

Name: _____ Date: _____

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.

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?

- A. Separation of Powers
- B. Parliamentary Democracy
- C. Absolute Monarchy
- D. Direct Democracy

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 _____.

- A. Absolute Monarchy
- B. Communist State
- C. Constitutional Monarchy
- D. Dictatorship

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.

- A. True
- B. False

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

- A. Authoritarian Decree
- B. Hereditary Rule
- C. Military Coup
- D. Direct Democracy

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 _____.

- A. Totalitarianism
- B. Unitary Governance
- C. Federalism
- D. Anarchy

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

- A. True

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B. False

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:

- A. Confederation
- B. Absolute Power
- C. Monarchy
- D. Dictatorship

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 _____.

- A. Oligarchy
- B. Republic
- C. Pure Democracy
- D. Technocracy

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.

- A. True
- B. False

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?

- A. Norway has more than one language.
- B. Norway allows political competition/choice while Vietnam limits it.
- C. Vietnam is located in Europe.
- D. Both countries have exactly the same voting laws.