG1 – Compare and contrast various forms of government

Element: b. Describe the two predominant forms of democratic governments: parliamentary and presidential.

Parliamentary Government

Democracies may be classified as either **parliamentary** or **presidential**.

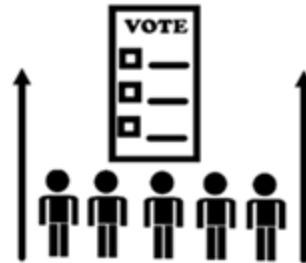
In a **parliamentary democracy**, the citizens elect members of the nation's legislature (typically referred to as its parliament).

Parliament then elects the nation's chief executive (typically called a **prime minister**.)

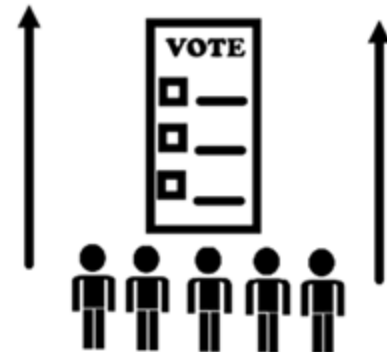
In a parliamentary democracy, the citizens vote for someone who will then vote for the head of state.



Chief Executive



Members of Parliament



Citizens

Parliamentary Government

This **prime minister** (head of government) is selected from among the members of the nation's leading **political party** (i.e; those who won the most seats in parliament.)

The Prime Minister in the United Kingdom is selected within the leading party in the House of Commons. The citizens of the United Kingdom do not get to vote directly for the Prime Minister.

Parliamentary Government

In a parliamentary system, a country may have a **king** or **queen**.

The King or queen is also known as the **head of state**.

The **head of state**, or **monarch**, is the **symbolic** leader of the country

Has **NO** REAL POWER!!!



Presidential Government

In a presidential democracy, the **citizens** have the power to elect both the nation's **legislators** and its **chief executive (president)**.

The **head of government** in a presidential democracy is held accountable to the **VOTERS** who put him/her in power.



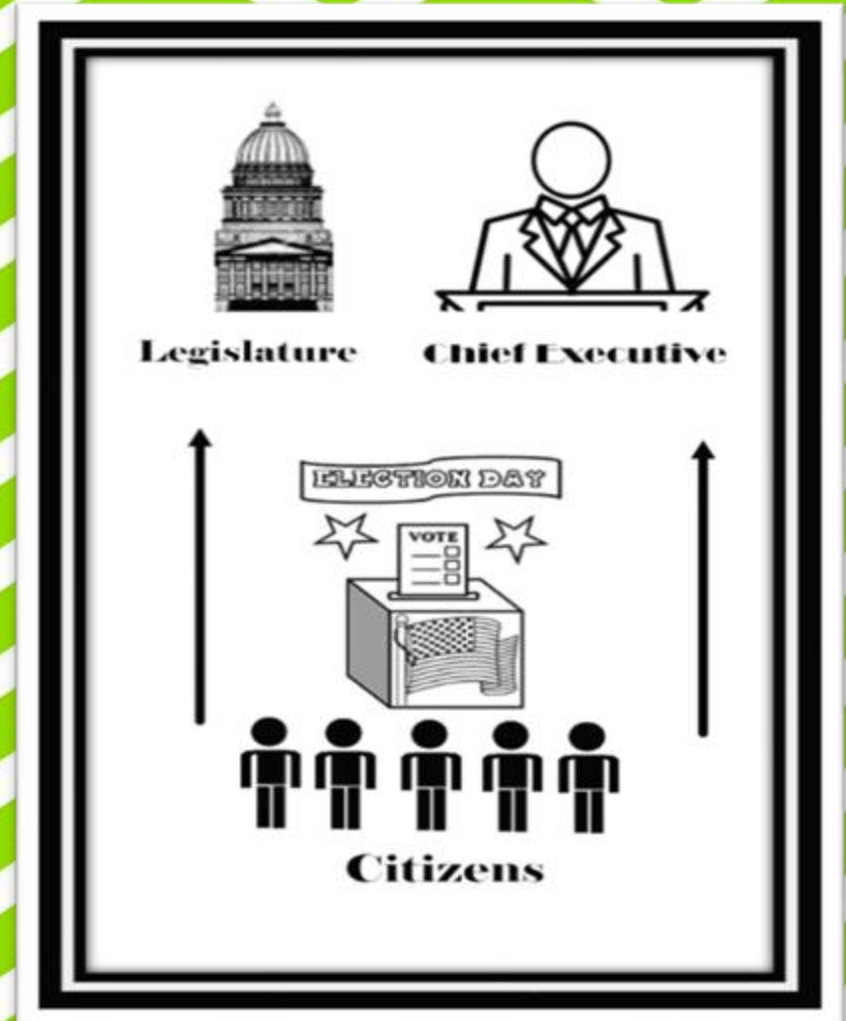
If the voters are not pleased with how the head of government is performing, they can vote someone else in their place.

Presidential Government

The **President** serves as the **Head of Government**, runs the government on a day to day basis and **heads** the **military**.

However, does not make the laws, **legislature** does that.

The 2nd in command is the **Head of State** (Vice President, Chancellor, etc)



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Thank you,
James at Brainy Yak

