# Social Studies 30-1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Perspectives on Ideology

***Key Issue: To what extent should we embrace an ideology?***

***Related Issue #3: To what extent are the principles of***

***liberalism viable?***

Chapter 10: Political Challenges to Liberalism

Chapter Issue: *To what extent should governments reflect the will of the people?*

**Chapter Overview:**

In this second chapter of Part 3, you will examine the principles that are central to liberalism, such as: ***individual equality and worth***, ***the rule of law***, and ***ruling through the consent of the people***.

Chapter 10 will ask you to consider the extent to which governments should reflect the will of the people, especially on a national level. You will explore various perspectives on citizens’ influence over politicians and government policy, and the relationship between government and the electorate. You will also examine the complexity of the concept of the will of the people as well as some situations in which government policy has deliberately not reflected the will of its citizens for various reasons.

Two questions for inquiry will guide your investigations. They include:

* How do governments attempt to follow the will of the people?
* How, and to what extent, are governments actions that ignore the will of the people justified?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Key Terms | consensus decision making, direct democracy, proportional representation, representative democracy, responsible government, authoritarianism, military dictatorship, oligarchy, one-party state |
| Key Concepts | Exploring the extent to which liberal governments reflect the will of the people. |
| Key People | American House of Representatives and the Senate, Canadian House of Commons and the Senate, Justice Minister Irwin Cotler, governments of Nunavut and the Northwest Territories, Mac Harb, Thomas Jefferson, John F. Kennedy, Abraham Lincoln, Fidel Castro, Winston Churchill, Adolf Hitler, Ferdinand Marcos, General Pervez Musharraf (Pakistan), Benito Mussolini, General Augusto Pinochet/Salvador Allende (Chile), Vladimir Putin, Saudi Arabian government, South American governments using terror (Argentina), Joseph Stalin, Mao Zedong |

|  |
| --- |
| ***A question for your consideration:***  **In a liberal democracy, how should the people’s representative vote:**   * ***According to the will of his/her constituents*** * ***According to the policies of his/her political party*** * ***According to his/her personal beliefs and values*** |

**Introduction: (Pages 335-356)**

1. From your glossary, define the term ***party solidarity***.

2. What is ***a free vote***?

3. Under what circumstances can a democratically elected party in power **be forced to resign**?

4. What may result if an elected representative **refuses to endorse a policy with which they or their constituents disagree**?

**Part One: Does Government Serve the People or Lead the People?**

**(Pages 335-356)**

1. ***The will of the people…is the only legitimate foundation of any government, and to protect its free expression should be our first object.***

**—Thomas Jefferson, 1801**

Jefferson’s words echo the ideas of ***John Locke***, who put forward the concept of ***“the consent of the governed.”*** If the will of the people is the foundation of government, in what ways can a government accurately discern the will of the people? What are some possible problems with this principle?

2. ***A democracy is a form of government in which power is ultimately vested in the people.***

From your glossary, define the following **forms of democracy**: ***direct democracy*** and ***representative democracy***.

3. What is the strongest argument **in favor of *direct democracy***? What argument could you make **against the use of *direct democracy***?

4. Three important **instruments of *direct democracy* are *initiatives*, *referendums or* *plebiscites*, and *recalls*.** Complete the following retrieval chart by……

* **listing the essential characteristics of each instrument**
* **listing examples of each instrument being used in Canada and/or the United States**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Instruments of Direct Democracy** | | |
| **Instrument** | **Essential Characteristics** | **Examples** |
| **Initiatives** |  |  |
| **Referendums or**  **Plebiscites** |  |  |
| **Recalls** |  |  |

5. **Carefully study the information found in Figure 10-7 on page 339.**

***In representative democracies, the will of the people is expressed in the selection of representatives to the government during elections.***

How could each of the features in a ***representative democracy*** found in Figure 10-7 help to ensure **that those who are elected remain true to the will of the people**?

**a) Periodic elections:**

**b) Multiple parties:**

**c) Separation of powers among branches of government:**

**d) Independent judiciary:**

**e) Rule of law:**

**f) Independent media:**

6. a) From your glossary, define the term ***responsible government***.

b) What may happen if the ***legislative branch*** **does not approve** of important laws

proposed by the ***executive branch***?

7. What is a ***motion of non-confidence***? What must happen if a ***vote of*** ***non-confidence*** passes?

8. Do you think that the main role of ***citizens*** is to legitimize the system of electing the government? Do ***citizens*** play other roles in a ***representative democracy***? Explain fully.

9. From your glossary, define the term ***single-member constituency***. Note: A single-member constituency is also known as a plurality.

10. **Study carefully the information contained in *Figure 10-8* on page 340 and answer the questions that follow. Explain all answers fully by supplying well reasoned argumentation.**

a) What does ***representation by population*** mean?

b) Based on the data outlined on the map, is it fair that over one-third of all members

of parliament come from just one province (Ontario—106 MPs)?

c) Is it fair that urban voters are under-represented in comparison with rural voters?

d) What would happen if all provinces and territories were given the same number of

seats? Would this be more fair or less fair?

11. What problems concerning ***Canada’s parliamentary system*** can be identified by critically analyzing the data found in ***Figure 10-9*** on page 340?

12. What are four characteristics of **Canada’s 105 member *Senate*** as outlined on pages 340 and 341?

13. Canada’s system of democracy is referred to as a ***constitutional monarchy*** while the United States follows a ***republican system of government***. What does the term ***“republican”*** mean?

14. Why did the ***United States*** implement a system of ***checks and balances***?

15. When are the following members of the ***United States Congress*** elected?

***a)* *House of Representatives:***

***b) Senate:***

16. Explain the process involved in **electing the United States president** through a body known as the ***Electoral College***.

17. From your glossary, define the term ***proportional representation***.

18. Would ***minority or marginal parties*** support the implementation of ***proportional*** ***representation***? Explain your position fully.

19. What does the term ***coalition government*** mean?

20. What obstacles would have to be overcome before Canada could move towards a proportional system of government?

21. Read and study carefully the information found in the **Skill Path:** ***Examining Proportional Representation*** on pages 344 and 345 and then answer the questions that follow.

The retrieval chart below gives a snapshot of the results from **Canada’s Federal Election held in 2008.** Complete the retrieval chart by answering the questions that follow the chart.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Party** | **# of Votes** | **% of the Popular Vote** | **# of Seats Won Under a Plurality System** | **% of Total Seats Won Under a Plurality System** | **# of Seats Won Under Proportional Representation** |
| **Bloc Quebecois** | **1 379 991** |  | **49** |  |  |
| **Conservative Party of Canada** | **5 209 069** |  | **143** |  |  |
| **Green Party of Canada** | **937 613** |  | **0** |  |  |
| **Liberal Party of Canada** | **3 633 185** |  | **77** |  |  |
| **New Democratic Party** | **2 515 288** |  | **37** |  |  |
| **Total Votes Cast** | **13 929 093** | | | | |

a) Calculate the **percentage of the popular vote** each party received. Round to

the nearest decimal place. *To do this, divide the total votes cast per party by the total by the total number of votes cast and then multiply this number by 100 to*

*arrive at a decimal number.*

b) Calculate the **percentage of total seats won under a plurality system**. *To do this, divide the number of seats won by 308 (because in 2008 there were 308 ridings in Canada) and then multiply by 100.*

c) Calculate the **number of seats each party would have received under a**

**proportional representation system.** *To do this, multiply 308 (because in 2008 there were 308 ridings in Canada) by the percentage of the popular vote you obtained in question 21 a) above and then divide this number by 100.*

d) Would the ***Conservative Party*** still have won the ***2008 Federal Election***?

e) How would ***Parliament*** be different if the number of seats won under

***proportional representation* were the actual distribution of MPs in Parliament**? Which parties would gain representation? Which parties would lose MPs?

f) Which system do you think is **more democratic**? Which one seems to better

**represent the will of the people**? Explain your response fully by supplying

well reasoned argumentation.

g) How might politics change in Canada if the ***proportional representation***

***system*** was adopted?

22. Below are five charts representing the results from five elections held in Canada recently. Calculate the missing information for each election.

**Canada’s Federal Election 1980**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Party | **Percentage of Popular Vote** | **Number of Seats Won Under a Plurality System** | **Percentage of Total Seats Won** | **Number of Seats Won Under Proportional Representation** |
| Liberal | **44.3%** | **147** |  |  |
| Conservative | **32.5%** | **103** |  |  |
| NDP | **19.8%** | **32** |  |  |
| Others | **3.4%** | **0** |  |  |

**Total Seats in 1980: 282**

**Canada’s Federal Election 2000**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Party | **Percentage of Popular Vote** | Number of Seats Won **Under a Plurality System** | **Percentage Of Total Seats Won** | Number of Seats Won Under Proportional Representation |
| Liberal | **41%** | **172** |  |  |
| Can. Alliance | **25%** | **67** |  |  |
| **Bloc Que.** | **11%** | **37** |  |  |
| NDP | **9%** | **13** |  |  |
| **P.C.** | **12%** | **12** |  |  |
| **Others** | **2%** | **0** |  |  |

#### Total Seats in 2000: 301

##### Alberta’s Provincial Election 2001

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Party | Percent ofPopular Vote | Number of Seats Won Under a Plurality System | Percentage Of Total Seats Won | Number of Seats Won Under Proportional Representation |
| **P.C.** | **61.8%** | **74** |  |  |
| Liberals | **27.3%** | **7** |  |  |
| NDP | **8.1%** | **2** |  |  |
| Others | **2.8%** | **0** |  |  |

**Total Seats in 2001: 83**

# Alberta’s Provincial Election 2004

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Party | **Percentage of Popular Vote** | Number of Seats Won Under a Plurality System | **Percentage of Total Seats Won** | **Number of Seats Won Under Proportional Representation** |
| P.C | **47.0%** | **62** |  |  |
| Liberals | **29.0%** | **16** |  |  |
| NDP | **9.8%** | **4** |  |  |
| Alberta Alliance | **9.1%** | **1** |  |  |
| Alberta Green Party | **2.7%** | **0** |  |  |
| **Social Credit Party** | **1.3%** | **0** |  |  |
| **Separation Party** | **1.27%** | **0** |  |  |
| Others | **0.97%** | **0** |  |  |

### Total Seats in 2004: 83

# Canada’s Federal Election 2004

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Party | **Percentage of Popular Vote** | Number of Seats Won  Under a Plurality System | **Percentage of Total Seats Won** | **Number of Seats Won Under Proportional Representation** |
| Liberal | **36.7%** | **135** |  |  |
| Conservative | **29.6%** | **99** |  |  |
| Bloc Que. | **12.4%** | **54** |  |  |
| NDP | **15.7%** | **19** |  |  |
| Independent | **0.1%** | **1** |  |  |
| Others | **5.5%** | **0** |  |  |

### Total Seats in 2004: 308

23. Read carefully the section ***“Voter Turnout”*** on page 347 and answer the questions that follow.

a) How does low voter turnout undermine or endanger a democratic system?

b) Why do you think voting becomes more likely as people get older?

c) What effect do you think voter age has on government policy?

24. Read and study carefully the **Investigation Feature: *Mandatory Voting*** on pages 348 and 349 and answer the questions that follow.

a) Do you think mandatory voting would increase the voter turnout rate in Canada?

Use some of the questions and answers in the Mac Harb interview to defend your

position.

b) How might mandatory voting in Canada change citizen participation, besides

having more citizens voting?

c) Examine the voter turnout graph in **Figure 10-14**. What other strategies besides

mandatory voting might the Canadian government employ to try to increase voter

turnout?

25. a) What is the ***“elite theory of democracy”***?

b) What dilemma does this theory pose for those who favor increased citizen

participation?

26. a) Describe the process of ***“lobbying”***.

b) When could a lobby group be considered **a challenge to the will of the people**?

27. a) Nineteenth-century thinkers *Alexis de Tocqueville* and *John Stuart Mill* used the

phrase ***tyranny of the majority*** to describe one of the potential problems in a

democracy. What does ***tyranny of the majority*** mean?

b) How could the recognition of ***same-sex marriage legislation (2005)*** and the

***abolition of the death penalty (1976)*** be seen as a illiberal act of our federal

government?

c) Are government members still following the will of the people if they make wise

decisions that go against the wishes of the majority?

28. From your glossary, define the term ***consensus decision making***.

29. List three characteristics of ***consensus governments*** as found in the governments of ***Nunavut*** and the ***Northwest Territories***.

30. Summarize those arguments that would be made by both **supporters of and critics of consensus decision making** by completing the following retrieval chart.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Supporters of Consensus Decision Making*** | ***Critics of Consensus Decision Making*** |
|  |  |

**Part Two: Authoritarianism (Pages 357-366)**

1. From your glossary, define the term ***authoritarianism***.

2. Describe the **vision of a future world** that authoritarian governments have. What will the cost be for the immediate will of the people?

3. *Virtually all authoritarian governments say that they are working for the best interest of the people; however, many also argue that the will of the people is unimportant because it does not reflect what is best for the country*.

**Is it ever a legitimate justification for ignoring or even subverting the will of the people?**

4. *Authoritarian political systems take many forms, including* ***oligarchies****,* ***military******dictatorships****,* ***ideological one-party states****, and* ***monarchies.***

Complete the following retrieval chart outlining the forms and characteristics of the types of authoritarian political systems that were discussed in this part of Chapter 10. Include information on……..

* a workable definition (you may use your glossary if necessary)
* the main characteristics of each system
* examples of countries (and their respective leader) that use or have used that form of government

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Authoritarian Type** | **Definition** | **Main Characteristics** | **Examples** |
| **Oligarchy** |  |  |  |
| **Military Dictatorship** |  |  |  |
| **Ideological One-Party State** |  |  |  |
| **Monarchy** |  |  |  |

5. *Authoritarian governments use several techniques to first gain power and then maintain it. These techniques include* ***a vision****,* ***propaganda****,* ***controlled participation****,* ***directing public discontent****, and* ***the use of terror****.*

Complete the retrieval chart below by completing the following……….

* **Describing** the technique of authoritarian governments.
* **Listing examples of each technique** from the perspective of **Nazi Germany** under the leadership of *Adolf Hitler*, **the Soviet Union** under the leadership of *Stalin*, **Cuba** under the leadership of *Fidel Castro*, **China** under the leadership of *Mao Zedong*, other examples covered in this section of your textbook.
* You may want to revisit Chapter 5 ***“Twentieth-Century Rejections of Liberalism”*** for other examples.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Technique** | **Description of Technique** | **Example of Technique** |
| **Vision** |  |  |
| **Propaganda** |  |  |
| **Controlled**  **Participation** |  |  |
| **Directing Public**  **Discontent** |  |  |
| **Terror** |  |  |

6. *Even though many authoritarian governments have sometimes resorted to horrible acts of human rights violations to enforce their power, the fact remains that authoritarianism seems to accomplish many of its goals in many situations. As a result there is and has been genuine support for such authoritarian governments.*

Describe the situation that has resulted in support for authoritarianism in ***Russia*** and the in the ***Philippines* under dictator *Ferdinand Marcos***.

a) **Russia:**

b) **Philippines under dictator Ferdinand Marcos:**

7. List two perceived weaknesses of authoritarianism.