

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

## Answer Key: Local Rebels vs. Central Crowns: A Grade 8 View of Global Power

Learners analyze how modern nations like Switzerland and Japan distribute authority while comparing the efficacy of power-sharing across diverse cultural landscapes.

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**1. In Switzerland's system of government, the 26 'cantons' hold significant power over their own education and police systems. This is an example of which concept?**

**Answer:** B) Federalism

Federalism is a system where power is constitutionally divided between a central authority and constituent political units like cantons or states.

**2. Unlike a president who is elected separately from the legislature, a \_\_\_\_\_ is usually a member of the legislative branch and is chosen by its members.**

**Answer:** C) Prime Minister

In parliamentary systems, the Prime Minister is the head of government but remains a sitting member of the parliament.

**3. In a unitary system, such as the one found in Japan, the central government has the power to create or abolish local administrative divisions.**

**Answer:** A) True

In unitary systems, local governments only have the powers that the central government chooses to delegate to them.

**4. Which of these features is a primary characteristic of a 'Constitutional Monarchy' like the one in Spain?**

**Answer:** B) The monarch's role is mostly ceremonial and limited by law

In a constitutional monarchy, the monarch acts as a non-party political head of state under the guidelines of a constitution.

**5. A state where a small, elite group of people (such as military leaders or wealthy families) holds all the political power is known as an \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer:** B) Oligarchy

Oligarchies are characterized by the rule of a few, often distinguished by royalty, wealth, family ties, or military control.

**6. Mexico and Australia both use a 'Federal' system. What is a common challenge these governments face that a 'Unitary' system might not?**

**Answer:** A) Disputes over which level of government has the right to tax

Federal systems often deal with jurisdictional friction between national and regional laws or funding.

**7. In a Presidential Democracy, the executive branch is part of the legislative branch to ensure they always agree.**

**Answer:** B) False

Presidential systems specifically use a 'separation of powers' where the executive and legislative branches are independent of each other.

**8. Vatican City is an example of a Theocracy. How is leadership typically determined in this form of government?**

**Answer:** C) Selection by religious officials based on religious law

A theocracy is a system of government in which priests or religious leaders rule in the name of God or a god.

**9. When a country like Sweden provides extensive social services funded by taxes while maintaining a multi-party democracy, it is often categorized as a \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** C) Social Democracy

Social democracies combine a democratic political system with a capitalist economy that has strong social protections.

**10. The term 'Rule of Law' means that in a democracy, even the highest government officials must follow the law.**

**Answer:** A) True

Rule of Law is a foundational principle of democracy ensuring that no individual or institution is above the law.