

Government/Civics Domain

Sixth and Seventh Grade Social Studies



Resources

Teacher Notes (6th & 7th)

Frameworks

Curriculum Map

**Videos- Unit 1, Middle School,
High School, Concept Wall**

Southern Center Materials

OAS (in the works)

Government/Civics Domain

Sixth and Seventh Grade Social Studies



Compare & Contrast Various Forms of Government

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

SS6 - CG1a, CG4a, CG6a

SS7 – CG1a, CG4a, CG6a

Federal (Federation)

Ways Government Distributes Power

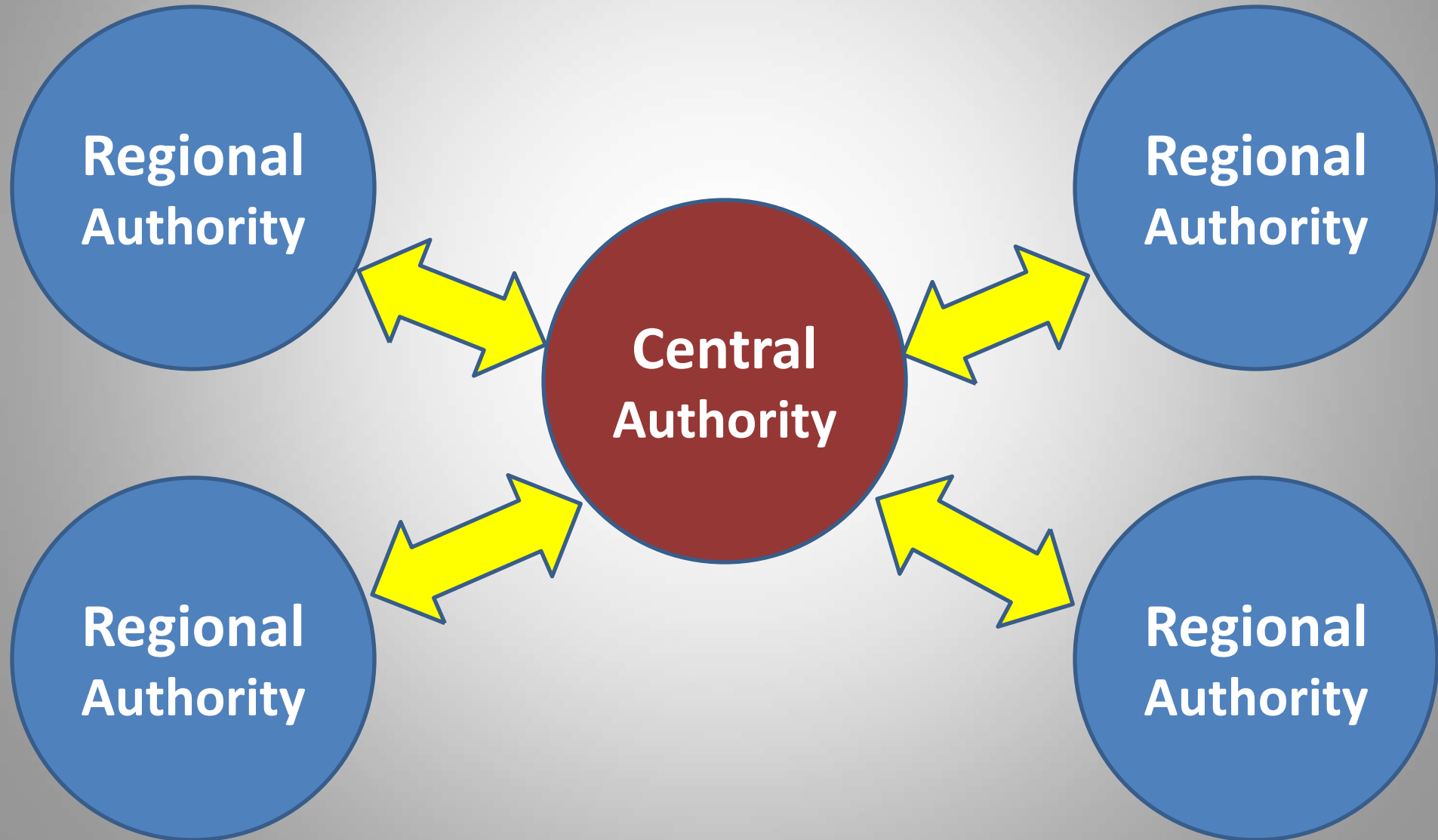
Power is divided between one central and several regional authorities.



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

Federation / Federal

Ways Government Distributes Power



List of countries with Federal Governments (24)

Argentina

Australia

Austria

Belgium

Bosnia and

Herzegovina

Brazil

Canada

Comoros

Ethiopia

Germany

India

Malaysia

Mexico

Micronesia

Nigeria

Pakistan

Russia

St. Kitts and Nevis

South Africa

Spain

Switzerland

United Arab Emirates

United States of

America

Venezuela

**Countries in
Transition to
Federalism**

Iraq

Sudan

**Countries
Considering a
Federal System**

Sri Lanka

Unitary

Ways Government Distributes Power

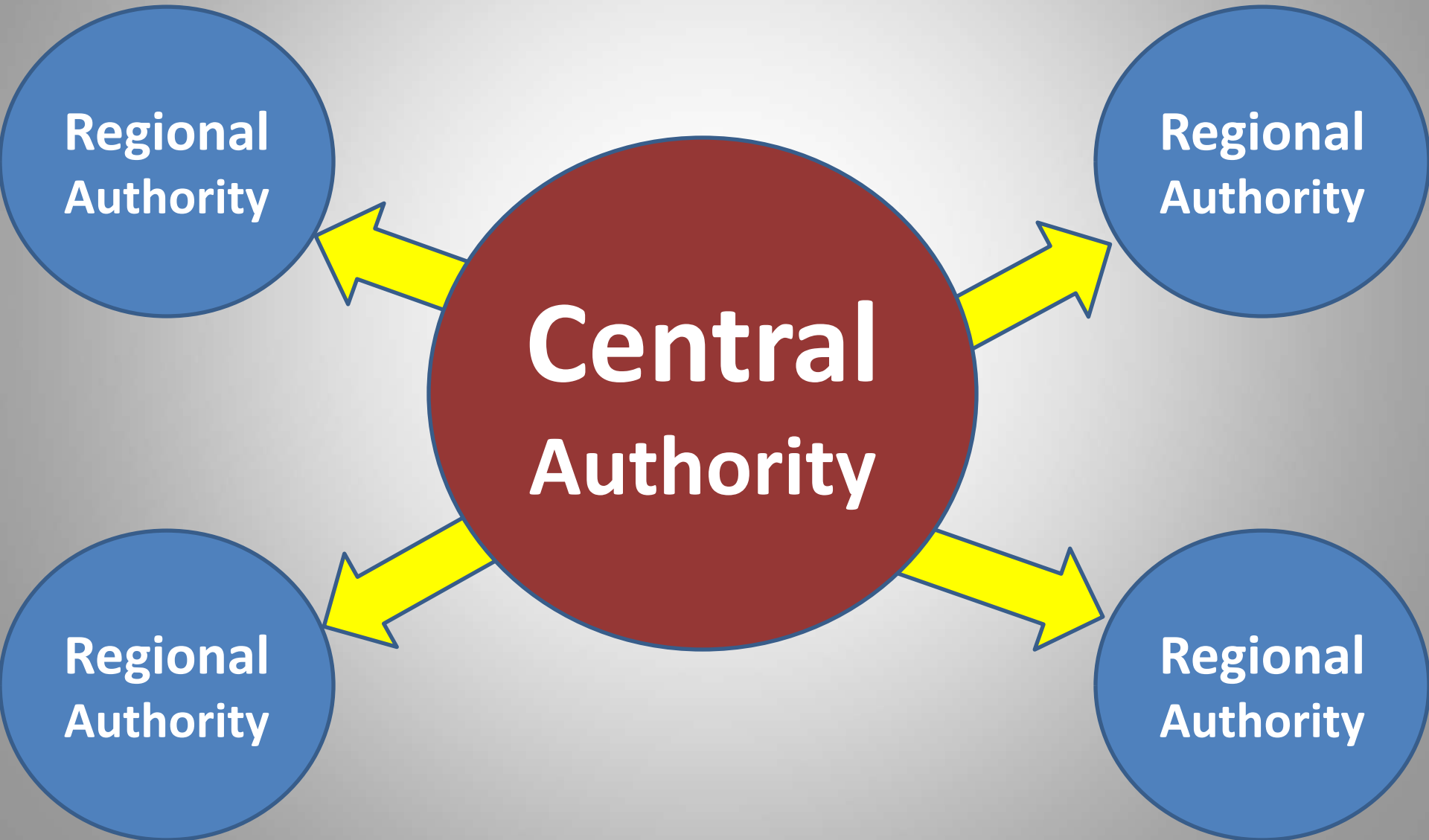
Power is held by one central authority.



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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

List of Unitary States

Mali	New Zealand	Romania
Malta	Nicaragua	Rwanda
Marshall Islands	Niger	Saint Lucia
Mauritania	North Korea	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Mauritius	Norway	Samoa
Moldova	Oman	San Marino
Monaco	Palau	São Tomé and Príncipe
Mongolia	Panama	Saudi Arabia
Montenegro	Papua New Guinea	Senegal
Morocco	Paraguay	Serbia
Mozambique	Peru	Seychelles
Myanmar	Philippines	Sierra Leone
Namibia	Poland	Singapore
Nauru	Portugal	Slovakia
Netherlands	Qatar	

List of Unitary States

Slovenia

Solomon Islands

South Africa

South Korea

Spain

Sri Lanka

Suriname

Swaziland

Sweden

Syria

Republic of China (Taiwan)

Tajikistan

Tanzania

Thailand

Togo

Tonga

Trinidad and Tobago

Tunisia

Turkey

Turkmenistan

Tuvalu

Uganda

Ukraine

United Kingdom

Uruguay

Uzbekistan

Vanuatu

Vatican City

Vietnam

Yemen

Zambia

Zimbabwe



Confederation



Ways Government Distributes Power

Voluntary association of independent states that often only delegate a few powers to the central authority.

Secure some common purpose.

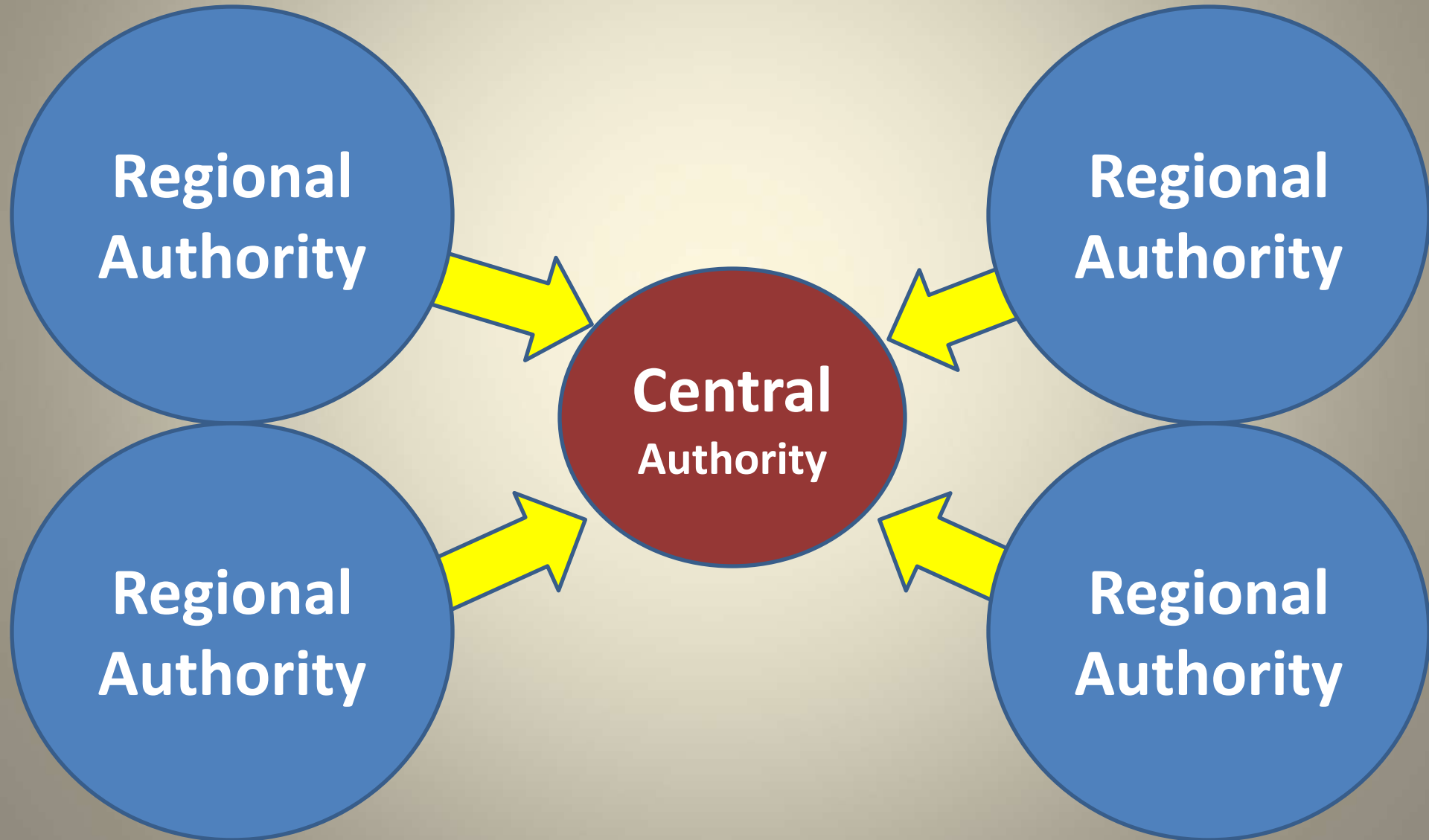
Agree to certain limitations on their freedom of action.

States retain considerable independence.

Less binding than a federation.

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)

Historic confederations

United Arab Republic (confederation de-facto; 1958–1961, Egypt+Syria; 1963, Egypt+Syria+Iraq)

Arab Federation (confederation de-facto; 1958, (Iraq+Jordan)

Federation of Arab Republics (confederation de-facto; 1972, Egypt+Syria+Libya)

Arab Islamic Republic (confederation de-facto; 1974, Libya+Tunisia)

Peru-Bolivian Confederation (1836–1839)

Kalmar Union (confederated personal union; 1397–1523, Denmark+Sweden+Norway)

Denmark-Norway (confederated personal union; 1536–1814)

Sweden-Norway (confederated personal union; 1814–1905)

Confederation of Central America (1842–1844, El Salvador+Guatemala+Honduras+Nicaragua)

Historic confederations

Confederation of the Equator (1824) - located in Northeast Brazil.

Pre-united Germany after the Holy Roman Empire

Confederation of the Rhine (1806–1813) had no head of state nor a government

German Confederation (1815–1866)

North German Confederation (1866–1871) Became the German Empire in 1871

Fictional confederations

Confederacy of Independent Systems (Star Wars)

Terran Confederation (Wing Commander)

Terran Confederacy (StarCraft)

Capellan Confederation (Battletech)

Confederation of Planet Omega (animated series Once Upon a Time... Space)

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

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Ways Government Distributes Power

All key powers are held by the central government

State/regional authorities hold most of the power



Unitary

Federal

Confederation

Strong central government

Weaker central government

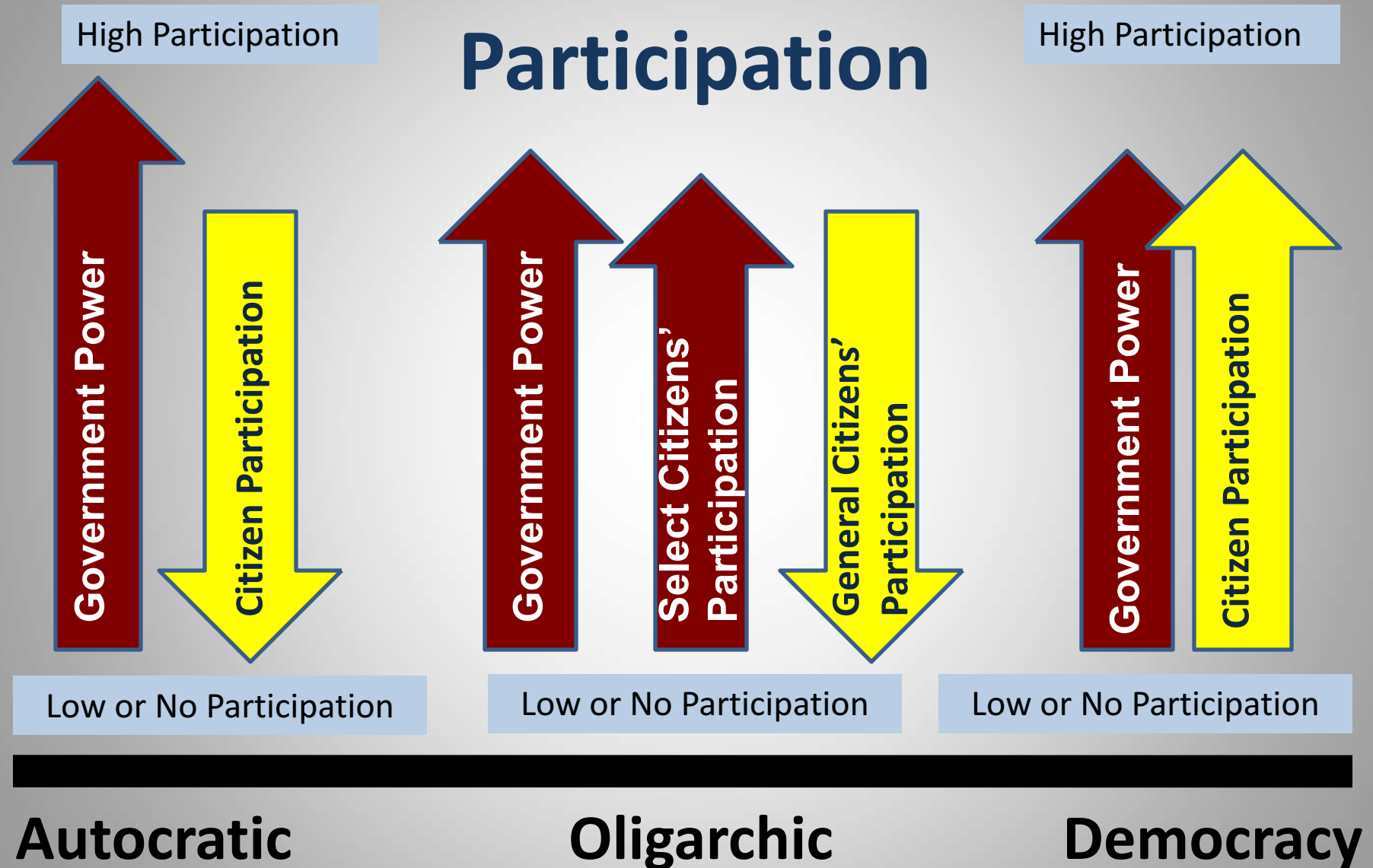
Compare & Contrast Various Forms of Government

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

SS6 - CG1b, CG4b, CG6b

SS7 – CG1b, CG4b, CG6b

How Governments Determine Citizen



Autocratic

How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

One person possesses unlimited power.

The citizen has limited, if any, role in government.

Teacher Notes: Explain the different ways citizen participation in their government is defined.

How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

Autocratic

- The oldest form of government.
- One of the most common forms of government.
- Maintain power through inheritance or ruthless use of military and police power.
-

How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

Forms of Autocratic Govts.

- **Absolute or Totalitarian Dictatorship**
- Ideas of a single leader glorified.
- Government tries to control all aspects of social and economic life.
 - Government is not responsible to the people.
 - People lack the power to limit their rulers.
 - **Examples-** Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini, Joseph Stalin

How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

Forms of Autocratic Govts.

- **Absolute Monarchy**
- King, queen, or emperor exercises the supreme powers of government/unlimited power.
- Position is usually inherited.
 - People lack the power to limit their rulers.
 - Absolute monarchs are rare today but from the 1400s to the 1700s they ruled most of Western Europe.
 - **Examples-** King of Saudi Arabia.

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Oligarchy

How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

Government by the few.

Sometimes a small group exercises control, especially for corrupt and selfish purposes.

The citizen has a very limited role.

Teacher Notes: Explain the different ways citizen participation in their government is defined.

How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

Oligarchy

- The group gets its power from military power, social power, wealth, religion or a combination.
- Political opposition is usually suppressed-sometimes violently.
 - **Examples-** Communist countries such as China.
 - Leaders in the party and armed forces control government.

How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

Autocracy & Oligarchy

- Sometimes claim they rule for the people.
- In reality, the people have very little say in both types of government.
 - **Examples-** May hold elections with only one candidate or control the results in various ways.
 - **Examples-** Even when these governments have a legislature or national assembly, they often only approve decisions made by the leaders.

Sample Test Question

What is a basic way citizens of a democratic nation can influence the government?

- A. voting
- B. working
- C. obeying laws
- D. consuming goods

OAS Database Question - Corresponds to

SS6- CG1b, CG4b, CG6b

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SS7- CG1b , CG4b, CG6b**

Compare & Contrast Various Forms of Government

Describe the two predominant forms of democratic governments: Parliamentary & Presidential

SS6 - CG1c, CG4c, CG6c

SS7 – CG1c, CG4c, CG6c

Describe the two predominant forms of democratic government: parliamentary and presidential

Parliamentary Democracy

A system of government having the real executive power vested in a cabinet composed of members of the legislature who are individually and collectively responsible to the legislature.

May have a Prime Minister elected by the legislature.

Describe the two predominant forms of democratic government: parliamentary and presidential

Presidential Democracy

A system of government in which the president is constitutionally independent of the legislature.

The executive branch exists separately from the legislature (to which it is generally not accountable).

Sample Test Question

In which system of government does the legislature elect the executive leader of the government?

- A. democratic
- B. communist
- C. parliamentary
- D. totalitarian

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Sample Test Question

Which statement about Great Britain's parliamentary system of government today is true?

- A. Members of both houses of Parliament are elected for life.
- B. The queen decides which laws Parliament will debate.
- C. Members of Parliament do not belong to political parties.
- D. The prime minister is not directly chosen by voters.

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Sample Test Question

In most democratic countries, the government is divided into three branches: executive, legislative, and judicial. In Canada, the legislative branch is the

- A. Parliament
- B. prime minister
- C. Supreme Court
- D. governor general

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SS&- CG1b , CG4b, CG6b

Republican Systems

Kenya and South Africa

A representative democracy in which the people's elected deputies (representatives), not the people themselves, vote on legislation.

Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

Federal Republic

India, Brazil, Mexico

A state in which the powers of the central government are restricted and in which the component parts (states, colonies, or provinces) retain a degree of self-government; ultimate sovereign power rests with the voters who chose their governmental representatives.

Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

Federal (Federation)

Germany, Russia, Canada, Australia

A form of government in which sovereign power is formally divided - usually by means of a constitution - between a central authority and a number of constituent regions (states, colonies, or provinces) so that each region retains some management of its internal affairs; differs from a confederacy in that the central government exerts influence directly upon both individuals as well as upon the regional units.

Compare types of governments from various countries.

Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

Parliamentary Democracy

Israel, Canada, Australia

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.

Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

Parliamentary

United Kingdom

Government in which members of an executive branch (the cabinet and its leader - a prime minister, premier, or chancellor) are nominated to their positions by a legislature or parliament, and are directly responsible to it; this type of government can be dissolved at will by the parliament (legislature) by means of a no confidence vote or the leader of the cabinet may dissolve the parliament if it can no longer function. Also see Constitutional Monarchy.

Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

Monarchy

Saudi Arabia

A government in which the supreme power is lodged in the hands of a monarch who reigns over a state or territory, usually for life and by hereditary right; the monarch may be either a sole absolute ruler or a sovereign - such as a king, queen, or prince - with constitutionally limited authority.

Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

Constitutional Monarchy

Japan and Canada

A system of government in which a monarch is guided by a constitution whereby his/her rights, duties, and responsibilities are spelled out in written law or by custom.

Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

Theocracy

Iran

A form of government in which a Deity is recognized as the supreme civil ruler, but the Deity's laws are interpreted by ecclesiastical authorities (bishops, mullahs, etc.); a government subject to religious authority.

Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

Communist

China

A system of government in which the state plans and controls the economy and a single - often authoritarian - party holds power; state controls are imposed with the elimination of private ownership of property or capital while claiming to make progress toward a higher social order in which all goods are equally shared by the people (i.e., a classless society).

Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

Dictatorships

Sudan and Cuba

A form of government in which a ruler or small clique wield absolute power (not restricted by a constitution or laws).

Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.