Who Rules?

A. Identify That Government! Identify the form(s) of government that each country has or had.

Switzerland

Citizens elect representatives to sit in two different lawmaking assemblies. But citizens also vote several times a year to decide on laws. Citizens can vote to propose their own laws or undo laws passed by their representatives. All citizens may vote directly on these laws.

Forms of government:

Representative democracy

and

Direct Democracy

South Africa

From 1948-1994, official policy in South Africa gave white people all the political power. Even though the majority of South Africans were black, non-whites could not influence government. White South Africans elected representatives to sit in a lawmaking body.

Forms of government:

Oligarchy

and

Representative Democracy

North Korea

One man leads North Korea and controls its government. He also controls its ruling political party. The ruling party chooses candidates for an Assembly, and citizens vote. The candidates do not have opponents, so citizens have no choices.

Form of government:

Dictatorship

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia is led by a king. The king appoints a Council of Ministers to help govern, but there are no elections. Saudi Arabia's Basic Law states that the country's constitution is the Islamic holy book the Qur'an and other religious traditions.

Forms of government:

Monarchy

and

Theocracy

Denmark

The people of Denmark elect representatives to sit in Parliament, a lawmaking body. The Queen of Denmark heads the country, but she only has a small role in government. The government is led by a Prime Minister, who is appointed from among the elected representatives.

Forms of government:

Monarchy

and

Representative democracy

Brazil

Brazil is led by a president who is elected by the citizens. Citizens in Brazil elect a new president every four years. Citizens also elect representatives to serve in two different legislative bodies.

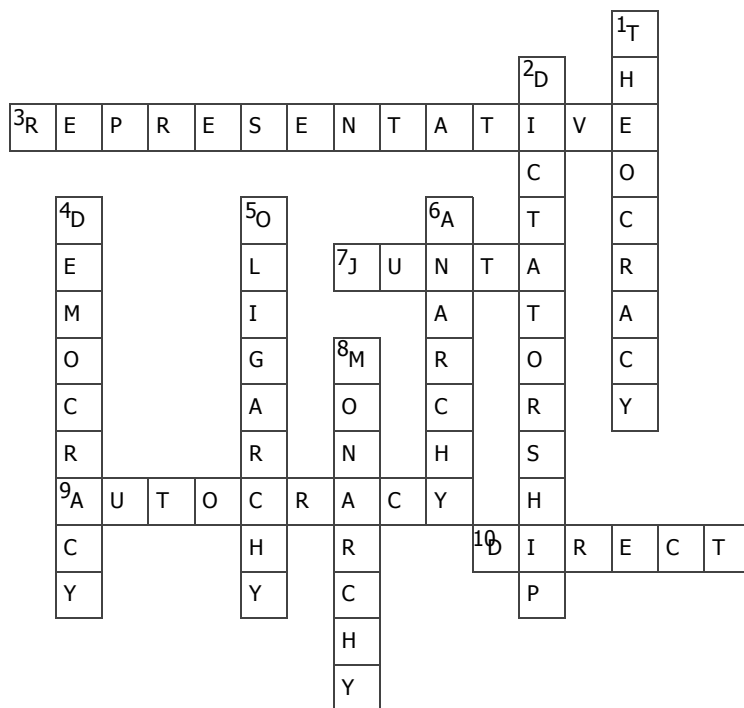Form of government:

Representative democracy

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B. True or False? Use what you learned in the reading and Exercise A to fill in the chart below.

1. A monarchy can be like a dictatorship or it can be part of a democracy.	☑ True ◯ False	Example or Reason: *Denmark: Monarch is part of a democracy; Saudia Arabia: Monarch has complete control.*
2. A dictatorship can also be a democracy.	◯ True ☑ False	Example or Reason: *You can't have a democracy if citizens have no control, which they do not in a dictatorship.*
3. A democracy can have both representative and direct characteristics at the same time.	☑ True ◯ False	Example or Reason: *Switzerland had representative and direct characteristics.*
4. An oligarchy can include representative democracy.	☑ True ◯ False	Example or Reason: *South Africa was an oligarchy but had some representative democracy.*
5. A government can be both a monarchy and an anarchy at the same time.	◯ True ☑ False	Example or Reason: *A monarchy has someone in control. Nobody is in control with anarchy.*
6. Theocracy can co-exist with monarchy.	☑ True ◯ False	Example or Reason: *Saudia Arabia is a monarchy and a theocracy.*
7. Theocracy can co-exist with democracy.	☑ True ◯ False	Example or Reason: *Iran is a theocracy where citizens vote for government leaders.*
8. An oligarchy can be like a dictatorship.	☑ True ◯ False	Example or Reason: *A military junta like the one in Myanmar can function like a dictatorship.*

C. Vocabulary. Solve the crossword puzzle using vocabulary from the reading.

Across

3. Type of democracy where citizens elect leaders to represent them in government
7. A small group that rules a country after taking it over by force
9. One person has all the power
10. Type of democracy where citizens are involved in day-to-day government

Down

1. Recognizes God as the ultimate authority in government and law
2. One leader has absolute control over citizens' lives
4. Citizens hold the political power
5. A small group of people has all the power
6. People are not subject to any nation or government
8. A king or queen rules the country