

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Tiny Chairs, Big Rules: A Comparative Leaders Lab for Kindergarten

Beyond simple sharing—students evaluate how rules change from one kingdom to another while designing their own fair neighborhood charters.

1. Imagine two islands. On Sun Island, everyone votes for a leader. On Moon Island, one King makes all the rules alone. How are these islands DIFFERENT?

Answer: A) Sun Island shares the power, but Moon Island gives power to one person.

Comparative government looks at who holds the power; democracies distribute it through voting, while monarchies or autocracies centralize it.

2. Some countries have a 'Queen' who wears a crown but doesn't make the laws, while a 'Prime Minister' does the actual work of leading.

Answer: A) True

This describes a constitutional monarchy (like Sweden or Japan), where ceremonial and executive roles are split.

3. In a big school, the Principal makes rules for everyone, but each Teacher makes special rules for their own room. This is like a ____ system.

Answer: B) Federal (Split power)

Federalism is a system where power is divided between a central authority and smaller regional units, like states or classrooms.

4. If you were building a brand new country and wanted to make sure things were FAIR, which action would help the most?

Answer: B) Making a 'Constitution' book that everyone must follow, even the leader.

A constitution (limited government) ensures that leaders are held accountable to laws, preventing unfair treatment.

5. Every single country in the whole world uses the exact same rules and picks their leaders in the exact same way.

Answer: B) False

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Comparative government teaches us that nations have diverse structures, ranging from parliaments to absolute rule.

6. Which of these leaders is usually chosen by their family tree (their parents were leaders) instead of being voted for by the people?

Answer: C) A Monarch (King or Queen)

Monarchies are traditionally hereditary systems, unlike democratic roles which involve public selection.

7. If a leader tells everyone what to think and doesn't let anyone complain or use the internet freely, that country has an ____ government.

Answer: B) Authoritarian

Authoritarian systems feature centralized control and limited personal and political freedoms for the citizens.

8. In some places, the leader (Prime Minister) is picked by the people who make the laws (Parliament). In others, the leader (President) is picked separately. Why does this matter?

Answer: A) It changes how different parts of government talk to each other.

The relationship between legislative and executive branches is a primary distinction between presidential and parliamentary systems.

9. In a democracy, the people have a 'voice' by voting, which is like everyone in the class helping choose which book to read.

Answer: A) True

Democracy is based on popular sovereignty, where the power of the government comes from the consent of the people.

10. If you want to move to a country where you have the most freedom to start a business or pick your job, you would look for a ____ society.

Answer: C) Democratic/Liberal

Democratic or liberal systems usually prioritize individual rights and economic freedoms more than authoritarian ones.