

Latin American GOVERNMENTS

Brazil, Mexico, & Cuba

Presentation, Graphic Organizers, & Activities

Legislature

- The National Congress is the country's bicameral legislature.
- It consists of:
 - Senate (81 seats) – 3 members elected from each state
 - House of Representatives (513 seats) – 13 members elected from each state

National Congress Chamber

Brain Wrinkles



The Award Goes To...

Directions: Choose one of the countries from this lesson and create an award (design the trophy) for that country's government. Next, write a speech from the country's leader's perspective about why the government is being honored with the award.



Crystal Ball Predictions

Directions: Based on what we learned about Brazil, Mexico, & Cuba's governments, what do you think each of their economies will be like?



Comparing Latin American Governments

Directions: Complete the chart below while discussing the presentation.

Country	Distribution of Power	Type of Government	Executive Branch	How is Head of Gov. Chosen?	Legislative Branch	Role of Citizens
Federative Republic of Brazil						
Republic of Mexico						
Republic of Cuba						

Google It!

Directions: Write several important facts, words, and phrases that would pop up about each country's government in the "Search Results" boxes. Images can also pop up!

Google It!	Google It!	Google It!
Brazil's Government	Mexico's Government	Cuba's Government
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Search Results	Search Results	Search Results

STANDARDS:

SS6CG1 The student will compare and contrast various forms of government.

- a. Describe the ways government systems distribute power: unitary, confederation, and federal.
- b. Explain how governments determine citizen participation: autocratic, oligarchic, and democratic.
- c. Describe the two predominant forms of democratic governments: parliamentary and presidential.

SS6CG2 The student will explain the structures of national governments in Latin America and the Caribbean.

- a. Compare the federal-republican systems of the Federative Republic of Brazil (Brazil) and the United Mexican States (Mexico) to the dictatorship of the Republic of Cuba (Cuba), distinguishing the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting and personal freedoms.

Comparing Latin American Governments

Directions: Complete the chart below while discussing the presentation.

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Federative						
United States of						
Republic of Cuba						

Latin American Governments

Brazil, Mexico, & Cuba

Brain
Wrinkles



Let's Review

Government Systems – Who has the power?

- **Unitary**--power is held by one central authority
- **Confederation**--association of independent states that agree to certain limitations on their freedoms by joining together
- **Federal**--power is divided between central authority & several regional authorities

Let's Review

Government Types – how do citizens participate?

- **Autocracy**-- 1 person possesses unlimited power & citizens have limited role in government
- **Oligarchy**-- small group exercises control & citizens have limited role in government
- **Democracy**--supreme power is vested in the people & exercised by them directly or indirectly through a system of representation involving free elections

Let's Review

Two Types of Democratic Governments:

- **Parliamentary**– citizens elect members of Parliament, and then the members select the leader
 - Leader works with or through the legislature
- **Presidential**--system of government in which the leader is constitutionally independent of the legislature; citizens directly elect leader
 - Leader works separate from legislature



Federative
Republic of
Brazil

Presidential Representative
Democratic Republic

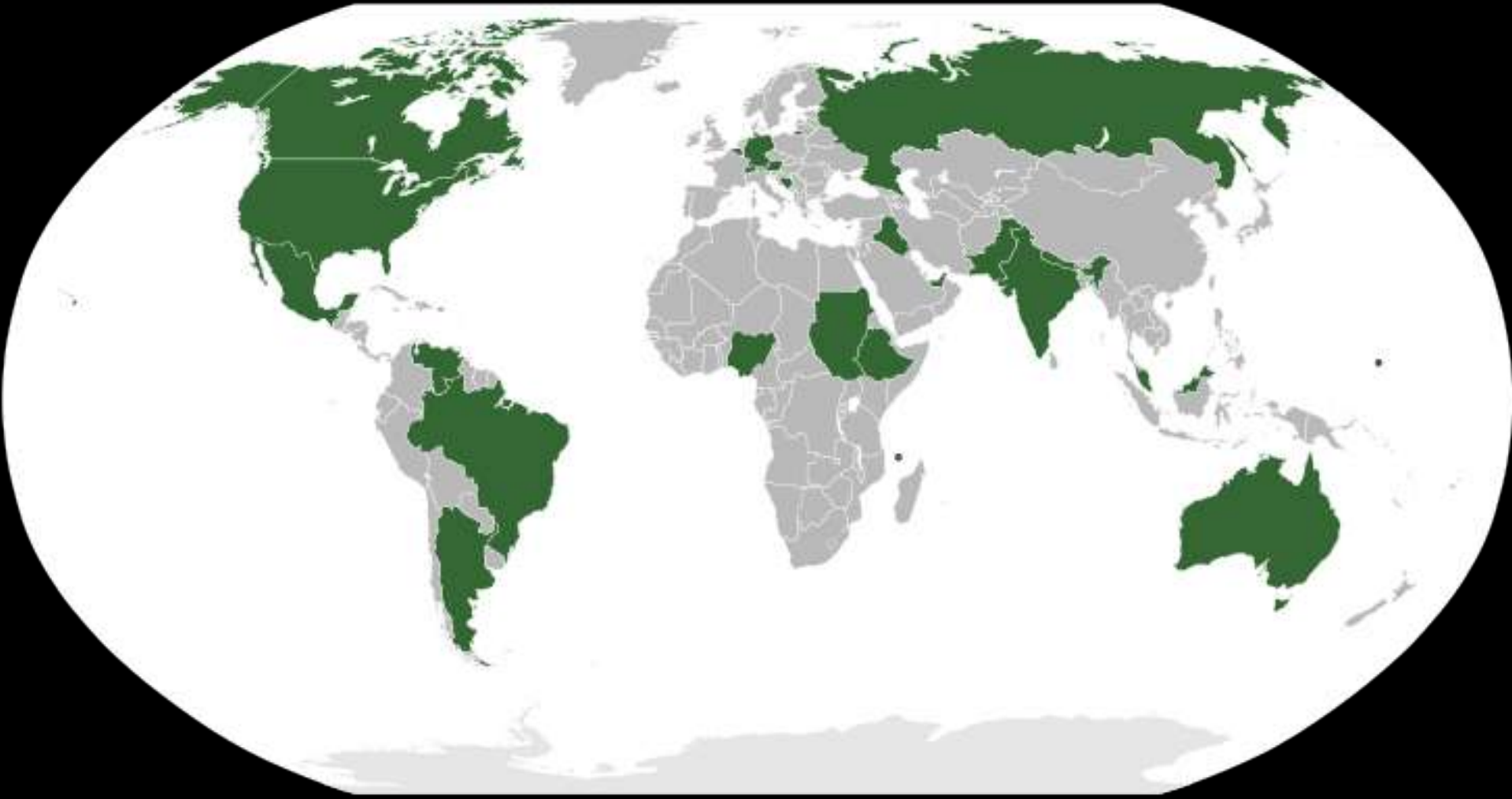
Brazil's National Congress Building



Federal System

- Brazil has a federal system, which means that the national government and the state governments SHARE power.
- There are 26 states in Brazil.

Federal Governments



Leadership

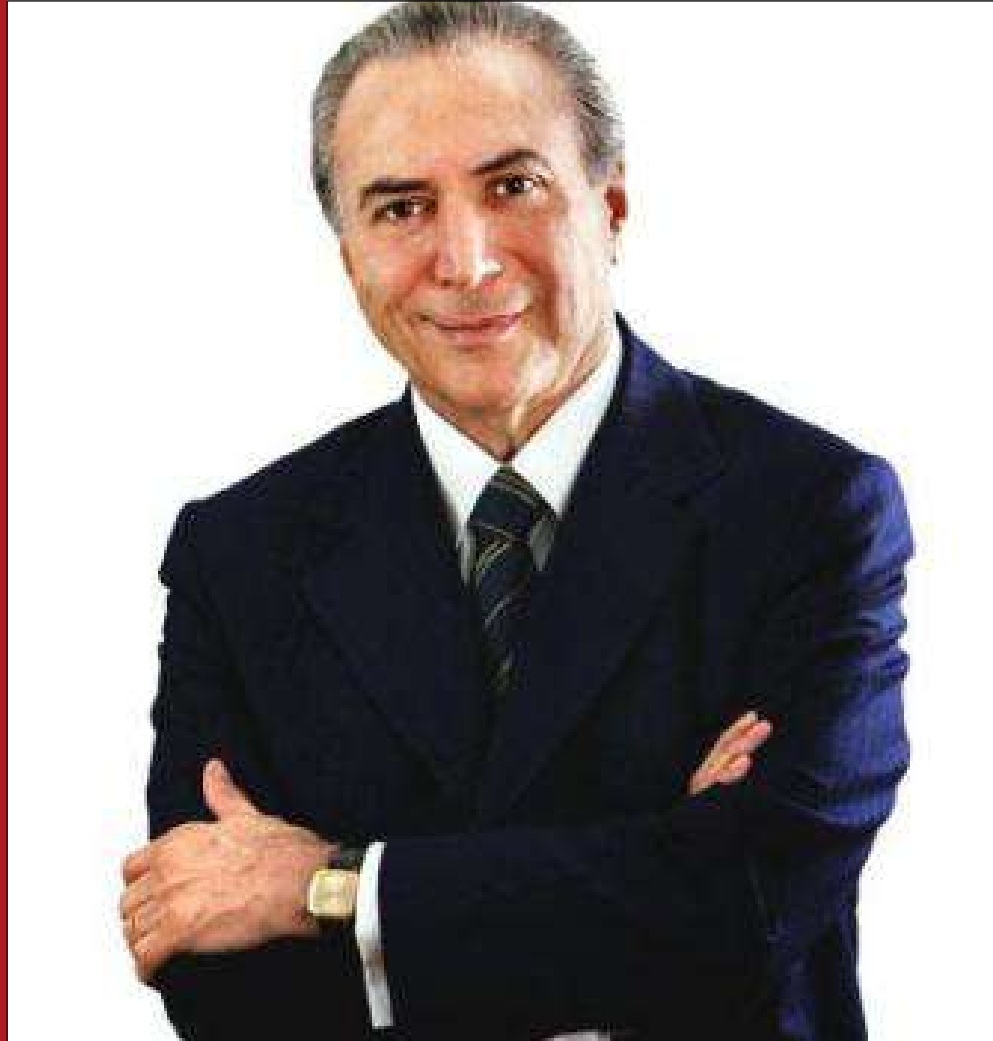
1. **President:** holds the most political power; the president is both the chief executive and the head of state.
2. **Vice President:** helps in the day-to-day running of the government; performs ceremonial duties.

Dilma Rouseff



Brazil's President

Michel Temer



Brazil's Vice President

How Leaders Are Chosen

- **President:** elected by popular vote for a single four-year term
- **Vice President:** runs on the same ticket as the president

Legislature

- The National Congress is the country's bicameral legislature.
- It consists of:
 1. Senate (81 seats) – 3 members elected from each state.
 2. Chamber of Deputies (513 seats) – members are elected by proportional representation.
- Members serve four and eight-year terms.

Brazil's Senate



Presidential Democracy

- The citizens directly elect the president (every four years).
- The president works separately from Brazil's Congress.

Role of the Citizen

- Citizens have many freedoms and they also have the right to vote.
- Men and women who are 16 years of age may choose to vote, but citizens 18-70 are required by law to vote in national elections.
- Citizens can choose representatives from many political parties.

Voting in Brazil





United States of
Mexico

Mexico's National Congress Building



Federal System

- Mexico has a federal system, which means that the national government and the state governments SHARE power.
- There are 31 states in Mexico.

Leadership

- **President:** holds the most political power; the president is both the chief executive and the head of state.

Enrique Peña Nieto



Mexico's President

How Leaders Are Chosen

- **President:** elected by popular vote for a single six-year term

Legislature

- The National Congress of Mexico is the country's bicameral legislature.
- It consists of:
 1. Senate (128 seats) – elected by popular vote to serve six-year term.
 2. Chamber of Deputies (500 seats) – members elected by popular vote to serve three-year terms.

National Congress Chamber



Presidential Democracy


- The citizens directly elect the president (every six years).
- The president works separately from Mexico's Congress.

Role of the Citizen

- Citizens of Mexico have many freedoms, and they also have the right to vote.
- It is universal and compulsory (but not enforced) that citizens who are 18 or older vote in national elections.
- There are many political parties in Mexico.

Voting in Mexico





Republic of
Cuba

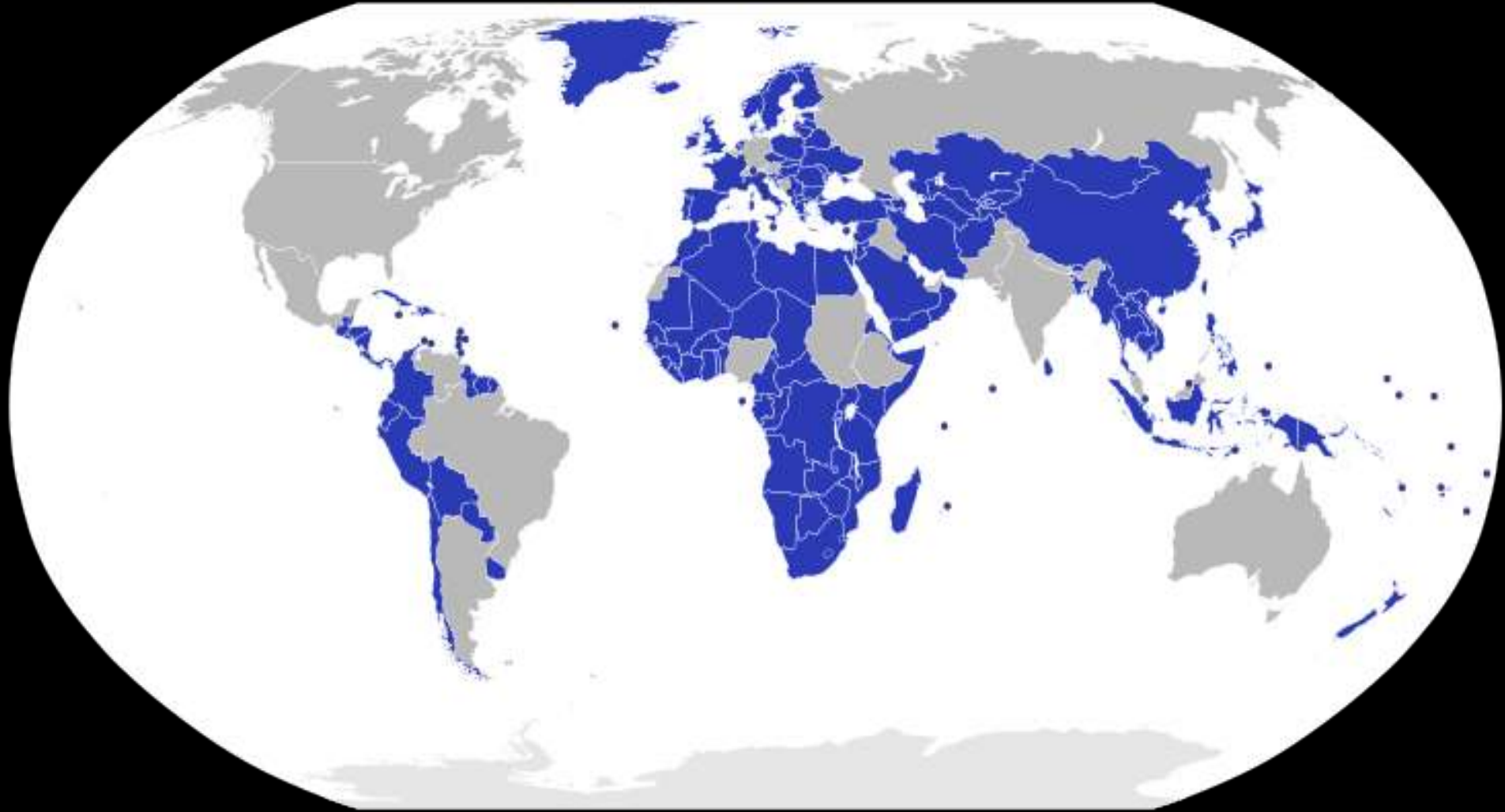
Capitol Building in Havana, Cuba



Unitary System

- Cuba has a unitary system, which means that the national (central) government holds all of the power.
 - The provinces are under central government control.
- There are 15 provinces in Cuba.

Unitary Governments



Leadership

- **President:** holds the most political power; the president is both the chief executive and the head of state.

Raul Castro



Cuba's President

How Leaders Are Chosen

- **President:** elected* by National Assembly for a five-year term.
- *Cuba's Communist Party is the only legal party, and officially sanctioned candidates run unopposed.

Legislature

- The National Assembly of People's Power is the country's unicameral legislature.
- The number of seats is based on Cuba's population.
 - As of the most recent election in 2016, there were 612 seats.
- Candidates are selected and approved by the government before the people can vote for them.
- Members serve five-year terms.

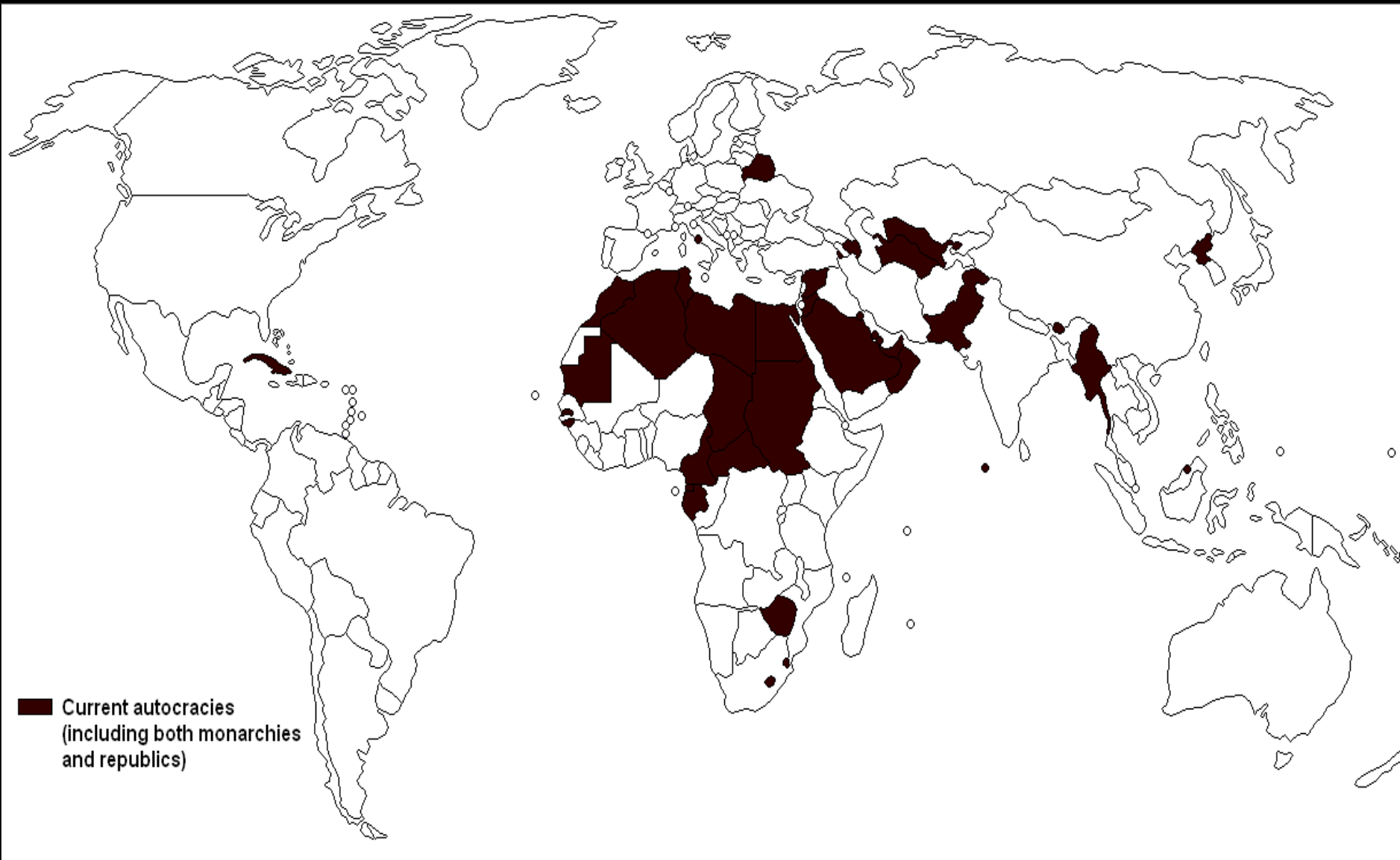
Cuba's National Assembly



Autocracy

- Cuba has been an autocratic dictatorship since Fidel Castro used military force to overthrow the government in 1959.
- Since this time, there has been one leader (Fidel or Raul) who holds unlimited power over the country.
- Even though citizens get to “vote”, they do not get to select the candidates or make the laws.

Autocratic Governments



■ Current autocracies
(including both monarchies
and republics)

Role of the Citizen

- Citizens have few freedoms.
- Men and women aged 16 and over may choose to vote, but have few choices.
- There is only one political party (the Communist Party) that is allowed in Cuba.
 - It has been controlled by Fidel Castro and his brother, Raul, since 1959.

Voting in Cuba



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Search Results:

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Mexico's Government

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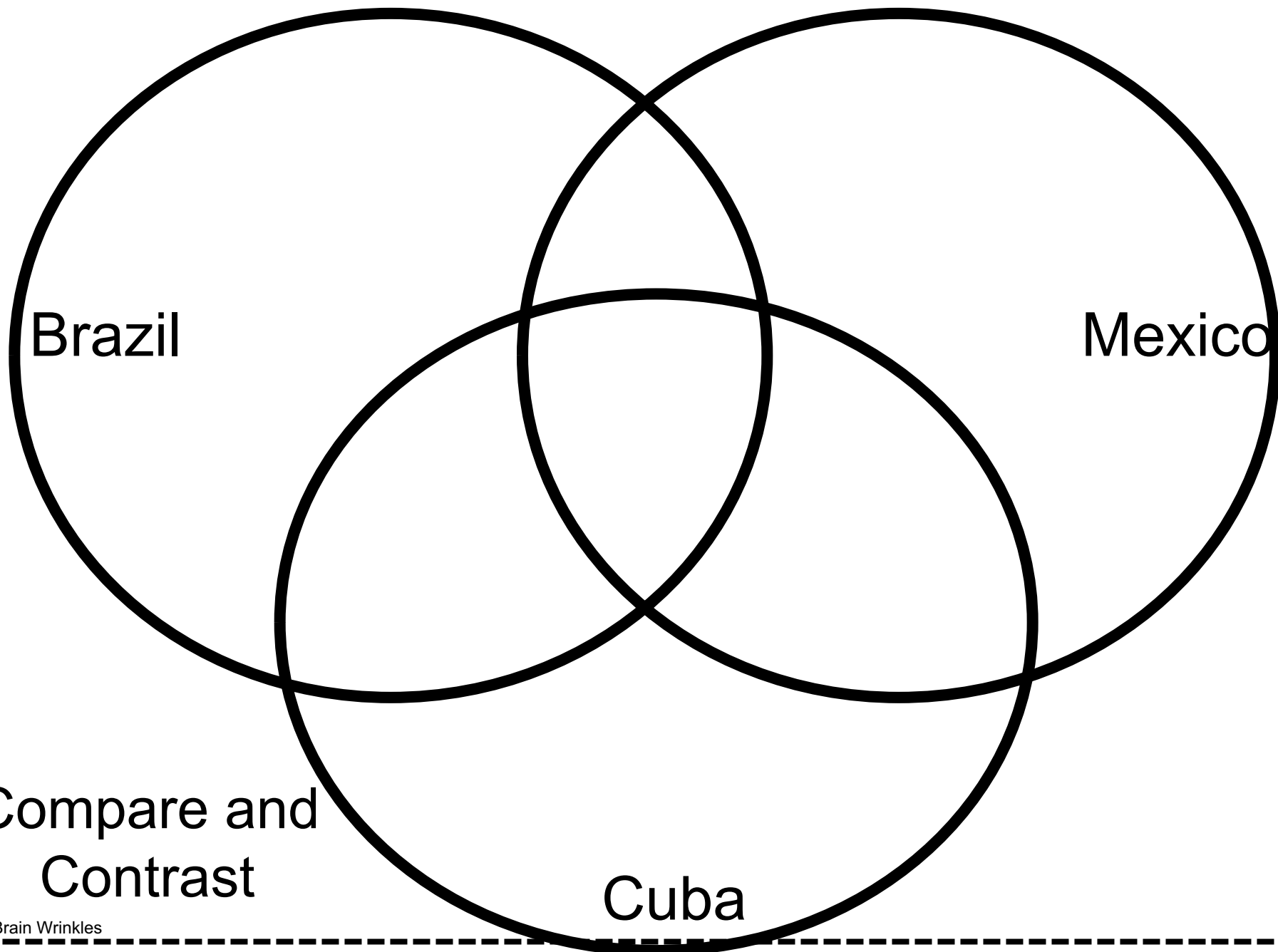
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Cuba's Government

Send

Search Results:

LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS



Brazil

Mexico

Cuba

Compare and
Contrast

