

Name: _____

Types of Government

Background

There are many forms of government that take their ideologies from two basic structures:

Democracy & Dictatorship

Democracy: type of government where elected officials represent the people. Anyone of age can be elected into government. Decisions are made based on what the majority of the population wants. If a leader is doing a poor job, it is possible to switch leaders.

Dictatorship: type of government where one person is in control of all decision making. They make decisions based on what they think is best and everyone else must follow his/her rules. It is very difficult to switch leaders in a dictatorship style of government.

Directions

Write some of the benefits and drawbacks for both types of government.

	Benefits	Drawbacks
Democracy		
Dictatorship		

Name: _____

Monarchy - Parliamentary Democracy

Canada was a British colony up until confederation in 1867. This tie to Britain is still existent today, as Canada's government is a **constitutional monarchy**. This means that Canada's head of state is a monarch - the Queen of England! Although the Queen is the head of state for our government, she rarely visits and is only a symbolic figure that has little power in Canada.

1. Some people want Canada to cut ties with the royal family and lose the monarchy status of government. Why do you think Canada keeps this status? Do you think Canada should keep it?

The term **Parliament** refers to the group of people who make laws for our country. The Crown, House of Commons, and Senate all make up the parliamentary system of Canada. Those three groups need to all agree on a law before it is passed. The members of the House of Commons are voted in and the Senate is chosen by the Prime Minister who is also voted in. This reflects a **Democracy** because all citizens have a voice by being able to vote for the people they want to make laws for their country.

2. Why is Canada's system called a parliamentary democracy?

True or False	T or F
1. The members of the Senate are voted in	T or F
2. The Prime Minister is the head of state	T or F
3. Canada is a parliamentary democracy because all citizens have a voice in who makes laws for our country	T or F
4. A monarch refers to the King or Queen of a country	T or F
5. The Queen has no power in Canada	T or F
6. Some Canadians want to lose our monarchy status	T or F