

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

## Answer Key: Rule of Law or Rule of Leaders? 4th Grade Comparative Government Quiz

Evaluate how different nations balance power by analyzing real-world examples from Australian consensus-building to Japanese constitutional monarchy structures.

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**1. In Australia's system, the Prime Minister is the head of government but is also a member of the Parliament. This 'fusion of power' is a hallmark of which system?**

**Answer:** B) Parliamentary Democracy

In parliamentary systems like Australia's, the executive branch (the Prime Minister) is chosen from and is part of the legislative branch (Parliament).

**2. Japan has an Emperor who serves as a symbol of the state but has no governing power, while an elected Diet makes laws. Japan is a \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** C) Constitutional Monarchy

A constitutional monarchy is a system where a monarch acts as a ceremonial figurehead while a constitution and elected body hold the actual political power.

**3. In a 'Unitary' system like New Zealand's, the central national government holds all the main power and can take away power from local councils if it chooses.**

**Answer:** A) True

Unlike federal systems, unitary systems centralize authority in the national government, which delegates specific tasks to local levels.

**4. Switzerland often uses 'Referendums' where citizens vote directly on specific laws. This is an example of which democratic tool?**

**Answer:** D) Direct Democracy

Direct democracy involves citizens participating in decision-making through voting on specific issues rather than just electing representatives.

**5. Mexico is divided into 31 states that have their own governors and laws, much like the U.S. system. This division of power is called \_\_\_\_\_.**

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**Answer:** C) Federalism

Federalism is a system where power is constitutionally divided between a central government and regional governments like states or provinces.

**6. In an Authoritarian system, the government usually encourages many different political parties to run against each other in free elections.**

**Answer:** B) False

Authoritarian systems typically restrict political competition, often allowing only one party or severely limiting opposition voices.

**7. The Haudenosaunee Confederacy (Six Nations) influenced modern government by showing how independent groups can join a 'League' while keeping local control. This is a form of:**

**Answer:** A) Confederation

A confederation is a union of sovereign groups or states that unite for common purposes while retaining significant local independence.

**8. Imagine a country where a small group of wealthy families or powerful military leaders holds all the control. This type of government is an \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** A) Oligarchy

An oligarchy is a form of government in which a small, elite group of people holds the majority of political power.

**9. In a Republic, like the one in South Korea, the head of state is elected by the people or their representatives rather than inheriting the position by birth.**

**Answer:** A) True

A republic is characterized by a head of state who is not a monarch and is usually an elected president.

**10. If you were comparing the government of Norway (which has a King and a Parliament) to Vietnam (which is a one-party state), what is the biggest difference you would find?**

**Answer:** B) Norway allows political competition/choice while Vietnam limits it.

Norway is a multi-party democracy where citizens have multiple choices, whereas Vietnam's one-party system centralizes leadership under a single political organization.