

SS6CG4

The student will compare and contrast various forms of government.

ELEMENT A

Describe the ways
government systems
distribute power: unitary,
confederation, and
federal.

What is Government?

- - How society makes and enforces public policies.
- The purpose of government
 - Order
 - Stability
 - Growth
- Examples:
 - Taxation
 - Defense
 - Education
 - Crime
 - Health

Government comes in many different forms.

- Unitary
- Confederation
- Federal

Unitary

Ways Government Distributes Power

Power is held by one central authority.



Unitary Governments (Cont.)

All the power to decide anything rests in a central government.



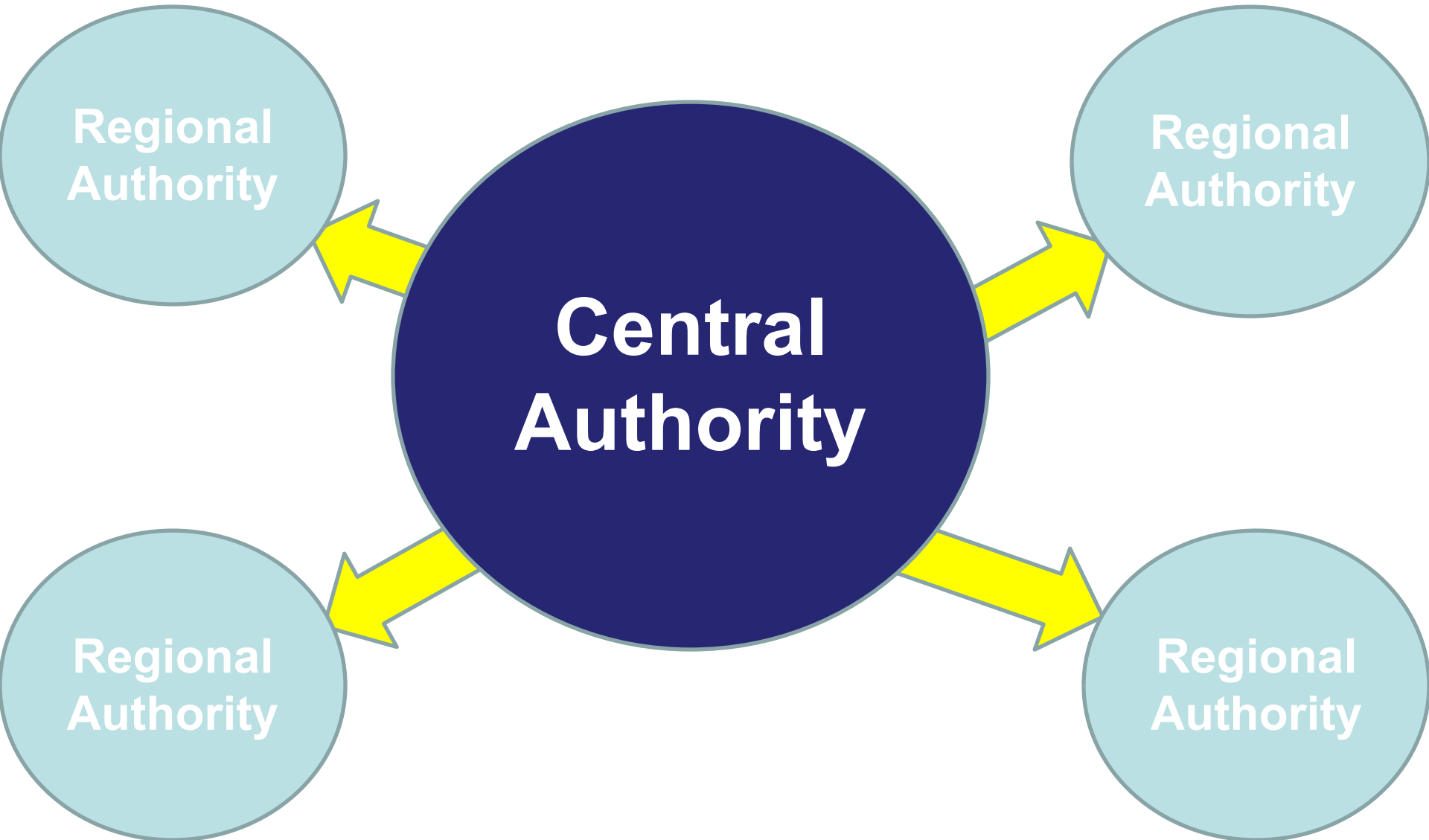
Buckingham Palace, Great Britain

A unitary government is what Britain was during the American Revolution; We were a nation united under control of one rule. There were no separate states creating their own laws or taxes, just the rule of the government over the entire population.

A great majority of all the world's nation-states are unitary systems, including, Bulgaria, France, Great Britain, The Netherlands, Japan, Poland, Romania, the Scandinavian countries, Spain, and many of the Latin-American and African countries.

Unitary

Ways Government Distributes Power



List of Unitary States

Afghanistan

Albania

Abkhazia

Algeria

Angola

Armenia

Azerbaijan

Bangladesh

Belarus

Belize

Benin

Bhutan

Bolivia

Botswana

Brunei

Bulgaria

Burkina Faso

Burundi

Cambodia

Cameroon

Cape Verde

Central African

Republic

Chad

Chile

People's Republic

of China

Colombia

Congo (Brazzaville)

Congo (Kinshasa)

Costa Rica

Côte d'Ivoire

Croatia

Cuba

Cyprus

Czech Republic

Denmark

Djibouti

Dominica

Dominican Republic

East Timor

Ecuador

Egypt

El Salvador

Equatorial Guinea

List of Unitary States

Eritrea

Estonia

Fiji

Finland

France

Gabon

The Gambia

Georgia

Ghana

Greece

Grenada

Guatemala

Guinea

Guinea-Bissau

Guyana

Haiti

Honduras

Hungary

Iceland

Indonesia

Iran

Ireland

Israel

Italy

Jamaica

Japan

Jordan

Kazakhstan

Kenya

Kiribati

Kuwait

Kyrgyzstan

Laos

Latvia

Lebanon

Lesotho

Liberia

Libya

Liechtenstein

Lithuania

Luxembourg

Macedonia

Madagascar

Malawi

Maldives

What are the advantages and disadvantages to a unitary system as a form of government?

- Advantages: All decisive legislative and/or executive offices are held by a single, central government. Smaller government.
- Disadvantages: Little in the way of power balances. Slow government response (for instance no state national guard that could be dispatched in an emergency, troops would have to be mobilized from national authority). Easily loses track of local issues.



Confederation Government

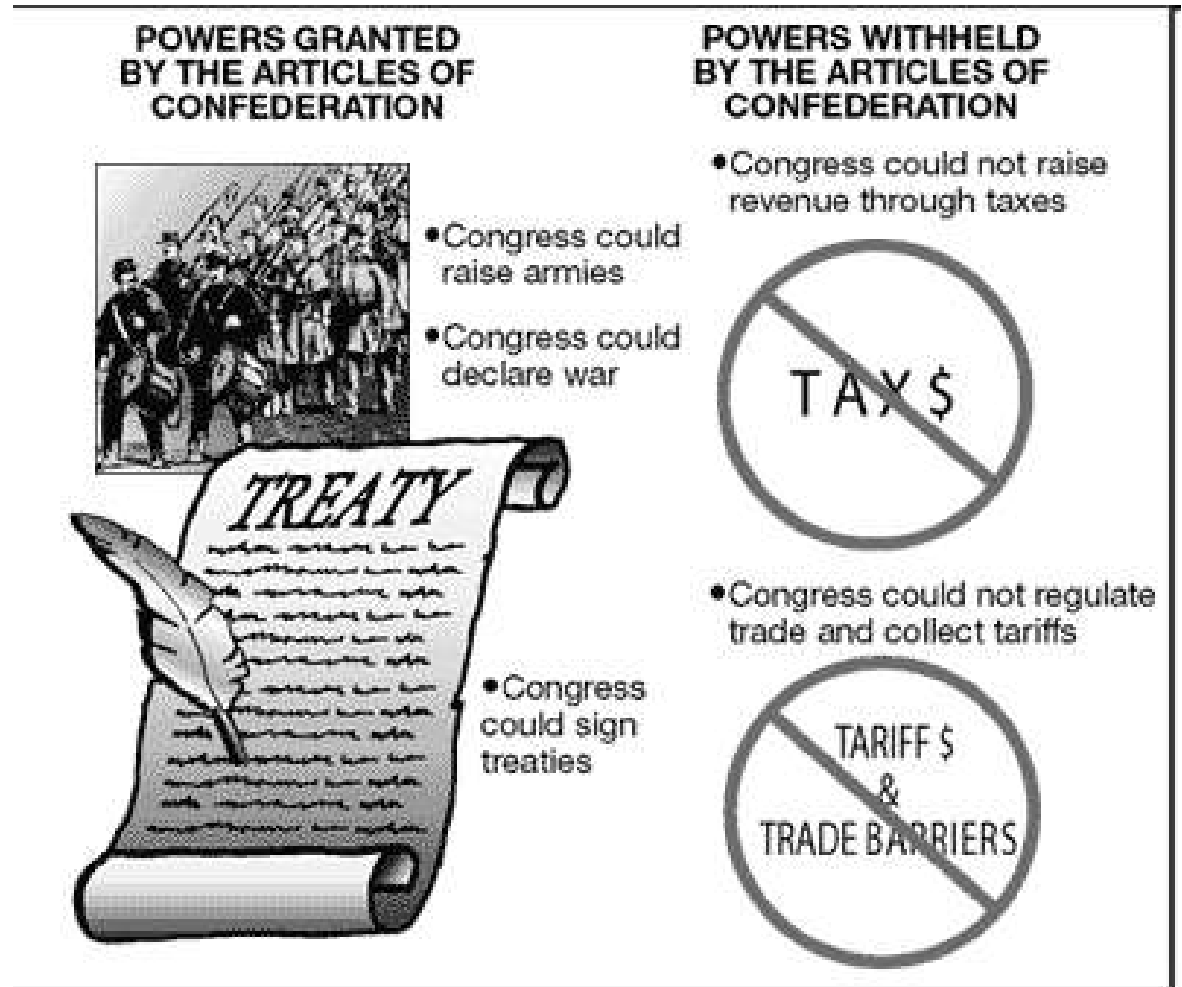


Ways Government Distributes Power

- In a confederation, the power to govern is held by an alliance of independent states.
- It is a group of independent states that form a central government that is very limited in power.
- In a confederation system, each state is ultimately given all powers to run their own state, and the central government is very weak.

Confederation Governments

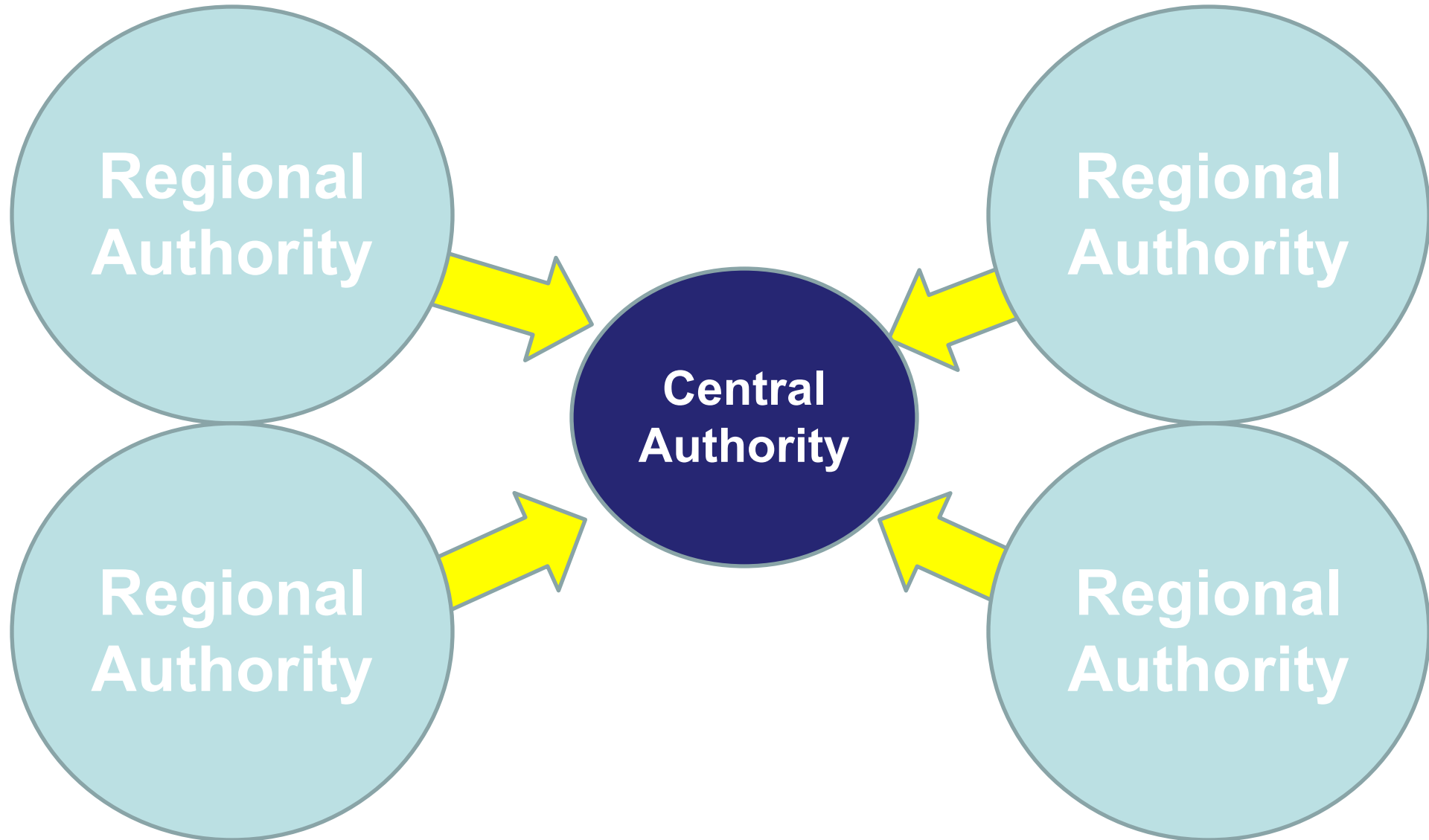
a union by compact or treaty between states, provinces, or territories, that creates a central government with limited powers; the states retain supreme authority over all matters except those few things delegated to the central government.



Switzerland, Belgium and the original 13 U.S. Colonies formed a Confederation.

Confederation

Ways Government Distributes Power



List of Confederations- Today

Iroquois Confederacy (1090–present)

[European Union and OPEC](#)

Historic confederations

Some have more the characteristics of a personal union, but they are still listed here because of their own self-styling.

Crown of Aragon (1137–1716)

Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (confederated personal union; 1447–1492, 1501–1569, (different governments, armies, treasuries, laws, territories with borders, citizenships; common monarch (Grand Duke of Lithuania and King of Poland), parliament (Sejm) and currency)

Switzerland (1291–1848), officially the Swiss Confederation

Republic of the Seven United Provinces of the Netherlands (1581-1795)

Confederate Ireland (1641-1649)

Historic confederations

New England Confederation (1643–1684)

United States of America under the Articles of Confederation
(1781–1789)

Confederate States of America, (1861–1865)

Aro Confederacy, (1690 -1902), in what is now Nigeria, Cameroon
and Equatorial Guinea

Union of African States (1961–1963, Mali+Ghana+Guinea)

Senegambia (1982–1989, Senegal+Gambia)

Hanseatic League

United Provinces of New Granada (1810–1816 in what is now
Colombia)

Powhatan Confederacy

Carlist States in Spain (1872–1876)

Serbia and Montenegro (2003–2006)

What are the advantages and disadvantages to a confederation system as a form of government?

- Advantages: State rights would be guaranteed. Supreme Court could not legislate. Local government help citizens needs.
- Disadvantages: Weak national government. Small military. Weak economy.

Federal (Federation)

Ways Government Distributes Power

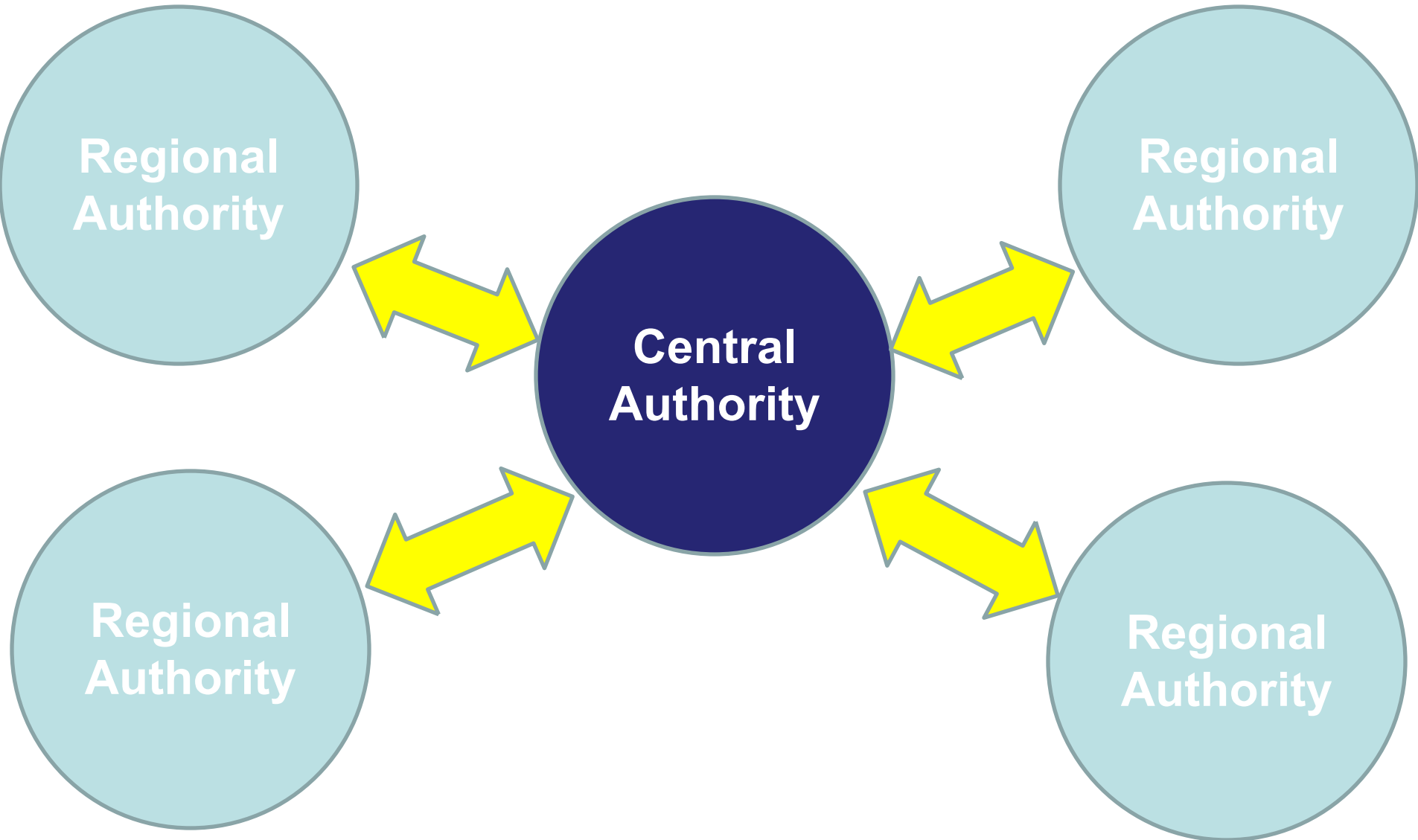
Power is divided between one central and several regional authorities.



Teacher Notes: Students should be able to describe the ways governments distribute power, or identify the type of distribution from a description.

Federal or (Federation)

Ways Government Distributes Power



What are the advantages and disadvantages to a federal system as a form of government?

- **Advantages:** There are several checks and balances so the National government and the state governments.
- **Disadvantages:** There may be infringements on other states, often causing rivalry and competition.

Sample Test Question

In Nigeria's government, power is divided between Central and regional authorities. This is an example of which government type?

- A. Unitary
- B. Confederation
- C. Federal
- D. Parliamentary

Corresponds to
SS6- CG1a, CG4a, CG6a
SS7- CG1a , CG4a, CG6a

Sample Test Question

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Review

Unitary



Power rests in a single central government

Confederation



Alliance among Independent states/regions to create a limited central government



Central government has No control over the States/regions.

Federal



Power is shared Between the central Government and the States/regions



Central government has Some control over the States/regions.

Element B

Explain how governments determine citizen participation: autocratic, oligarchic, and democratic.

Autocratic Governments

In an autocratic government, one person or group holds all the power, without the participation, or sometimes even the consent, of the people.

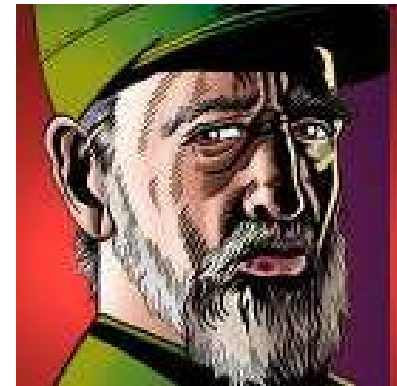
I have complete control over everyone and everything!

You will do exactly what I say!

The word “autocracy,” the opposite of democracy, comes from the Greek words: “autos” meaning “self” and “kratos” meaning “power.”



Absolute Monarchy



Military Dictatorship

Autocracy

- Government by a single person having unlimited power; despotism (domination through threat of punishment and violence) .



What countries have an autocratic government?

- Cuba
- Morocco
- Bahrain
- Oman
- Jordan
- Qatar
- Kuwait

Oligarchic Governments

a government in which control is exercised by a small group of individuals whose authority generally is based on wealth or power.

The word oligarchy is from the Greek for "few" and "rule".



Oligarchy

- A government in which a few people such as a dominant clan or clique have power.



What countries have an Oligarchic government?

- China
- North Korea
- Saudi Arabia
- Russia

Democratic Governments

a form of government in which the supreme power is retained by the people, but which is usually exercised indirectly through a system of representation and delegated authority periodically renewed.



When citizens directly participate in government by voting, it's called democracy.

The word “democracy” comes from two Greek words: “demos” meaning “people” and “kratos” meaning “power” or “authority.”

The United States has had the same type of government for more than 200 years. It's called a “representative democracy.” Among the nations of the world, it is unusual for a system of government to last so long.

Democratic Government(Cont.)



VOTE



● **In a democracy, the government is elected by the people. Everyone who is eligible to vote has a chance to have their say over who runs the country. It is distinct from governments controlled by a particular social class or group (aristocracy; oligarchy) or by a single person (despotism; dictatorship; monarchy).**

● **A democracy is determined either directly or through elected representatives.**

What countries have an democratic government?

- USA
- Italy
- Iceland
- Norway
- Greece
- Denmark

Review

Autocracy



One person has all the power



The people have no right to say what the government does

Oligarchy



A small group of people have all the authority, usually based on wealth or power.



Only a few people have a right to say what the government does

Democracy



The people elect representatives who have authority to make decisions for them.



All people have a right to say what the government does

Element C

**Describe the two
predominate forms of
democratic
governments:
parliamentary and
presidential.**

Parliamentary Governments

a political system in which the legislature (parliament) selects the government - a prime minister, premier, or chancellor along with the cabinet ministers - according to party strength as expressed in elections; by this system, the government acquires a dual responsibility: to the people as well as to the parliament.



Elizabeth

Queen: Head of State

The majority party controls the government



Martin

Prime Minister: Head of Government



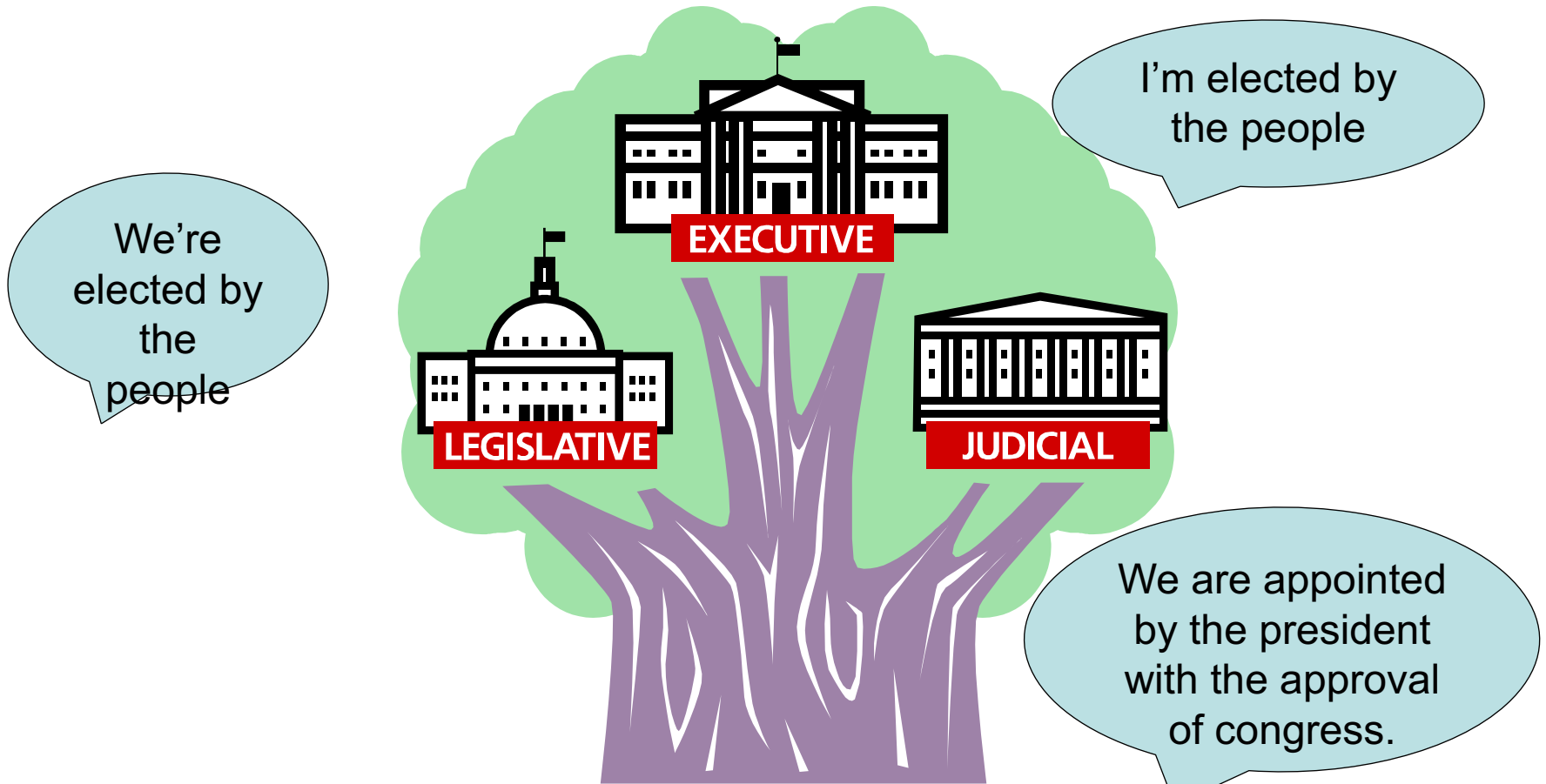
Parliament



Cabinet Members

Presidential Governments

a system of government where the executive branch exists separately from a legislature (to which it is generally not accountable).



The three branches of the U.S. government check and balance each other.

What is the difference between a parliamentary system and a presidential form of government?

- **The election process**
- **Presidential government - the president and members of congress are chosen in separate elections**
- **Presidential government can never be parliamentary**
- **President is elected by the people and is answerable to the voters rather than the legislature.**
- **Parliamentary government can vote a governing body out of office**
- **Parliamentary government is always democratic**
- **Parliamentary government the prime minister is a member of parliament and is directly accountable to that body**

Democracy

Rule of the People

A form of government in which the supreme power is held completely by the people under a free electoral system.

There are two principles that any definition of democracy includes.

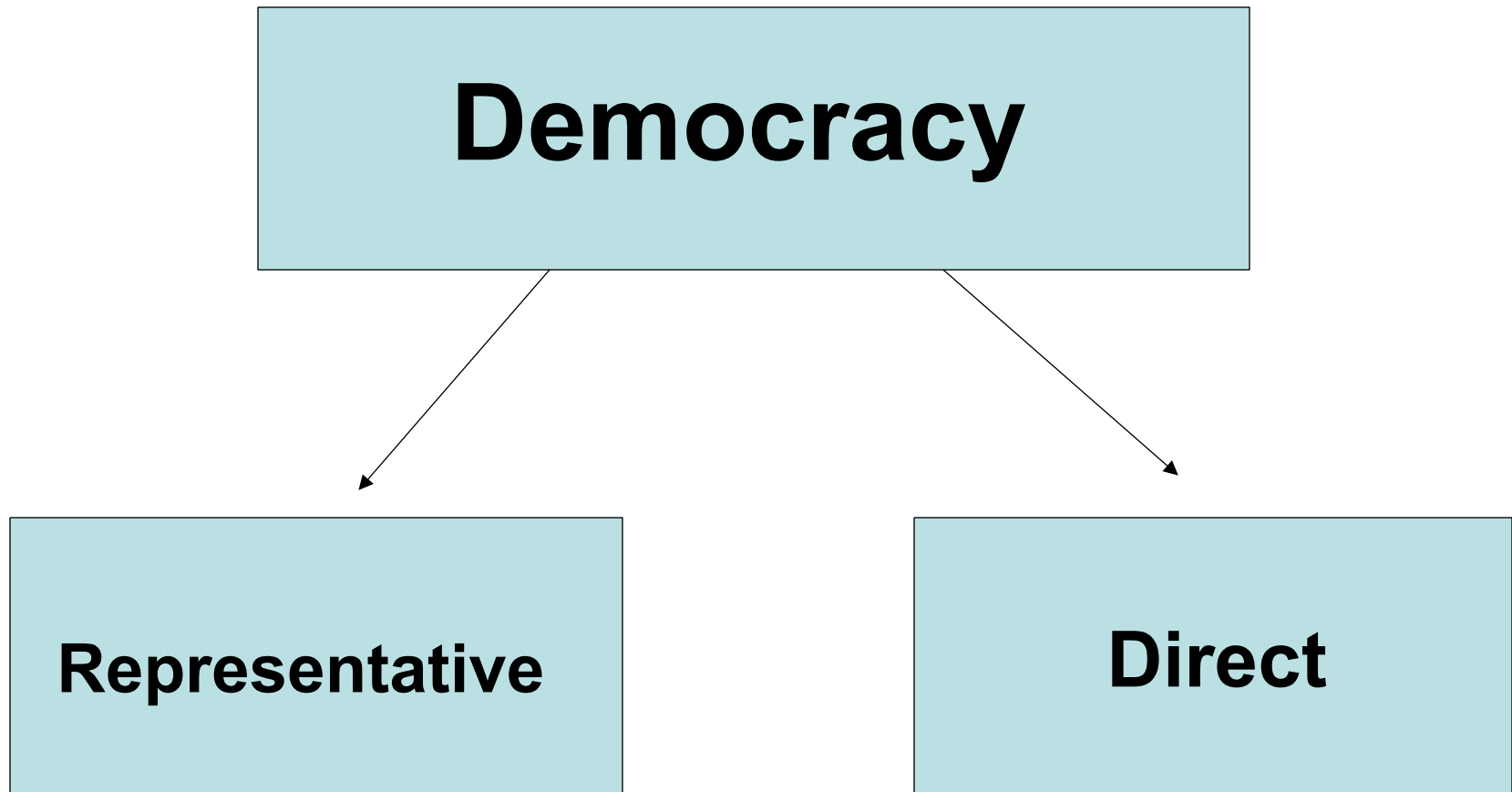
- 1** All members of the society have equal access to power
- 2** All members enjoy universally recognized freedoms and liberties.

Pillars of Democracy

- Sovereignty of the people.
- Government based upon consent of the governed.
- Majority rule.
- Minority rights.
- Guarantee of basic human rights.
- Free and fair elections.
- Equality before the law.
- Due process of law.
- Constitutional limits on government.
- Social, economic, and political pluralism.
- Values of tolerance, pragmatism, cooperation, and compromise.

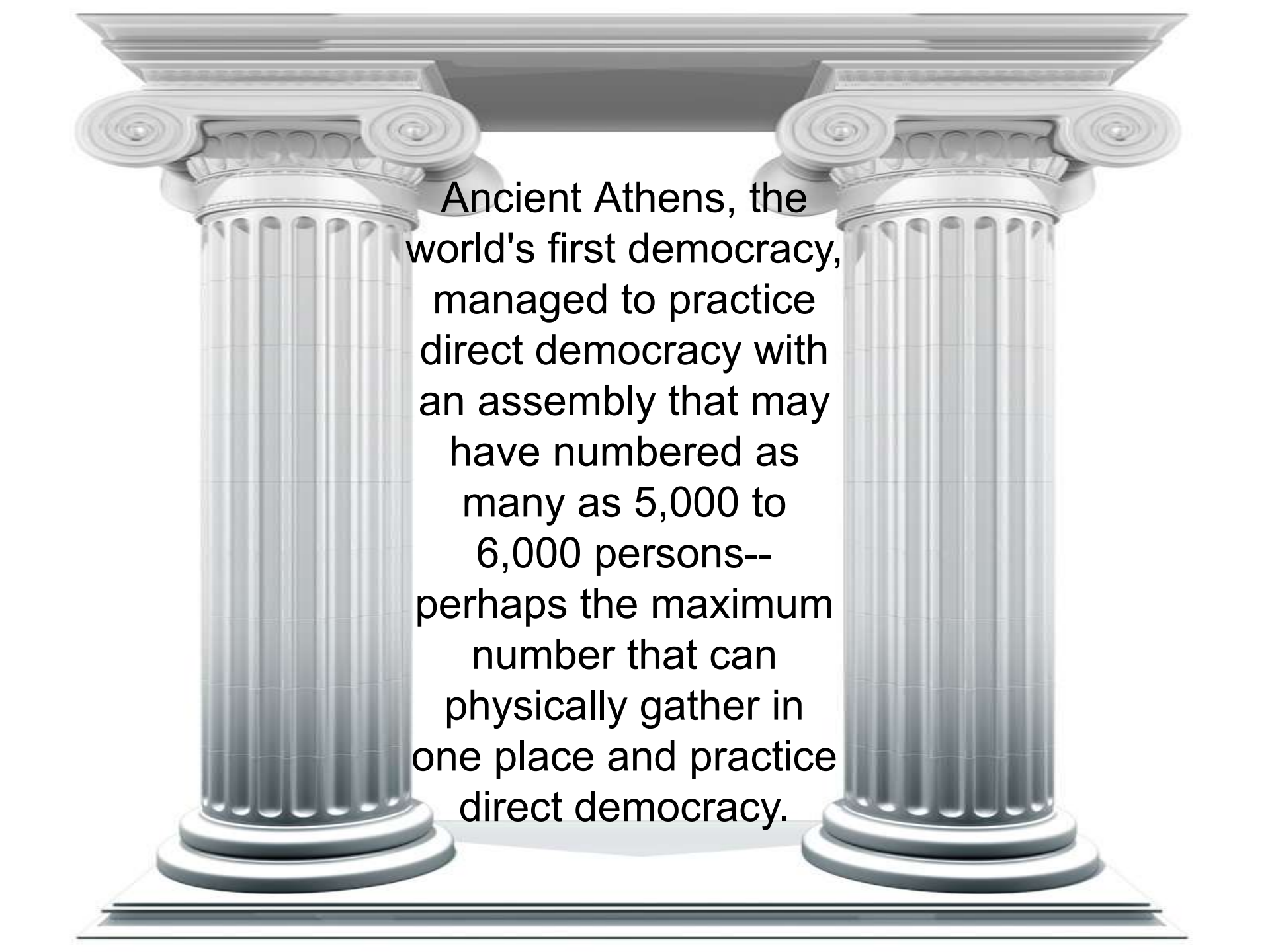
**Copy this
on your
own paper.**

Democracies fall into two basic categories, direct and representative.



Direct Democracy

In a direct democracy, all citizens, can participate in making public decisions. This system is only practical with small numbers of people--in a community organization or tribal council, for example, where people can meet in a single room to discuss issues and arrive at decisions by consensus or majority vote.

The image features two classical columns, likely Corinthian or Ionic, supporting a decorative entablature. The columns are fluted and have papyrus-bundle capitals. The text is centered between the columns. The background is white.

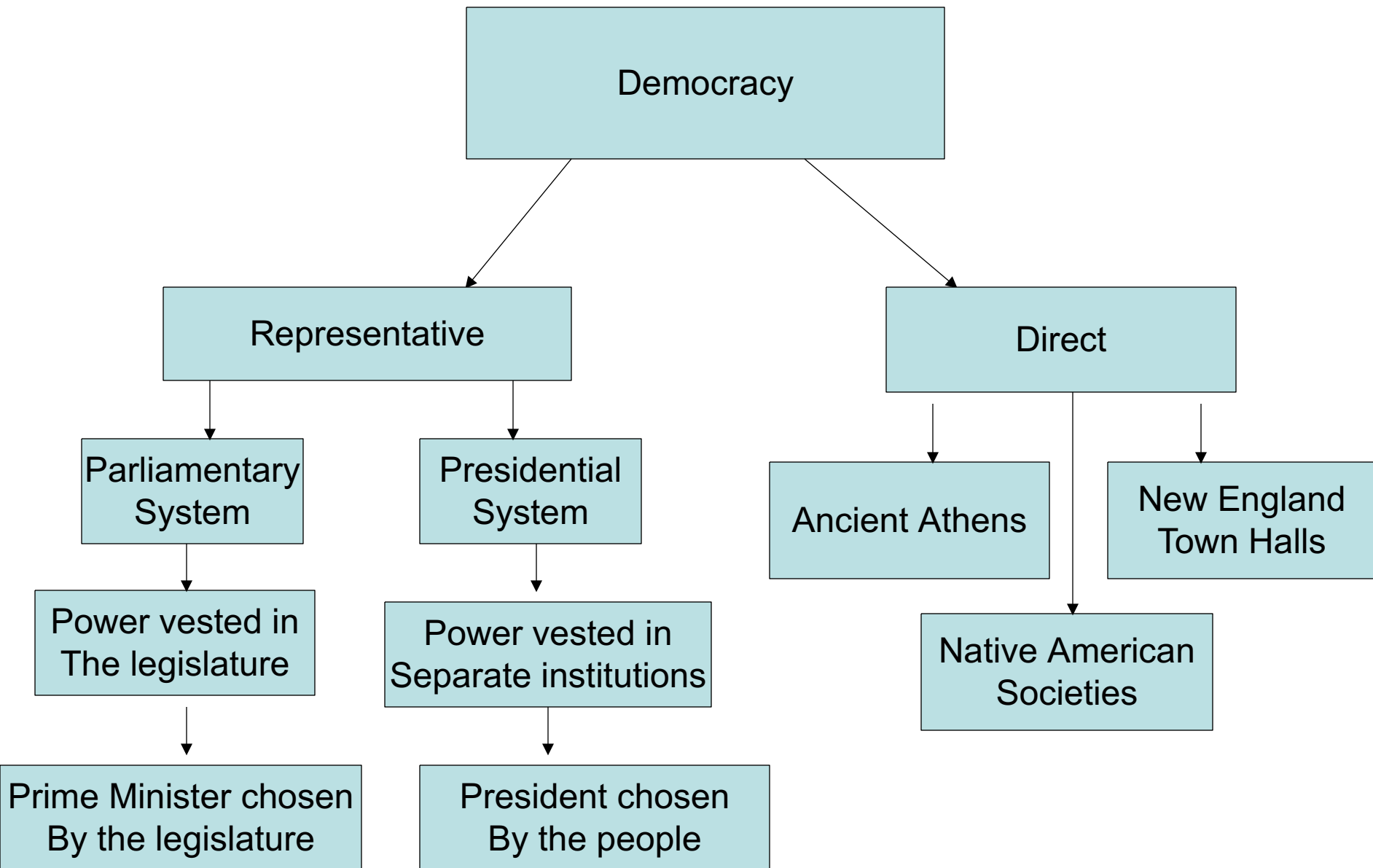
Ancient Athens, the world's first democracy, managed to practice direct democracy with an assembly that may have numbered as many as 5,000 to 6,000 persons--perhaps the maximum number that can physically gather in one place and practice direct democracy.

Representative Democracy

Today, the most common form of democracy, whether for a town of 50,000 or nations of 50 million, is representative democracy, in which citizens elect officials to make political decisions, formulate laws, and administer programs for the public good.

an investment of time and energy that is often impractical for the vast majority of private citizens.

Copy this graphic organizer on your own paper.



The End

Created by Debra Harrington