



Louisiana: Our History, Our Home

Chapter 4: Louisiana's Government - Section 1: From Colony to Democracy

Guided Reading

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. _____ is the system through which a community is _____.
2. A government is empowered to _____, _____, and carry out _____ and _____.
3. Throughout all of its colonial history, Louisiana had a _____ government, ruled by a _____.
4. After 1803, Louisiana slowly developed a _____ government.
5. In a democracy, the _____ of the government resides within the _____ as a whole.
6. In a democratic system, all citizens should have _____, _____, without arbitrary differences that give some people more _____ than others.
7. Even after it became part of the _____, Louisiana's government continued to be shaped by its experiences as a French and Spanish _____.
8. Louisiana civil laws are based on _____ and _____ civil codes. Civil laws set the ground rules for how _____ interact with each other.
9. The _____, a collection of civil laws from France, influenced Louisiana's first civil code adopted in _____.
10. The British _____ uses earlier decisions as _____ and was introduced to Louisiana after 1803. The common law system shaped the _____ laws adopted in Louisiana.
11. Because the colony of Louisiana had been run entirely by officials appointed by a king, the concept of _____—the idea that citizens should actively participate in government— was new to Louisiana's _____.



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12. A _____ is the first and most important statement of any government.
13. The delegates who wrote the first Louisiana constitution in 1812 had to recognize and agree to the _____ and _____ spelled out by the United States Constitution.
14. Each _____ of government—national, state, and local—has specific _____ and _____ outlined in the U.S. Constitution and in the Louisiana Constitution.
15. The _____ identifies powers given only to the United States (federal) government, powers _____ by the states and the federal government, and specific _____ powers.
16. This division of power between the _____ and _____ governments is called federalism.
17. The _____ is the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution.
18. The powers of the state government come from the _____ and the _____ of the state.
19. The constitution of each state provides the _____ for how its government is formed and how it _____.
20. Like the U.S. Constitution, the current Louisiana Constitution contains a Bill of Rights that guarantees citizens _____, equal _____ under the law, and freedom from _____.
21. Louisiana's present _____ is more like a general _____ for government than earlier versions.
22. Louisiana has had ten _____ in its history.
23. The state's present _____ went into effect in _____.