

# Chapter One Worksheets - Government

1. Why do we need government? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. What does James Madison mean by “*If men were angels, no government would be necessary*”?

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3. What do you think is the nature of man? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Why is the “social contract theory” so important to the study of government? Do you think Rousseau was right? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Do you think Americans have a common bond as citizens of the United States? \_\_\_\_ What is that bond or commonality? (If no, why not) \_\_\_\_\_

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6. What are the four ways that governments gain authority to rule? Which method is most appealing to you and why? 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

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7. What is the difference between a direct and an indirect democracy? \_\_\_\_\_

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Which one do we primarily have? \_\_\_\_\_ Do you think it is practical to have a direct democracy today? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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8. What is the difference between authoritarianism and totalitarianism? \_\_\_\_\_

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9. Draw a diagram depicting the difference between a presidential and parliamentary system.

10. Which of the above do you think is a better form of government? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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11. List and explain the concepts of democracy that we embrace in the United States.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_

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12. Which one of the concepts of democracy do you think is most important? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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13. List and explain what framers of our Constitution thought the government should do for the people?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_

14. Which of those do you think is most important? \_\_\_\_\_ Why?

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15. List and explain what Americans must do to preserve democracy for ourselves and our posterity?

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16. What is civil disobedience and what limitations are there to the concept in a democratic society?

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16. What did Thomas Jefferson mean by “*If a nation expects to be ignorant and free... it expects what never was and never will be*”?

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**INTERNET ACTIVITY:** Pick a nation, other than the United States, and list its four characteristics? (five extra-credit points – may not duplicate another student’s work)

Country \_\_\_\_\_ Website \_\_\_\_\_

Population \_\_\_\_\_ Who has the authority to rule? \_\_\_\_\_

What type of government do they have? \_\_\_\_\_

How many square miles are there to this nation? \_\_\_\_\_

Draw a map of the country your selected country on the bottom of this page.

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