

Social Studies Study Guide

Government

Be able to write what you have learned about government using some of these vocabulary words. You do not have to memorize the definition, but just know how to use it in a sentence.

1. mayor - leader of a town or city government
 2. governor - the elected leader of a state's government
 3. tax - money paid to a government to run a city, state, or country
 4. council - a group of people who have been chosen by citizens to meet and solve problems
 5. judge - a citizen who is chosen to work as a leader in the courts
 6. capital - a city in each state where lawmakers gather
 7. capitol - a building where lawmakers meet to make laws
 8. election - the process by which citizens vote for people to represent them
 9. government services - things that help the public and are paid for using taxes
 10. direct democracy - a government in which citizens meet to govern themselves
 11. representative democracy - a government in which citizens choose others to represent them
- Be able to identify what each branch of government does, the significance of Greece, the meaning of citizen and separation of powers, and the duties performed by the President and Governor. You will be responsible for placing each one of these words in the correct blank (Fill in the Blank).

Legislative Branch **makes the laws**

Executive Branch **carries out the laws**

Judicial Branch **makes sure the laws are fair**

Greece **country that formed the first democracy; USA modeled their government after Greece; USA was influenced by Greek architecture**

President **head of executive branch of the national government**

Governor **head of executive branch of the state government**

Separation of Powers **a system of checks and balances put in place so that none of the branches of government has more power than the other two.**

Citizens **an official member of a community, state or country**

- You will need to be able to answer the following questions in multiple choice format.

Who elects government leaders?

citizens (18 years and older who are registered to vote)

What do taxes pay for?

government services like teachers, firemen, etc.

What happened in Athens, Greece about 2,500 years ago?

They formed the first democracy government

What type of government is the United States government?

representative democracy

Who makes the laws in Georgia?

General Assembly (legislative branch)

What helps to protect rights in a democracy?

separation of power

Who makes the laws in the United States?

Legislative branch - called Congress (Senate has state senators and House of Representatives has state representatives)

- The following questions will be discussion questions. You will need to be able to answer each question thoroughly in complete sentences.

In what ways are the roles of the Governor and President the same and different?

They are alike because they are both leaders of the Executive Branch of government. They are different because they are on different levels of government. The governor heads up the state, while the President heads up the nation. The President has some responsibilities that the governor does not have like Commander in Chief.

What are some of the local services paid for by taxes?

teachers, firemen, policemen, roads, etc.

Why is power divided between the three branches of government?

so one branch does not have full control of everything; it protects rights in our democracy

