

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____



North Carolina: People, Places, & Progress

Chapter 3: Governing Our Nation and State- Section 1: Achieving Democratic Ideals

Focused Reading

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

1. Each friend would state the case for a particular movie, and some agreement would be reached, rather by _____ (general agreement) or actual _____.
2. In fact, _____ was an idea that was important to our _____ (the leaders who planned how the government of the United States would be organized) as well.
3. Throughout the history of our nation and state, there has been a vision of creating the best possible _____.
4. This vision of what would be a perfect government is called an _____.
5. _____ by most or all citizens is a key democratic ideal. The term _____ means control of a group (or a country) by its members.
6. In our country today, the ideal of _____, or rule by the people through their votes, is at the center of what makes our country different, and great!
7. _____: Everyone has the right to live, and the government has the responsibility to _____ its citizens.
8. _____: Everyone has the freedom to act, behave, and think as they wish without government interference (as long as the _____ of others is not abused).

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9. _____: Everyone should be able to pursue happiness (as long as a person does not abuse the _____ of others).
10. In Europe, where most of the colonists and their families originated, most people lived under a _____, ruled by a king or queen. In a monarchy, the leader is in place for _____ and is selected based on _____.
11. Many colonists of the late 1600s and early 1700s thought that life in the _____ could be different. They believed that they were living successfully without the distant _____ help and protection.
12. In the American colonies, the idea grew of an ideal _____, a country in which citizens ruled by voting for their leaders.
13. Checks and balances: This spreads political power into different _____ of government. Each branch has the ability to hold the other branches _____.
14. Citizen _____: Those with the right to vote would choose a candidate based on _____ rather than ancestry.
15. Frequent _____: These ensure that people have a _____ and leaders are held accountable.
16. _____ executive: Our leader (the president or state governor) will not be allowed _____ power because too much power provides an opportunity for _____, which will harm the common good.
17. The genius of American government is the _____ of powers into the _____, _____, and _____.

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branches and the division of powers into the _____,
_____, and _____ levels.

18. The United States _____ (the document, written in 1787 and ratified in 1788, that set up our nation's current framework for government) is the supreme _____ of the land.
19. In the United States, the people are _____ (possessing supreme power) and are the source of power and _____.
20. The American people at all levels of government _____ public officials to specific _____ in office.
21. One of North Carolina's contributions to the ratification of the _____ was the successful effort to have these _____ (additions or changes to a constitution or other document) passed. In 1791, the first _____ amendments were adopted. Known as the _____, these amendments enumerate the rights of American citizenship.