



Forms of Government Assignment

Overview of America



Please answer the following questions about the Overview of America video! :-D

Introductory Section

1. What made America great? Was it natural resources? _____ Was it people? _____ Was it government planning and wisdom? _____
2. It wasn't what government DID that made America great; it was what the government was _____ from doing that made the difference.
3. America became great precisely because the stifling effect of too much _____ - had been prevented.
4. American freedom was not totally unrestrained. Americans overwhelmingly chose to limit their actions with _____ codes such as the Ten Commandments.
5. Personal _____ and Limited _____ - it's a combination that characterized America and made it the envy of the world.

A Firm Foundation

1. Who gives rights to man? _____
2. According to the Founders, what are three of these rights as written into the Declaration of Independence?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____ of _____
3. According to the Founders, what is the proper role of government? _____
4. The sole function of government is to protect citizens:
 - from one _____
 - from foreign _____
 - and especially from its own _____ itself.
5. Government was not intended to be a force that does things _____ people...to take from some to give to others.
6. When a government starts doing something for one citizen, it has to _____ from another citizen in order to do so. And in the process, it gains _____ over BOTH citizens.

Fight for Freedom

1. The Constitution was written to govern the _____ and not the people and not the states.
2. Founders created a central (federal) government with strictly _____ powers.

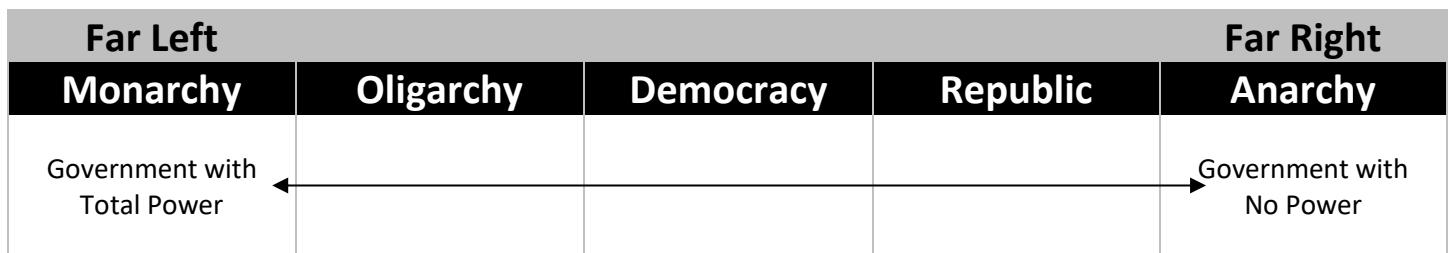
3. The Constitution was not forced upon the people. The Constitution was sent back to the _____ for ratification.
4. Several Founders wrote essays explaining their rationale behind the Constitution to convince people to adopt it. The Founders that wrote essays were: James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay. Their essays were gathered into a collection called "The _____ Papers".
5. Eventually all thirteen states ratified the Constitution and also the first Ten Amendments known as the _____ of _____.
6. The Bill of Rights never gave citizens any rights whatsoever. The sole purpose of the Bill of Rights was to safeguard God-given rights by limiting _____ power!
7. In the Bill of Rights, the Founders insisted that Congress shall make ***no*** law about:
 - *S* _____,
 - *R* _____,
 - The Press,
 - Assembly,
 - The Right to Petition, and
 - The Right to Keep and Bear _____.
8. The Bill of Rights is a list of _____ for the Federal Government.

The American Form of Government

1. As Ben Franklin exited the Constitutional Convention, a woman asked him, "What have you given us?" What was his reply?

2. Most Americans think that America is a [choose one: **O** democracy or **O** republic] ?
3. Many people have been led to believe that the political spectrum places groups such as Communists on the far _____ and Fascists / Dictators on the far _____ with political moderates in the middle.

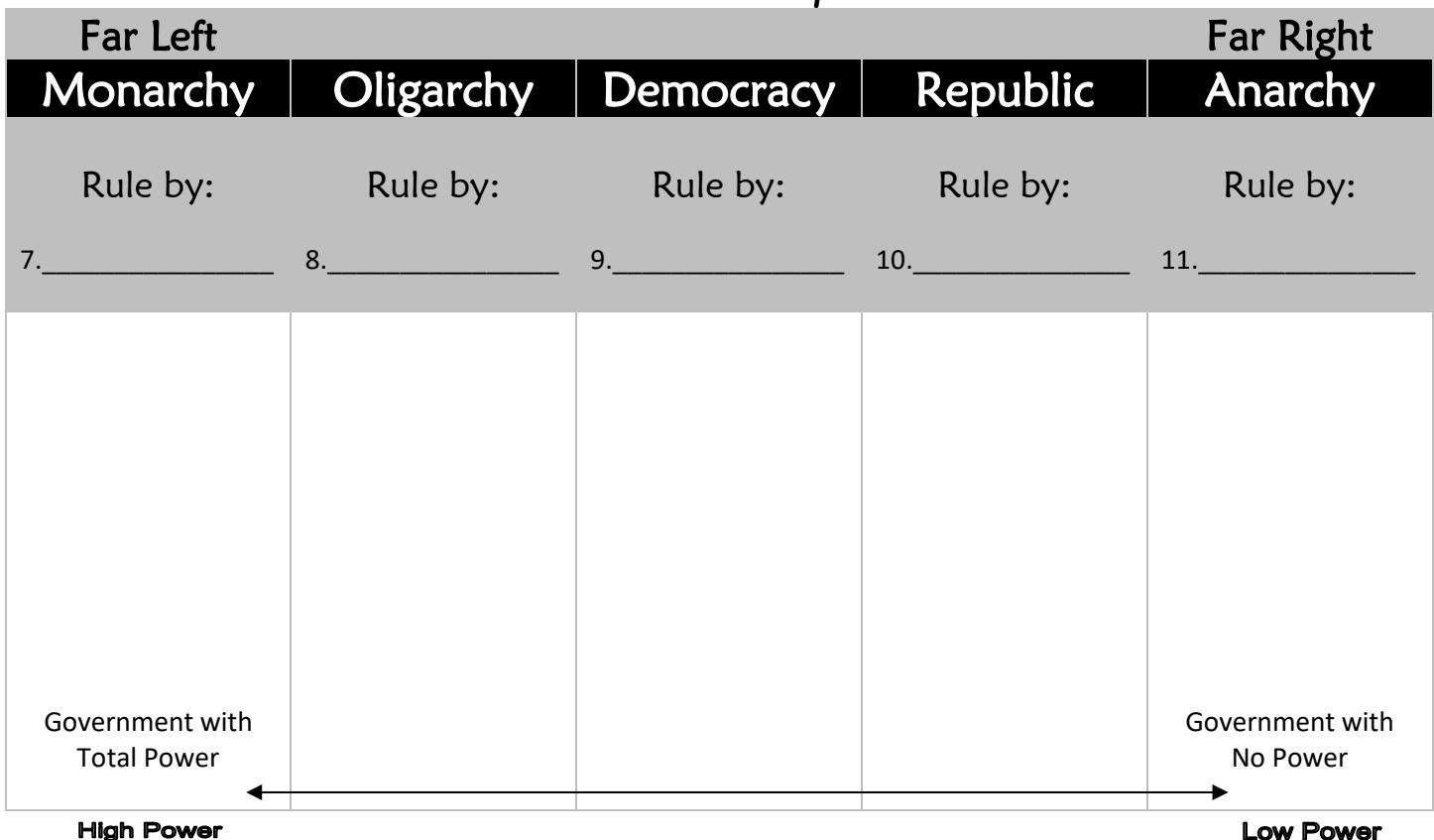
However, a more accurate political spectrum shows government with no power on the far right and government with extreme power on the left as shown below:



4. What are some of the labels associated with total government?
 - *C* _____, *S* _____,
 - N* _____, *F* _____, Princes, Potentates,
 - D* _____, Kings...

5. Do Nazi or Fascist governments belong on the far right of the political spectrum? _____
6. Toward the middle is found the type of government limited to its proper role of _____ the rights of the people. That's where the Constitution of the United States is found, and those that advocate this form of government are called _____ Moderates.

The Political Spectrum



7 - 11. Fill in the blanks above indicating the way each political system is RULED (ie: Rule By...).

12 - 20. Put the following government systems where they go on the continuum above. Use the capital letter as a label for each.

12. **C** - Communism
13. **F** - Fascism
14. **N** - Nazism
15. **S** - Socialism
16. **GD** - Greek (Athenian) Democracy
17. **RR** - Roman Republic
18. **RE** - Roman Empire
19. **USA 1** - Original American Government
20. **USA 2** - American Government as it is NOW

MONARCHY

21. Does monarchy truly exist in a practical sense? _____
 22. Why not?

23. What is the most common form of government in all of history and even today? _____

ANARCHY

24. What form of government is on the far right? _____

25. Without law, there can be no _____.

26. Is freedom increased or decreased under anarchy? increased or decreased

27. **True or False** - Under anarchy, the lawless conditions cause movement to be severely restricted because you have to stay put and guard your belongings at all times, so you don't have the freedom to move around.

True False

28. **True or False** - Civilized people are content to remain under anarchy for the sake of freedom from government.

True False

29. **True or False** - The proper amount of government makes everyone free-er. True False

30. Anarchy can occur when a group of people object to the current government and overthrow the current government, thinking that **no** government is better. After this happens, chaos results. Who do the people typically turn to in order to establish order?

31. **True or False** - Some revolutionists use anarchy as a tool for taking power of a government by creating a state of anarchy knowing that they will soon be asked to take over to bring order. True False

32. Is anarchy ever a permanent condition? _____

33. What form of government always results after anarchy is brought under control? _____

34. Where did this happen in the past (*in what countries and with what leaders*) ?

DEMOCRACY VERSUS REPUBLIC

***Extra Credit** - Have you ever been given the impression that America is both a democracy and a republic and that these forms of government are basically the same thing? _____

***Extra Credit** - Ask your parents if they can tell you the difference between a republic and a democracy. Do they think they're the same thing? _____ Do they know the difference? _____

35. **True or False** - If more than 1/2 of the people can be persuaded to do something in a democracy, they rule.

True False

36. **True or False** - The majority can *never* be persuaded to believe something that is wrong or agree to something that is wrong. True False

37. In a republic, government is limited by _____, leaving the people alone.

38. When the Founding Fathers set up a government in America, what system of government did they choose?

39. The founding fathers chose to give us the rule of _____ in a republic rather than the rule of the _____ in a democracy.

40. In review: Who rules in a democracy? _____

41. Is this a flaw of democracy? _____

42. What's so bad about being ruled by the majority?

43. Does the word "democracy" appear in the Declaration of Independence or the U.S. Constitution? _____

44. Does the word "democracy" appear in any of the Constitutions of the 50 states? _____

45. The founders did everything they could to keep us from having a _____.

46. Did James Madison support democracies? _____

"Democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention found incompatible with personal security or rights of property - and have in general been as short in their lives as violent in their deaths."

47. The democracies of the ancient Greek city-states produced some of the wildest excesses of government imaginable. In every case, the Greeks ended up with:

1 - M _____ R _____

2 - A _____

3 - T _____ under O _____

48. Solon urged the creation of a fixed body of _____ not subject to the whims of the majority. But the Greek did not heed his advice.

49. Which civilization DID heed Solon's advice? _____

50. Since government in Rome was limited, the people were free to _____ with the understanding that they could _____ the fruits of their labor.

51. In the midst of plenty, the Romans forgot that the essence of freedom is the proper _____ of government.

52. When government _____, people's freedom _____.

53. Once the Romans dropped their guard, power-seeking politicians began to _____ the powers granted to them in the Roman _____.

54. Some learned that they could elect politicians who would use government power to _____ property from some and give it to others.

55. The Roman government instituted agricultural subsidies and government _____ programs.

56. What did the Romans demand from the government? B _____ and C _____

57. People began trading _____ for security.

58. Eventually in Rome, the whole system of the republic came crashing down. Rome went from a republic to a democracy. Then they ultimately ended up with an _____ under a progression of the Caesars.
59. So democracy is the gradual transition from the *L* _____ government of a *R* _____ to *Un* _____ rule of an *O* _____.
60. Knowing all of this, what are our two choices - or possible outcomes - as Americans?
- 1 - Keep our _____
 - 2 - or we will end up with an oligarchy, a *T* _____ of the *E* _____.

Extra Credit section

There are no right or wrong answers - credit given simply for providing a thoughtful answer...

***Extra Credit** - When the French had their revolution, they called their new government a republic. From what you have learned in this video, what sort of government do you think the French actually had after their revolution?

***Extra Credit** - How about America - what form of government do you think we had after the American Revolution?

***Extra Credit** - Our government today operates most like what form of government?

The Proper View of Capitalism

With regard to economic systems in the world, Capitalism has been given a bad name by some people. There is a confusion about what it means.

1. What is "capital"? The _____ of _____
2. **True or False** - Capital is used only in the industries under Capitalism. True False
3. **True or False** - Capital is used in the industries of *all* economic and political systems. True False
4. The difference between the Communist Economic System and the Capitalist Economic System is the *O* _____ of the capital.
5. A KEY component of a Free Enterprise System is _____ ownership of property.
6. In a Competitive Free Market System, capital is (pick two):

<input type="radio"/> Owned privately	<input type="radio"/> Controlled Privately
<input type="radio"/> Owned by the State	<input type="radio"/> Controlled by the State
<input type="radio"/> Owned privately or by the State	
7. In a Monopolistic State Controlled System, capital is (pick two):

<input type="radio"/> Owned privately	<input type="radio"/> Controlled Privately
<input type="radio"/> Owned by the State	<input type="radio"/> Controlled by the State
<input type="radio"/> Owned privately or by the State	
8. **True or False** - In the Communist Manifesto, the author Karl Marx writes about his vision for a society in which everyone owns his/her own property. True False
9. **True or False** - Karl Marx believed in the destruction and abolition of private property. True False

10. A state controlled monopoly results in (***pick two***):

- high prices
- low prices
- high quality
- low quality

11. The Free Market results in (***pick two***):

- high prices
- low prices
- high quality
- low quality

12. Competition results in _____ and always has.

13. Those under fascism think they own their own businesses, but fascism controls owners through an array of *T* _____ and *R* _____.

14. Nazism means National _____.

15. Socialism is where the government officials acquire possession over major industries such as communication, transportation, and utilities in order to leverage control over the entire _____.

What are the two economic choices?

16. A competitive free enterprise under a _____ OR

17. A monopolistic state controlled economy under an _____

The Morality Factor

1. ***True or False*** - The founding fathers recognized that the constitutional republic that they founded was suitable for all types of people no matter what religious or moral principles they live by. True False
2. John Adams said, "*Our constitution is made for a moral and _____ people. It is wholly inadequate for the government of any other.*"
3. Some people think that liberty is license and morality is _____ to government or economics.
4. Ben Franklin said, "*Only a _____ people are capable of freedom.*"

America at a Crossroads

5. Rights should be seen as privileges dispensed by an elite Oligarchy according to the unlimited rule of men.
 True False
6. The state should control or own the nation's capital with all economic activity directed from a central power.
 True False
7. Security is actually better than freedom and opportunity.
 True False