

# Grade 8 History & Geography

## Unit 3: Civics in World History

5 lessons and a unit quiz. Use this pack with the **Civics in World History Student Reader** (print it, or download it once from the course) to teach the whole unit without the internet.

### What is in this pack

- A lesson plan for each chapter: the Big Question, words to know, which pages to read, questions to talk over and the activity pages.
- The unit quiz, ready to print.
- Answers for the teacher at the back: every discussion question and the quiz key.

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## Lesson schedule

Two or three lessons a week, about 30 minutes each. Tick each one off as you go.

|                          | Lesson                                              | Reader pages    | Activity pages |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chapter 1: What Is Government?                      | PDF pages 8–15  | —              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chapter 2: Early Governments                        | PDF pages 16–25 | —              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chapter 3: The Birth of Democracy                   | PDF pages 26–29 | —              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chapter 4: Governments in the Middle Ages           | PDF pages 30–33 | —              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chapter 5: The Enlightenment’s Impact on Government | PDF pages 34–45 | AP 5.1         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Unit quiz</b>                                    | —               | —              |

Page numbers are the PDF page numbers of the Student Reader file, so they match what your PDF reader shows.

# Chapter 1: What Is Government?

## THE BIG QUESTION

### How do different forms of government function?

#### Words to know

- **authoritarian** — relating to a political system in which the state has complete control over the lives of individuals *Citizens felt powerless against the harsh policies of the authoritarian regime.*
- **heredity** — the passing of traits or position from parent to child *When the king dies, the king's eldest child becomes monarch by heredity.*
- **tyranny** — cruel or unfair use of power *The American colonists accused the British king and Parliament of tyranny.*
- **capitalism** — an economic system in which resources and businesses are privately owned and prices are not controlled by the government *Capitalism allows individuals to make choices about how and what to produce.*
- **communism** — a political and economic ideology that advocates for public ownership and communal control *When the government led by Lenin introduced communism to Russia, it seized control of major industries.*
- **nationalism** — belief in the superiority of one's nation *German dictator Adolf Hitler used nationalism to gain support and expand his power.*
- **confederation** — a group of independent kingdoms or states that work together *Before Italy became a united country, Italian city-states and kingdoms joined together to form a confederation.*
- **theocracy** — a government ruled by religious leaders *In a theocracy, government officials and religious leaders are one and the same.*

#### Read

Read Chapter 1 in the Student Reader: PDF pages 8–15. Look at the pictures and maps together.

#### Talk it over

1. What are some purposes of modern governments?
2. How do authoritarian governments differ from the U.S. government?
3. What is divine right?
4. How do constitutional monarchs differ from absolute monarchs?
5. Why was the Glorious Revolution significant?
6. Why do you think constitutional monarchies became more common over time?
7. When and where did the first democracy develop?
8. How does the U.S. government differ from Athenian democracy?

9. Why did Karl Marx oppose capitalism?
10. According to Karl Marx, how would communism create a more equitable society?
11. How does communism differ from capitalism?
12. In what countries did fascism develop?
13. How do fascist leaders expand their power?
14. What is a theocracy?
15. Why do you think states in Europe formed confederations during the 1800s?

Answers are at the back of this pack.

### **Check for understanding**

- Answer the Big Question in a sentence or two: How do different forms of government function?
- Use one of today's words in a sentence of your own.

## Chapter 2: Early Governments

### THE BIG QUESTION

### How has government changed throughout history?

#### Words to know

- **bureaucrat** — a worker who helps run the daily activities of government *People complained that the government was controlled by a bureaucrat in the capital who knew little of local affairs.*
- **feudal** — describing a system in which nobility gives land to vassals in exchange for military service *The feudal system made vassals dependent on their lords for land and authority.*
- **imperialism** — the practice of gaining power as a country by taking over areas of the world *The ruler's devotion to imperialism kept the army busy attempting to conquer more lands.*
- **vassal** — a person given land and protection by a lord in return for loyalty and military service *The vassal pledged his loyalty to the shogun in exchange for land and protection.*
- **samurai** — Japanese warriors pledged in military service to a noble *The samurai were skilled warriors, hunters, and fishers and were exceedingly loyal to their lords. Chapter 2 | Early Governments*
- **codify** — to write down in a systematic way *Hammurabi's decision to codify the laws of his kingdom enabled him to hold both subjects and leaders accountable.*

#### Read

Read Chapter 2 in the Student Reader: PDF pages 16–25. Look at the pictures and maps together.

#### Talk it over

1. How did prehistoric people survive?
2. How do you think the first governments evolved?
3. Why did the need for more government organization grow over time?
4. What type of government developed in ancient Egypt?
5. What is a similarity among early civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, and Japan?
6. How were governments in China and Japan similar and different?
7. How did Hammurabi unite his vast empire made up of diverse groups?
8. What effect did the Code of Hammurabi have on Babylon?
9. What types of services did early governments provide?
10. Why did many ancient civilizations build canals?

11. What were the effects of Chandragupta Maurya's accomplishments?
12. Why were Egypt and the kingdom of Kush in conflict?
13. What have treaties and other international agreements done across history in addition to settling conflicts?

Answers are at the back of this pack.

### **Check for understanding**

- Answer the Big Question in a sentence or two: How has government changed throughout history?
- Use one of today's words in a sentence of your own.

## Chapter 3: The Birth of Democracy

### THE BIG QUESTION

**How did early democracies influence later governments?**

### Read

Read Chapter 3 in the Student Reader: PDF pages 26–29. Look at the pictures and maps together.

### Talk it over

1. What type of government developed in Athens?
2. What role did citizens serve in the government of Athens?
3. What were the limits of Athenian democracy?
4. How did democracy in Rome differ from democracy in Athens?

Answers are at the back of this pack.

### Check for understanding

- Answer the Big Question in a sentence or two: How did early democracies influence later governments?

## Chapter 4: Governments in the Middle Ages

### THE BIG QUESTION

**How did events of the Middle Ages usher in Enlightenment ideas?**

### Words to know

- **fief** — an estate in medieval Europe granted by a lord to a vassal *The knight's fief was worked by dozens of peasants.*
- **purgatory** — in the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, a place of suffering inhabited by the souls of sinners who have to serve a penance before being allowed into heaven *The Church taught that purgatory was an intermediate state between death and heaven.*
- **thesis** — an argument to be debated *The student's thesis alleged that civics and economics are being neglected in U.S. K-12 schools.*

### Read

Read Chapter 4 in the Student Reader: PDF pages 30–33. Look at the pictures and maps together.

### Talk it over

1. How long did the Middle Ages last?
2. How did the collapse of the Roman Empire affect Europe?
3. Who sat at the top of the feudal hierarchy in Europe?
4. What gave Europe's monarchs absolute power?
5. Why did people buy indulgences?
6. How did the Reformation lay the groundwork for the Enlightenment?

Answers are at the back of this pack.

### Check for understanding

- Answer the Big Question in a sentence or two: How did events of the Middle Ages usher in Enlightenment ideas?
- Use one of today's words in a sentence of your own.

## Chapter 5: The Enlightenment's Impact on Government

### THE BIG QUESTION

**How did the ideas of the Enlightenment impact democratic governments?**

### Words to know

- **natural law** — a body of law that can be established through observation and human reason *Scientist Isaac Newton used observation and reason to understand the natural law we call gravity.*
- **social contract** — an agreement between individuals in a society and a ruler or government that the individuals give up some of their freedoms in exchange for protection by the ruler or government *For the social contract to work, rulers must be accountable to the people they govern.*
- **self-determination** — the ability of the people in a country to decide their own government *After World War II, many countries in Africa and Asia demanded the right of self-determination and independence from European control.*

### Read

Read Chapter 5 in the Student Reader: PDF pages 34–45. Look at the pictures and maps together.

### Talk it over

1. How did Enlightenment philosophers challenge traditional ideas about government?
2. Which earlier government inspired Thomas Hobbes's and John Locke's ideas about the social contract?
3. What ideas did Voltaire and Montesquieu support?
4. Who was the principal author of the Declaration of Independence?
5. Why was the Declaration of Independence a significant development in the Enlightenment?
6. What is popular sovereignty?
7. Why do you think the inclusion of popular sovereignty was important to the Framers of the Constitution?
8. How does federalism limit the power of the central government?
9. Who made up each of the three estates in France?
10. Why did members of the third estate resent the other two estates?
11. How was the French Revolution similar to and different from the American Revolution?

12. Who was Toussaint Louverture?
13. Why did free Black people join the revolution in Haiti?
14. Which actions suggest the French government's decision to abolish slavery was an attempt to stop the rebellion?
15. Why was the Haitian Revolution significant?
16. Which countries won their independence in Latin America between 1825 and 1830?
17. Why was the American Revolution especially influential to Latin American leaders?
18. How did World War I contribute to independence movements in Europe?
19. Which countries were created as a result of the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire?
20. Which ideas contributed to independence movements in Vietnam and other places in Asia and Africa after World War II?
21. Which factors contributed to the Arab Spring?
22. How were the events of the Arab Spring different from earlier rebellions and uprisings?

Answers are at the back of this pack.

### **Check for understanding**

- Answer the Big Question in a sentence or two: How did the ideas of the Enlightenment impact democratic governments?
- Use one of today's words in a sentence of your own.

### **Activity pages**

- Activity Page 5.1: Domain Vocabulary: Chapters 1-5 — Teacher Guide PDF pages 57-58

## UNIT QUIZ

# Civics in World History

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the letter of the best answer.

1. What is one way governments establish order?
  - a) by declaring war
  - b) by building roads
  - c) by having justice systems
  - d) by providing free education
2. How are leaders in a monarchy determined?
  - a) by heredity
  - b) by elections
  - c) by intimidation
  - d) by appointment
3. Where do democratic governments get their power?
  - a) from elected officials
  - b) from the police force
  - c) from citizens
  - d) from a god
4. How does communism differ from capitalism?
  - a) Unlike capitalism, communism is strictly an economic system.
  - b) Unlike capitalism, communism eliminates private property.
  - c) Unlike capitalism, communism prevents totalitarianism.
  - d) Unlike capitalism, communism creates class divisions.
5. What is one reason the first governments formed?
  - a) to organize labor
  - b) to honor the gods
  - c) to provide services
  - d) to establish settlements
6. Which is a similarity between the governments of early China and Japan?
  - a) Both led to imperialism.
  - b) Both relied on feudalism.
  - c) Both developed into theocracies.
  - d) Both centered on the emperor.
7. Why was the Code of Hammurabi significant?
  - a) It ensured bureaucrats were chosen based on their ability.
  - b) It provided stability across a large, diverse empire.
  - c) It served as a blueprint for other civilizations.
  - d) It promoted agriculture through public works.

- 8.** Why was military conflict between the earliest civilizations common?
- a) Governments wanted to extend their economic and political control.
  - b) Governments wanted to find ways to improve their agricultural output.
  - c) Governments were opposed to signing peace treaties.
  - d) Governments wanted to develop civic infrastructure.
- 9.** Which location is considered the birthplace of democracy?
- a) Athens
  - b) Rome
  - c) China
  - d) Egypt
- 10.** Which feature of Roman government influenced the Framers of the U.S. Constitution?
- a) the election of two consuls
  - b) representative democracy
  - c) the role of patricians
  - d) separation of powers
- 11.** What was feudalism based on?
- a) religious beliefs
  - b) armed combat
  - c) natural law
  - d) hierarchy
- 12.** How did the Reformation set the stage for the Enlightenment?
- a) by shaping the idea of federalism
  - b) by limiting the power of absolute monarchs
  - c) by ending the practice of selling indulgences
  - d) by challenging the power of religious authorities
- 13.** Which idea of John Locke and Thomas Hobbes rejected the concept of divine rule?
- a) natural law
  - b) social contract
  - c) separation of powers
  - d) popular sovereignty
- 14.** Which feature of the U.S. Constitution reflects the ideas of Montesquieu?
- a) federalism
  - b) a bill of rights
  - c) popular sovereignty
  - d) checks and balances

**15.** How did the power vacuum that followed World War I affect ethnic and national groups?

- a) It empowered them to dissolve empires.
- b) It inspired them to form an international peacekeeping group.
- c) It brought them into conflict with rival groups.
- d) It encouraged them to assert their right to self-determination.

## Answers

### Chapter 1: What Is Government?

1. **What are some purposes of modern governments?**

Some purposes of modern governments include overseeing defense and safety, establishing rules, providing services, and managing taxes.

2. **How do authoritarian governments differ from the U.S. government?**

Authoritarian governments are ruled by a single person called a dictator, who can declare what is or isn't a law. This differs from the United States government, whose leaders are elected by citizens and must obey the laws.

3. **What is divine right?**

Divine right is the idea that the power of a monarch comes directly from a god or gods.

4. **How do constitutional monarchs differ from absolute monarchs?**

Absolute monarchs rule with total authority and cannot be challenged by anyone. In contrast, constitutional monarchs are symbolic heads of state, and real government power rests with the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government.

5. **Why was the Glorious Revolution significant?**

The Glorious Revolution was significant because it established England as a constitutional monarchy.

6. **Why do you think constitutional monarchies became more common over time?**

Student answers will vary, but students may suggest that constitutional monarchies became more common because citizens and subjects wanted to limit the power of absolute rulers in order to ensure that the people had a say in government or to protect the rights of the people.

7. **When and where did the first democracy develop?**

The first democracy developed in the ancient Greek city-state of Athens around the 400s BCE.

8. **How does the U.S. government differ from Athenian democracy?**

Athens had a direct democracy, which meant that citizens directly ran the government. In contrast, the U.S. government is a republic, or representative democracy, in which citizens choose leaders to represent them. Chapter 1 | What Is Government?

9. **Why did Karl Marx oppose capitalism?**

Karl Marx opposed capitalism because he believed that it exploited, or took advantage of, workers.

10. **According to Karl Marx, how would communism create a more equitable society?**

According to Karl Marx, communism would create a more equitable society by eliminating private property and economic and social divisions.

**11. How does communism differ from capitalism?**

In a capitalist system, resources and businesses are privately owned. In contrast, in a communist system, resources and the means of production are owned collectively, at least in theory.

**12. In what countries did fascism develop?**

Fascism developed in Italy, Germany, and Spain.

**13. How do fascist leaders expand their power?**

Fascist leaders expand their power by limiting individual rights, using force and nationalism, encouraging hatred against minority groups, spreading disinformation, and pitting groups against each other.

**14. What is a theocracy?**

A theocracy is a government ruled by religious leaders.

**15. Why do you think states in Europe formed confederations during the 1800s?**

States in Europe may have formed confederations during the 1800s to protect themselves from military attack or to compete politically and economically with other nations.

## **Chapter 2: Early Governments**

**1. How did prehistoric people survive?**

Prehistoric people survived by hunting animals and gathering plants. 24

**2. How do you think the first governments evolved?**

Possible answer: Societies were informally organized before formal government existed. People in nomadic hunter-gatherer groups needed to organize to divide labor and protect their interests. As settlements grew larger, decision-making became more formalized.

**3. Why did the need for more government organization grow over time?**

As the needs of societies changed and increased, so too did the need for more government organization. Rulers appointed officials to perform roles like collecting taxes, enforcing the law, and defending against invaders.

**4. What type of government developed in ancient Egypt?**

A complex theocracy run by a pharaoh developed in Egypt.

**5. What is a similarity among early civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, and Japan?**

They developed highly organized governments.

**6. How were governments in China and Japan similar and different?**

Governments in China and Japan were similar in that the emperors in both places were heads of state who ruled by divine mandate. Both countries also developed a feudal system. Governments in China and Japan differed in that the Japanese emperor was less powerful and had little control over the land.

**7. How did Hammurabi unite his vast empire made up of diverse groups?**

Hammurabi established and made known a common set of laws to unite his vast

empire.

8. **What effect did the Code of Hammurabi have on Babylon?**

The Code of Hammurabi reduced chaos and provided stability. It made sure that subjects and leaders were all accountable to the law.

9. **What types of services did early governments provide?**

Early governments created public works projects such as roads and rest houses, canals and irrigation systems to support agriculture and transportation, and hospitals.

10. **Why did many ancient civilizations build canals?**

Canals were used for agriculture and transportation.

11. **What were the effects of Chandragupta Maurya's accomplishments?**

Chandragupta Maurya created India's first empire and divided it into provinces for efficient administration, built roads and operated trade routes to encourage trade, and built public works projects to help farmers and travelers.

12. **Why were Egypt and the kingdom of Kush in conflict?**

Both civilizations wanted to control the Nile River and trade along it. Chapter 2 | Early Governments

13. **What have treaties and other international agreements done across history in addition to settling conflicts?**

In addition to settling conflicts, treaties and other international agreements have decided borders, reallocated territory, placed limits on development, and created organizations for international cooperation.

### **Chapter 3: The Birth of Democracy**

1. **What type of government developed in Athens?**

A direct democracy developed in Athens.

2. **What role did citizens serve in the government of Athens?**

Citizens were required to participate in the Assembly and vote on important issues.

3. **What were the limits of Athenian democracy?**

In Athens, enslaved people and women were not considered citizens and had virtually no rights. As a result, Athenian democracy was limited to free adult men who were born to Athenian parents.

4. **How did democracy in Rome differ from democracy in Athens?**

Unlike Athens's direct democracy, Rome developed a republic, or a representative democracy.

### **Chapter 4: Governments in the Middle Ages**

1. **How long did the Middle Ages last?**

The Middle Ages began around 500 CE and lasted almost one thousand years.

2. **How did the collapse of the Roman Empire affect Europe?**

The collapse of the Roman Empire caused Europe to decline politically, socially, and economically. A system called feudalism developed and shaped Europe for most of the Middle Ages. Chapter 4 | Governments in the Middle Ages

3. **Who sat at the top of the feudal hierarchy in Europe?**  
Monarchs such as kings, queens, and czars sat at the top of the feudal hierarchy in Europe.
4. **What gave Europe's monarchs absolute power?**  
Europe's monarchs got their absolute power from the feudal system and divine right.
5. **Why did people buy indulgences?**  
People bought indulgences to reduce the time their soul would spend in purgatory after they died.
6. **How did the Reformation lay the groundwork for the Enlightenment?**  
The Reformation laid the groundwork for the Enlightenment by encouraging people to challenge the authority of the Catholic Church. 34

## **Chapter 5: The Enlightenment's Impact on Government**

1. **How did Enlightenment philosophers challenge traditional ideas about government?**  
Enlightenment philosophers challenged traditional ideas about government by focusing on people as citizens instead of subjects.
2. **Which earlier government inspired Thomas Hobbes's and John Locke's ideas about the social contract?**  
The idea of the social contract came from studying Athenian democracy. Chapter 5 | The Enlightenment's Impact on Government
3. **What ideas did Voltaire and Montesquieu support?**  
Voltaire supported free speech and religious tolerance. Montesquieu believed governments should be separated into different branches to limit their power.
4. **Who was the principal author of the Declaration of Independence?**  
Thomas Jefferson was the principal author of the Declaration of Independence.
5. **Why was the Declaration of Independence a significant development in the Enlightenment?**  
The Declaration of Independence was a significant development because it put the ideas of the Enlightenment into action.
6. **What is popular sovereignty?**  
Popular sovereignty is the right of the governed to rule themselves.
7. **Why do you think the inclusion of popular sovereignty was important to the Framers of the Constitution?**  
Answers will vary, but students should note that the Framers were concerned about tyranny. Through popular sovereignty, they could prevent this by holding the government directly accountable to citizens.
8. **How does federalism limit the power of the central government?**  
Federalism limits the power of the federal government by creating a power-sharing system with the states.
9. **Who made up each of the three estates in France?**  
The first estate was made up of the clergy. The second estate was made up of nobles.

The third estate was made up of commoners.

**10. Why did members of the third estate resent the other two estates?**

The third estate resented the other two estates for two key reasons. First, they resented the privileges of the clergy and nobility. Second, they paid the bulk of France's taxes despite earning the lowest wages.

**11. How was the French Revolution similar to and different from the American Revolution?**

Like the American Revolution, the French Revolution resulted in the adoption of a constitution and the creation of a democratic legislature. Unlike the American Revolution, the French Revolution became radical and bloody. The government it created was unstable.

**12. Who was Toussaint Louverture?**

Toussaint Louverture was a formerly enslaved man who led the Haitian Revolution.

**13. Why did free Black people join the revolution in Haiti?**

Free Black people joined the revolution in Haiti because they were treated as second-class citizens and faced discrimination and marginalization.

**14. Which actions suggest the French government's decision to abolish slavery was an attempt to stop the rebellion?**

After the rebellion ended, the French government later repealed abolition and reestablished slavery and other oppressive policies.

**15. Why was the Haitian Revolution significant?**

The Haitian Revolution was significant because it was the first successful slave rebellion in the Western Hemisphere and because it led to the establishment of the first independent Black republic in the world.

**16. Which countries won their independence in Latin America between 1825 and 1830?**

Bolivia, Uruguay, and Venezuela won their independence in 1825, 1828, and 1830, respectively.

**17. Why was the American Revolution especially influential to Latin American leaders?**

The American Revolution proved it was possible for colonies to break free from European rule and establish independent nations.

**18. How did World War I contribute to independence movements in Europe?**

World War I created a power vacuum that ethnic and national groups sought to fill by asserting their right to self-determination. Chapter 5 | The Enlightenment's Impact on Government

**19. Which countries were created as a result of the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire?**

Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, and Austria were created as a result of the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

20. **Which ideas contributed to independence movements in Vietnam and other places in Asia and Africa after World War II?**

Ideas of anti-colonialism and self-rule contributed to independence movements after World War II.

21. **Which factors contributed to the Arab Spring?**

Factors that contributed to the Arab Spring were growing frustration over high unemployment, economic inequality, and lack of political representation.

22. **How were the events of the Arab Spring different from earlier rebellions and uprisings?**

The events of the Arab Spring were different from other rebellions and uprisings in that they were coordinated through social media.

**Unit quiz key**

1. c 2. a 3. c 4. b 5. a 6. b 7. b 8. a 9. a 10. b 11. d 12. d 13. b 14. d 15. d