

STANDARDS:

SS7CG3 Compare and contrast various forms of government.

- a. Explain citizen participation in autocratic and democratic governments [i.e., the role of citizens in choosing the leaders of Israel (parliamentary democracy), Saudi Arabia (autocratic monarchy), and Turkey (parliamentary democracy)].
- b. Describe the two predominant forms of democratic governments: parliamentary and presidential.

Southwest Asia's **Governments**

Israel, Saudi Arabia, &
Turkey

**Brain
Wrinkles**



Let's Review

Government Types – how do citizens participate?

- **Autocracy** - 1 person possesses unlimited power & 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

SW Asia

- There are several democratic governments in the Middle East.
- Turkey and Israel are both democracies whose citizens play a key role in choosing the government leaders.
- In Iran, citizens can also vote for many government positions (despite strict Islamic laws).

SW Asia

- For the most part, democracy has been slow to catch on in the region and many SW Asia countries have autocratic governments.
- There are several countries, including Saudi Arabia, who are absolute monarchies where the king holds complete power and citizens have little say.



State of
Israel

Parliamentary Democracy

The Knesset Building, in Tel Aviv, is home to Israel's government.



Background

- In 1948, the United Nations voted to divide the former British colony of Palestine into two parts.
- One part became the nation of Israel, a homeland for the Jewish people.
- The other part was for the Palestinian Arabs.

Background

- The governments of the countries in Southwest Asia often reflect Islamic beliefs, and Arabic people are often Islamic by faith.
- The emergence of Israel as a Jewish nation became and still is a major political issue in the Middle East.

Leadership

1. **Prime Minister:** is the chief executive of the government with the most political power; works closely with the legislature (the Knesset)

2. **President:** head of state; has little political power, mostly a ceremonial role

His Excellency Benjamin Netanyahu



Prime Minister

His Honor Reuven Rivlin



President

How Leaders Are Chosen

- **Prime Minister:** serves a 5-year term; the President nominates a member of the Knesset and the other members vote on him/her. (Generally, the prime minister is usually the leader of the largest political party in the Knesset.)
- **President:** largely a ceremonial role and is elected by the Knesset for a seven-year term (one-term limit).

Legislature

- Israel's parliament is called the Knesset.
- It is a unicameral governing body.
- The Knesset passes all laws, elects the president & prime minister, and supervises the work of the government through its committees.
- Israel has no written constitution, but members of the Knesset have been working on one since 2003.

Knesset Chamber



Parliamentary Democracy

- Generally, whichever political party has the most members in the legislature selects the Prime Minister.
- In Israel, citizens vote for members of Knesset (parliament), then the elected members choose the Prime Minister.

Role of the Citizen

- Citizens must be 18 to vote, but voting is not required by law.
- As a democracy, its citizens can participate in voting and elections:
 - They elect members of Knesset.
- Citizens also enjoy the freedoms of assembly, speech, the press, and religious practice.
- Israel has a better than average record of personal freedoms; however, some areas to improve include discrimination against Arab-Israelis, discrimination and domestic violence against women, and unequal education opportunities for Arabs and Israelis.

Voting in Israel





Kingdom of
Saudi Arabia

Absolute Monarchy

Riyadh Saudi Arabia Palace



Background

- Saudi Arabia is the largest country on the Arabian Peninsula and it has the most influence in the region.
- It is an Islamic nation with 100% of its population being Muslim.

Background

- Saudi Arabia is an absolute monarchy and members of the al-Saud family have ruled Saudi Arabia since 1932.
 - Most government officials are relatives of the king.
- The king may ask members of his family, Islamic scholars, and tribal leaders for advice on decisions.

Autocracy

- Saudi Arabia is an autocracy.
- The country is ruled by the king and members of his royal family.
- The king serves as both the head of government and head of state.
- He is responsible for making and enforcing the country's laws.

Religion

- Conservative religious leaders also have a great deal of influence in decisions made by the monarchy.
- There is no written constitution; however, the Quran acts as the constitution.
- Saudi Arabia is governed on the basis of Islamic law (Shari'a).

Leadership

- Saudi Arabia is ruled by a hereditary monarchy, which means the government is led by a king who comes from a family that has ruled the country for several generations.
- The King of Saudi Arabia has been a member of the al-Saud family since the 1930s.

Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Salud



King of Saudi Arabia

How Leaders Are Chosen

- The people of Saudi Arabia do not choose the king.
- When a king dies, the Saudi family announces who the next king will be from among their male family members.

Legislature

- Saudi Arabia has no real legislature, but does have something called the Consultative Council.
- It can propose legislation to the king, but has no legal powers itself.
- There are 150 members and a chairman that is chosen by the king to serve 4-year terms.

Legislature

- The king chooses two-thirds of the members of the Council, while men in the country vote for the remaining one-third of the members.
- The Council mostly consists of members of the royal family.
- There are no political parties in Saudi Arabia.

Consultative Assembly of Saudi Arabia in Riyadh



Role of the Citizen

- In 2004, the Saudi government began allowing men who are 21 and older to vote for low-level government positions, but all top-level positions are still appointed by the king.
- Citizens have very little opportunity to participate in government and have very little say in what the government does.

Personal Freedom

- Human rights and personal freedoms are often denied in Saudi Arabia.
- Citizens are not allowed to practice any religion other than Islam.
- Public speech and the media are heavily censored by the government.
- Saudi Arabia has long been criticized for violating human rights, and because the country values its position in the world economy, it is working to correct some of these injustices.



Republic of
Turkey

Parliamentary Democracy

Grand National Assembly Building of Turkey



Background

- Turkey is one of the most democratic countries in the Middle East, although its military has long been a powerful force in the country's government.
- Since World War II, Turkey has had many attempted (some successful) overthrows of the government by the military.
- Currently, the country is a parliamentary democracy, but will change to a presidential one in 2019.

Leadership

1. **Prime Minister:** is the chief executive of the government; works closely with the legislature (Grand National Assembly)
2. **President:** head of state; directly elected by the people

Ahmet Davutoglu



Prime Minister

Recep Tayyip Erdogan



President

How Leaders Are Chosen

- **Prime Minister:** the president chooses one member from the parliament to serve as the prime minister
- **President:** is elected by Turkey's citizens

Legislature

- Turkey's parliament is called the Grand National Assembly.
- It is a unicameral governing body.
- The Grand National Assembly passes all laws and supervises the work of the government through its committees.

Grand National Assembly



Parliamentary Democracy

- In Turkey, citizens elect both a president and members of the Grand National Assembly (parliament).
- Then the elected president chooses one member from the parliament to serve as the powerful chief executive, the prime minister.
- The prime minister nominates a Council of Ministers for the president's approval, and they help run the government.

Parliamentary Democracy

- In 2017, Turkey's citizens voted to change their government from a parliamentary democracy to a presidential one.
- The change will not take place until the next presidential election in 2019.

Role of the Citizen

- Citizens must be 18 to vote, but voting is not required by law.
- As a democracy, its citizens can participate in voting and elections:
 - They elect both the president and members of the Grand National Assembly.
- Citizens also enjoy the freedoms of assembly, speech, the press, and religious practice.

Woman Voting in Turkey



Personal Freedom

- Even though citizens have personal freedoms, there is still room for improvement in Turkey.
- For example, women's rights is a big issue in Turkey.
- Also, the Turkish government has been accused of limiting the rights of the Kurds.

Directions: Use your cloze notes to complete the chart.

- We will check the answers in class to be sure that all charts are completed correctly.

Comparing SW Asian Governments

Directions: Complete the chart below after discussing the presentation.

Country	Background Info	Type of Government	Executive Branch	How are leaders chosen?	Legislative Branch	Role of Citizen & Freedoms
Israel						
Saudi Arabia						
Turkey						

Directions:

- **If you have time in class, complete this with a partner.
- ***If you do not have time in class, THIS IS HOMEWORK!
- Write down everything that could “pop up” in a search about the country’s government: leaders, type, facts, images, etc.

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!

Israel's Government

Send

Search Results:

Google It!

Saudi Arabia's
Government

Send

Search Results:

Google It!

Turkey's Government

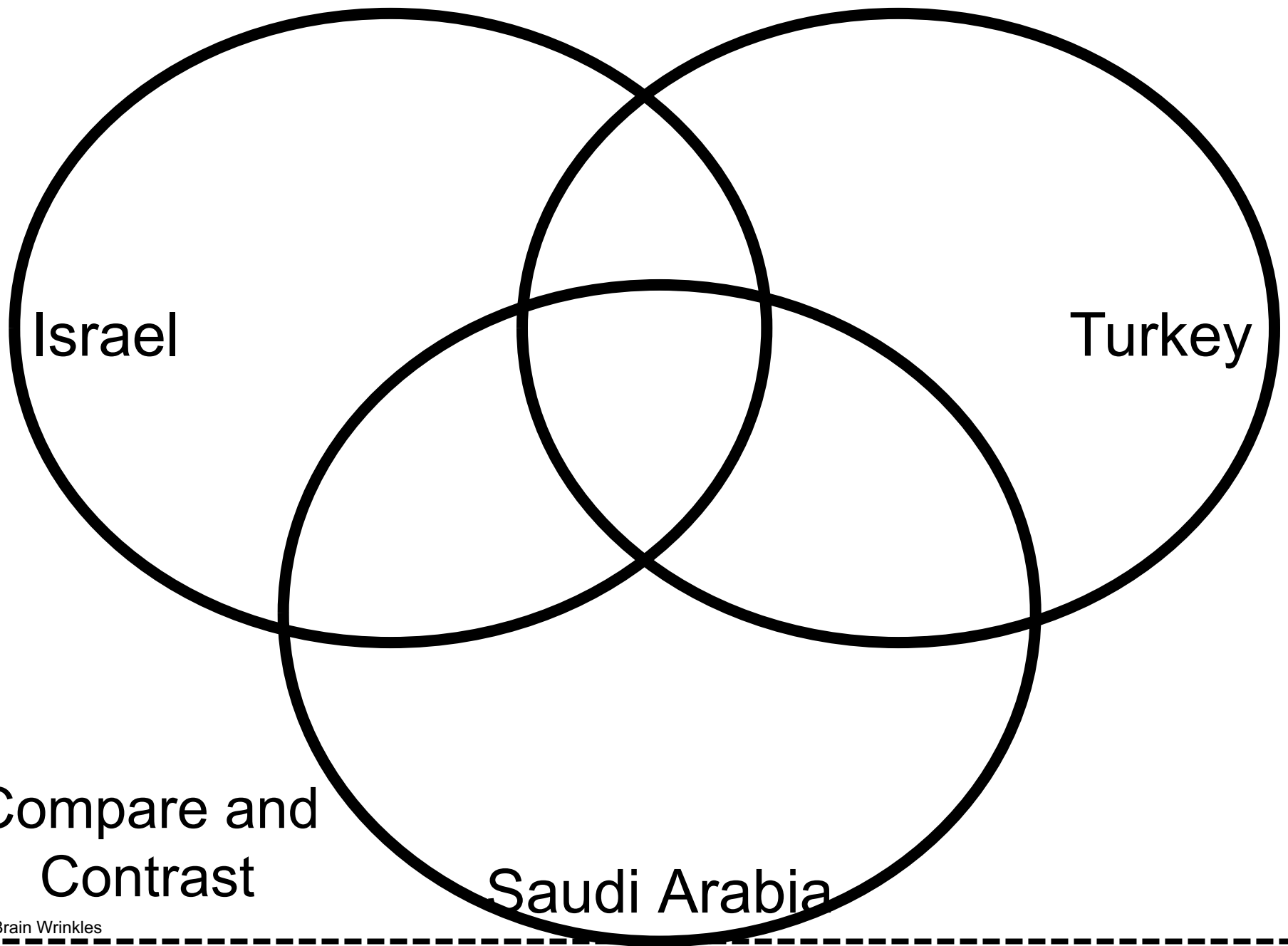
Send

Search Results:

Triple Venn Diagram

- ***If you have time in class, work with partners to compare and contrast the three governments from this lesson.
- ***If you do not have time in class, THIS IS HOMEWORK.

SW ASIAN GOVERNMENTS



Israel

Turkey

Saudi Arabia

Compare and
Contrast

Rate A Government

- Choose one of the 3 country's governments and give it a review (similar to a book review on Amazon).
- Include a symbol, description, and two review from people who agree/disagree with the country's government.
- This is CLASSWORK (if time allows – NOT partner work)
- HOMEWORK if run out of time.

Rate A Government

Country:

Symbol

Government Description:

Describe the key components of the country's government.

Customer Reviews



By _____ Date: _____
from _____

What would someone who agrees with the country's government say about it? How many stars would he give?



By _____ Date: _____
from _____

What would someone who disagrees with the country's government say about it? How many stars would he give?

Rate A Government

Country:

Government Description:

Customer Reviews



Date: _____

By _____ from _____



Date: _____

By _____ from _____

Comprehension Check

- Complete the Comprehension Check at the end of the lesson to prepare for your quiz!
- **STUDY! STUDY! STUDY!**