

## DEMOCRACY UNIT GLOSSARY

### GLOSSARY CARD (PAGE 1 OF 2)

<b>absolute monarchy</b>	a form of government in which the ruler – a monarch (king or queen) – has total power to make decisions for his or her country and its citizens
<b>clergy</b>	official religious leaders
<b>colony</b>	a land (and its peoples) under the control of another nation located far away
<b>conservatives</b>	In the early 19 <sup>th</sup> century, this term referred to wealthy Europeans who wanted monarchy to continue. Today, conservatives are people who prefer to keep things as they are, people who are cautious about making changes.
<b>constitution</b>	a written document that establishes and outlines the main principles of a country's government
<b>democracy</b>	a form of government in which the people hold the power
<b>dictator</b>	a ruler who has total power over his or her country and its citizens
<b>divine right</b>	the idea that monarchs (kings or queens) have been given their power by God, and are, therefore, only answerable to God (and not to the people they rule over)
<b>Enlightenment</b>	an intellectual movement of the 17 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup> centuries in which thinkers used reason to analyze and improve many aspects of society, including government.
<b>legislature</b>	group of people (usually elected by the people) who have the power to make laws for their country
<b>liberal</b>	In the early 19 <sup>th</sup> century, this term referred to middle-class Europeans who wanted elected legislatures to have more power. Today, liberals are people who promote reform (change).
<b>liberate</b>	to free, especially from rule by another country
<b>limited monarchy</b>	A form of government in which the monarch (king or queen) is subject to the law. In a limited monarchy, the monarch shares power with an elected legislature.

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### GLOSSARY CARD (PAGE 2 OF 2)

<b>monarchy</b>	rule by a king and/or a queen
<b>nationalism</b>	the belief that people with a shared history, culture, religion, and/or language, should unite under a single government
<b>nobility</b>	a privileged class of people (lords, duchesses, dukes, earls, countesses, etc.) whose privileged status is passed down from generation to generation
<b>parliament</b>	see glossary entry for “legislature”
<b>radical</b>	In the early 19 <sup>th</sup> century, this term referred to Europeans who wanted to create major changes in order to extend democracy to people of all social classes. Today, radicals are people who promote drastic changes.
<b>republic</b>	a form of government in which the people have the power and elect representatives to serve them in government
<b>revolution</b>	A sudden change in government. Although often revolutions are violent, they do not need to be in order to be called a revolution.
<b>rights</b>	benefits that are guaranteed for all citizens, including things like the right to own property, the right to speak freely, etc.
<b>romanticism</b>	a style of art and literature based on imagination and emotion
<b>royalist</b>	supporters of the king and/or queen
<b>social hierarchy</b>	ranking of peoples (often by class or ethnic and/or racial group) based on how much power each group holds in society
<b>sovereignty</b>	self-rule