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*Why a Constitutional Republic?: SS.7.CG.3.1*

***Forms of Government***

**READING #3**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***SS.7.CG.3.1 Benchmark Clarification 3****:* Students will analyze scenarios describing various forms of government.

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| **Form of Government** | **Scenario** |
| **Direct Democracy** | Some Native American tribes organize themselves by having all male adult members of the tribe vote to make changes to the laws. |
| **Representative Democracy/ Republic** | In the United States, citizens elect representatives at the national, state, and local levels of government who make decisions for the people. |
| **Monarchy** | In the 20th century, monarchs have generally become symbols of national unity, while real power is held by elected officials who follow a constitution. |
| **Oligarchy** | In England in 1215, a small group of wealthy, powerful men forced the king to share power with them. |
| **Autocracy** | Most leaders who started World War I were the few remaining absolute monarchs of Europe. In World War II, many who started the war were **dictators**, such as those in Germany, Japan, and Italy. |
| **Absolute Monarchy** | In early European history, government power was held by kings and queens who ruled with unlimited powers. |
| **Constitutional Monarchy** | The United Kingdom is commonly referred to as the British monarchy. The King, Charles III, is the “head of state” or ceremonial figurehead, while a Parliament runs the government, led by a prime minister. |
| **Theocracy**  | The Pope in the Vatican City is the bishop of Rome and the head religious leader of the Catholic Church. |

**absolute monarchy** - a form of autocracy where a person becomes the sole leader of a country by being born into a family of rulers; there are no limits on the monarch’s power

**autocracy** - a form of government where one person has unlimited power

**dictator** - a military leader who becomes the head of a country, often by force

**direct democracy** - a form of government in which the power to govern is directly in the hands of the people rather than elected representatives

**monarchy** - a form of government headed by a king or queen who inherits the position, rules for life, and holds power that can range anywhere between limited to absolute

**oligarchy** - a form of government in which a small group (often of wealthy people) has total control and power

**representative democracy/republic** - a form of government in which the people elect representatives to make laws for them

**theocracy** - a form of government in which priests or religious leaders’ rule in the name of a deity or deities.