

# Unit 7

Name:

Date:

## Does a Democracy Protect Its Citizens?



### Inquiry

Focus on this question:

- 1 How does a democracy protect its citizens?

### Resources for Inquiry



### Textbook

Pages 162 to 163  
You can also search for online resources.

Research the Charter Challenge of Gurbaj Singh Multani, whose family challenged a decision made by his school that eventually went to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Develop a timeline to show how the case was heard as it went through the justice system. Include 10 points on your timeline.

**Total of Section 1: /10 marks**

# Assessing Democracies

- Rank the following four democratic systems from 1 to 4 where 4 best represents the principles of an effective democracy and 1 least reflects the principles of an effective democracy.

Recall that a democracy should be

- just
- equitable
- protective of freedoms
- representative

<p><b>System #1</b></p> <p>Direct representation—one person, one vote Only male property owners over 18 can vote Not all people have their individual rights protected; some groups of people have a different social status than others Votes are held every 10 days on important topics. Elections are held every year to select leaders. Leaders, generals, judges and treasurers are elected Those accused of a crime argue their case in front of a jury of their peers. They are considered innocent until proven guilty. The most persuasive speaker is declared innocent. Lesser officials and council members are selected by voters Elections are held every year.</p>	<p><b>System #2</b></p> <p>Representative democracy—representatives are selected to represent a group of people The number of representatives is not based on population size. One person represents a family of twelve. Another person represents a family of five hundred. The next leader is chosen by a close female relative of the previous leader Only relatives can be selected as leaders One group of people has inherited more status than another One group can veto any vote Everyone must agree in order for the vote to pass (consensus) Citizens cooperate to determine which rights should be protected Individuals charged with crimes can have their punishment determined by their community Leaders are selected once every four years</p>

<p><b>System #3</b></p> <p>Representative democracy – number of representatives is based on population size  All citizens over 18 can vote  Justices and lower officials are appointed by a government leader  Protection and security of collective rights are sometimes more important than the protection of individual rights  Collective identity of the group as a whole is encouraged. Dissent is discouraged.  Decisions are made by majority vote.  An election date is determined by the government leader.</p>	<p><b>System #4</b></p> <p>Direct representation—one person, one vote  All citizens over 18 can vote  All government positions are elected by voters  Individual rights are protected by a written law  Judges are elected  All court cases are decided by jury  Decisions are made by majority vote.  Elections are held every five years (exceptions for emergency situations)</p>

2. Prepare recommendations for a fictitious country on how to set up a democratic system that will best meet the country's needs.

Develop your own country. Remember the size and location of the country may impact how a democracy might function.

- a. Name and size of country. ( /2 marks)

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- b. Use your understanding of the four principles of an effective democracy to describe the country's ideal democratic system.
- i. Determine whether direct or representative democracy works best. Explain. ( /2 marks)
  - ii. How will decisions be made? (consensus, majority rule, other?) ( /2 marks)
  - iii. Identify and explain four key pieces of the democratic system you recommend. ( /8 marks)

3. Compare your ideal democracy to the democracy in Canada.

- Which system has more effective decision-making processes?
- Which system more effectively protects individual and collective rights?

Format:

You may select one of the following formats:

- report
- short story
- powerpoint presentation
- model with explanatory captions
- mind map

## Democracy Recommendation Rubric

Criteria	Excellent 5	Proficient 4	Satisfactory 3	Limited 2
<b>Content /5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I had <i>insightful</i> ideas about democracy and how it works.</li><li>• I used <i>precise</i> details to demonstrate <i>comprehensive</i> understanding.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I had <i>thoughtful</i> ideas about democracy and how it works.</li><li>• I used <i>logical</i> details to demonstrate <i>reasonable</i> understanding.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I had <i>appropriate</i> ideas about democracy and how it works.</li><li>• I used <i>general</i> details to demonstrate <i>basic</i> understanding.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I had <i>underdeveloped</i> ideas about democracy and how it works.</li><li>• I used <i>vague</i> details to demonstrate <i>limited</i> understanding.</li></ul>
<b>Presentation /5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I communicated <i>effectively</i> and <i>accurately</i> with <i>no</i> errors.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I communicated <i>thoughtfully</i> and <i>reasonably</i> with <i>few</i> errors.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I communicated <i>appropriately</i> and <i>clearly</i> with <i>some</i> errors.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I communicated <i>ineffectively</i> and <i>unclearly</i> with <i>many</i> errors.</li></ul>
<b>Insufficient</b>	Your attempt to respond is <i>insufficient</i> . <b>Contact your teacher</b> to discuss suggestions for improvement.			
<b>Total: /10</b>				
<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Areas of Strength:</b>			
	<b>Target for Improvement:</b>			

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**Total of Section 2: /24 marks**



**Save Your File**

Name your file in this format: jsmithss6\_7-2-democracy and save your file to your Notebook Folder.