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| Government Terms 2-2 cha | | |
| Govern-  ment | Government is how people make decisions together. Every human group has government: families, clubs, neighborhoods, and nations all need a system for deciding. That’s government. The term comes from the Latin language: the verb ***gubernare*** means ***to steer.*** | |
| Monarchy | A country ruled by a king or queen. A monarch is born, the son or daughter of the king and queen. The ruling royal family holds onto power for generations. Monarchs use symbols of power, like castles and crowns. There are two kinds of monarchy, ***autocratic*** and ***constitutional.*** Both have castles, but only one has power.  The term comes from Greek: the prefix ***mono*** means one; the root word ***–archy*** means ***rule***. | |
| An **autocratic, or absolute monarch**, has complete power. An absolute autocratic monarch is born to power and rules alone. The people serve—and fear—the monarch. The monarch can grab someone’s land or throw someone in the dungeon. | | A **constitutional monarch** has no power at all. Some countries, like the United Kingdom, keep their monarch to honor the history and tradition of their nation. Citizens have the power to vote, and they love the ceremonies of the monarch. |
| Autocracy | A country completely ruled by one person. There is no way for citizens to participate in the government. The autocrat controls everything in the country. An autocrat does not share power; citizens are powerless. There are two kinds of autocracy, ***monarchy*** and ***dictatorship.***  The term comes from Greek: the prefix ***auto*** means ***self***; the word ***cracy*** means ***power***. | |
| An **autocratic monarch** is a king or queen who holds all the power. They come to power by being born the child of an autocratic monarch.. Citizens fear the monarch. The monarch’s power and wealth increase. | | An **autocratic dictator** is a ruler who grabs and holds power with violence. Citizens obey and cheer for the dictator—or else! Dictators need the support of the army to stay in power. |
| Democracy | A country ruled by the people. President Lincoln called it “government of the people, by the people, for the people.” People have a voice and a choice. The government is chosen by the people voting in elections. Leaders have power, but the people choose the leaders, and the leaders work to serve the people. Everybody argues, compromises, and cooperates.  The term comes from Greek: the word ***demos*** means ***the people***; the word ***cracy*** means ***power***. | |
| Republic | A republic is a country with no king or queen—not even a ceremonial constitutional monarchy. The term comes from Latin: ***res*** means ***thing***, and ***publica*** is the people. | |
| Constitution | A constitution is the set of rules that set up the government of a country. The constitution is not the law. A constitution lays out what kind of government the country will have. The entire government--even the leader-- must follow the rules and procedures in the constitution. The term comes from Latin: ***constituo*** means ***to set up***. | |
| Branches of  Government | Most countries now have a written constitution to set up the government. And most countries have three main branches of government. In a system of checks and balances, each branch watches over the others, and each keeps the others from becoming too powerful.  The **Legislative Branch** creates new laws. Voters elect representatives to the legislature. New laws are needed as the culture of the country changes.  The **Judicial Branch** applies the laws to individual cases; it makes sure laws are in accord with the country’s constitution. If laws are unconstitutional, the judiciary strikes them down.  The **Executive Branch** runs the country from day to day; it makes the laws happen and organizes the government. The chief executive is the head of government. | |
| Legislature | ***Legis*** is the Latin word for ***law.***  Legislators are people who are elected by citizens to make new laws. They legislate. A new law is called legislation. The place is called the legislature.  Practice these terms: How are laws made? ***Legislators legislate legislation in the legislature.*** | |

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| Government Terms N 2-2 cha  D C |

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| Write the English translation under the Latin or Greek term | | | | |
| gubernare | mono | archy | auto | cracy |
| demos | res | publica | constituo | legis |

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| Compare an autocratic monarchy and an autocratic dictatorship in four sentences.  1. Describe an autocratic monarchy.  2. Describe an autocratic dictatorship.  3. Explain how they are similar.  4. Explain how they are different. | Compare a democracy that is a republic with an autocratic monarchy in five sentences.  1. Describe a democracy.  2. Describe a republic.  3. Describe an autocratic monarchy.  4. Explain how they are similar.  5. Explain how they are different. |
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| You have been elected by voters to make new laws. Use all these words to explain your work.  Legislator, legislate, legislature, legislation. |
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