

Systems of Government

& Analyzing Political Cartoons





Warm up: pick up a 'head of state' & guided notes from the front table

Get out a writing utensil and take a seat!

In your groups, you will be responsible for writing & performing a 1-2 minute skit.

- Using your 'head of state' as inspiration, you must be able to act out the **system of government** they are in charge of!

- You will need to use the information provided, as well as your electronic devices for research.

- You will have only **10 minutes**. Your group **can** be divided into writers and actors.

- Writers** are responsible for putting the skit onto paper, the **actors** will be performing.

- You may not use the name of the government system in your skit!

State vs. Nation

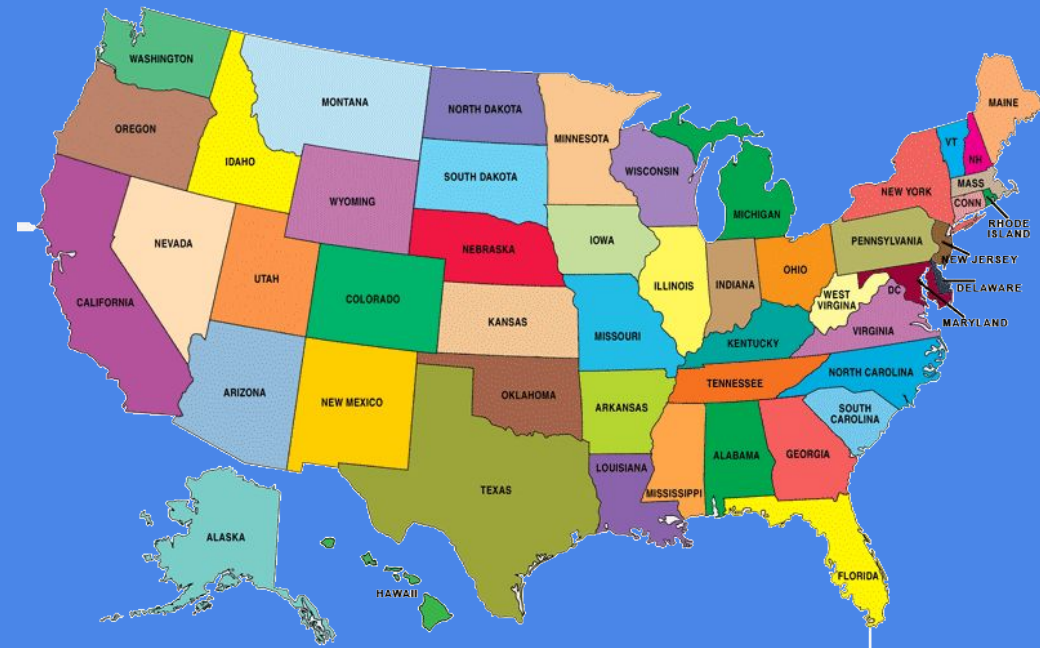
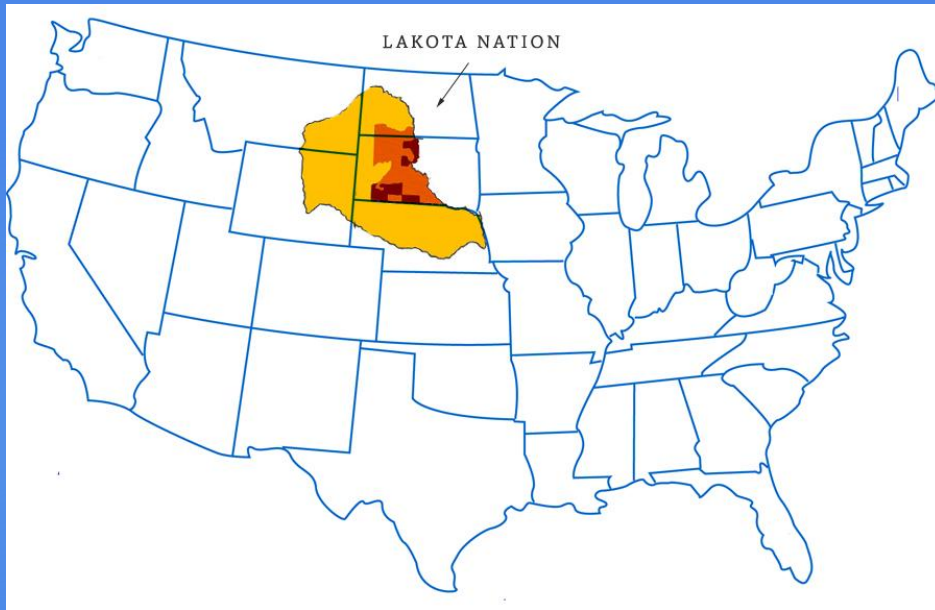


- ▶ **State:** a *nation* or territory considered as an organized political community under one government.
- ▶ **Nation:** a group of people united by ethnicity, history, culture, or language, living in a particular country or territory.
 - ▶ **Tricky thing: the words 'Nation State' often appear together!

Let's Compare

Nation: The Lakota Tribe

State: The U.S.A.



Trick! The U.S.A. can be referred to as a Nation State, a group of nations united by a political state.

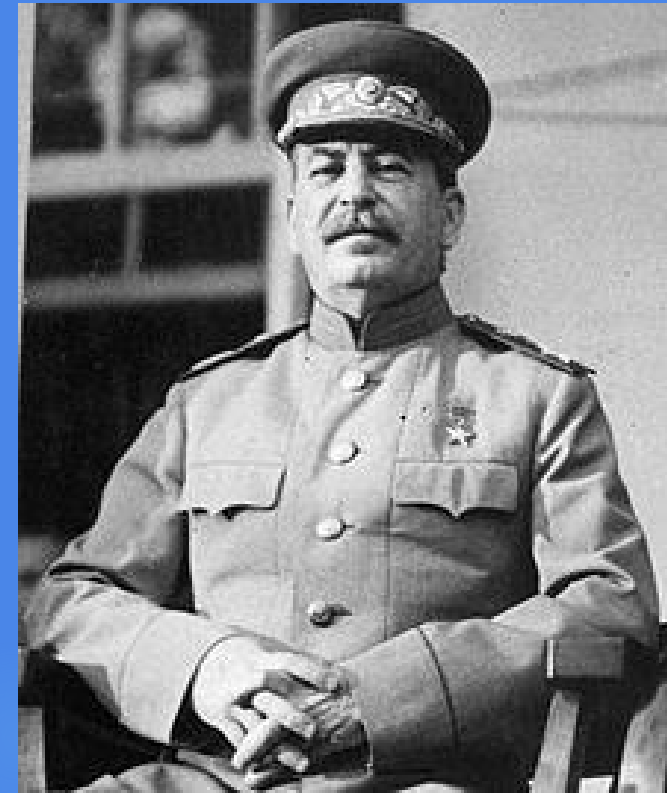
Monarchy

- ▶ A system of government in which one person reigns, usually a king or queen. The authority, or crown, is inherited.
- ▶ Today, the ruler is often the head of state, not the head of government. Many monarchies, such as **Britain** and **Denmark**, are actually governed by parliaments.
- ▶ Examples: Thailand, Saudi Arabia, Great Britain, Australia, Sweden.



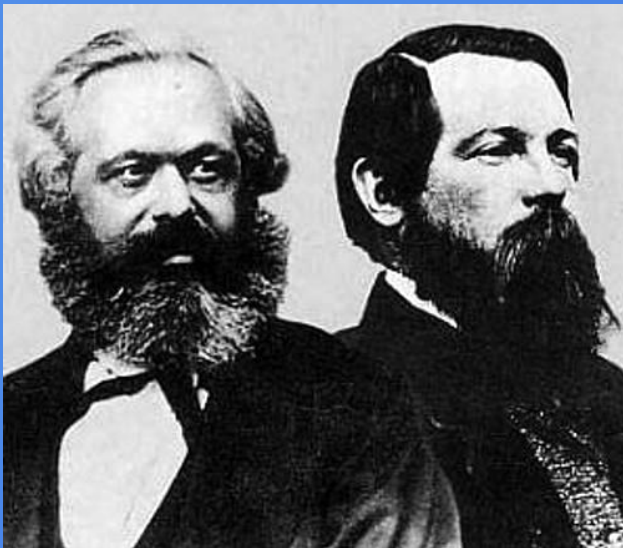
Dictatorship

- ▶ a form of government in which the ruler has absolute power.
- ▶ In a dictatorship, the ruler does not have to follow laws or a constitution. The ruler can do whatever he/she wants.
- ▶ Examples- Cameroon, Zimbabwe, Cambodia, North Korea



Communism (Also an economic system!)

- ▶ a society in which private property and social class do not exist and the government owns all things necessary to make and transport products.
- ▶ Advocates for citizens sharing the work and rewards.
- ▶ Examples: China, Laos, Cuba, North Korea



Solidarity, June 30, 1917. The Hand That Will Rule the World—One Big Union.

Democracy

- ▶ a system of government where the whole population or all the eligible members of a state elect representatives.
- ▶ The United States is a representative democracy, (technically a Republic)
- ▶ Examples: Indonesia, Canada, Mexico, Kenya, Peru, Brazil.



Aristocracy

- ▶ a governing body usually made up of an upper class or hereditary nobility.
- ▶ Sometimes referred to as an oligarchy.
- ▶ Examples... (cough, most countries).



Anarchy



Anarchy stresses absolute freedom of an individual, in theory.

It is a state of disorder due to absence or lack of authority.

Anarchy = no government

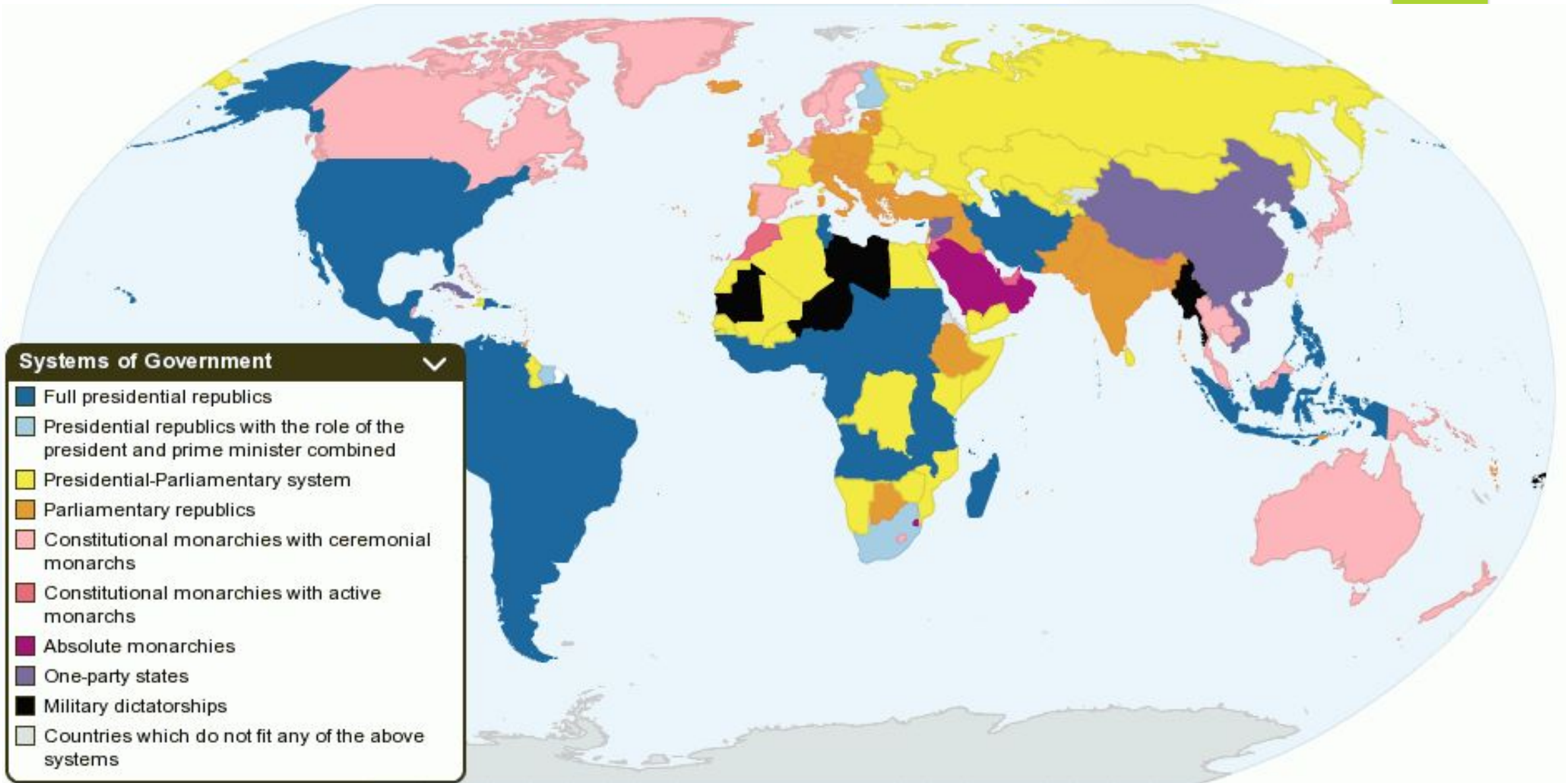
Examples:



Others...

- ▶ **Theocracy**: religious government.
Example: Vatican City, Iran
- ▶ **Totalitarian**: same thing as dictatorship. 'Total'itarian, think of total control.
- ▶ **Republic**: power is held by the people and their elected representatives. They usually have a president or prime minister.





Now...Political Cartoons !



What is this cartoon about?

Analyzing Political Cartoons... KEY WORDS

Symbol: something that represents something else. Usually an image.

Exaggerate: to show something as MORE than it is. That thing might be *exaggerated* to look bigger, better, smaller, or worse than it really is.

Emphasize: to give special value or importance to something.

Analogy: a comparison between 2 things.

Interest groups: people who want to encourage or discourage something from happening because of their personal interests or beliefs.

Analyzing Political Cartoons: Steps 1-4

1) **Recognize exaggeration.**

Artists will often exaggerate or distort certain elements of the drawing to make a point.

Some commonly exaggerated pictures might include a character's facial features or other parts of the body.



2) Understand symbols:An artist may use symbols as placeholders for ideas or themes.

-What do these 2 animals *symbolize*?

3) Understand Labels or Captions:
The cartoonist may label certain elements in the cartoon. This will help identify the different pictures and ideas in the cartoon. *Labels are often paired with symbols.*



4) Identify the perspectives of this issue. If the issue is immigration, there might be the pro-immigrant position and the anti-immigrant position.

Keep in mind that there are usually different perspectives out there represented by different interest groups. Try to identify what **interest group** the cartoon agrees or disagrees with.



Cartoon Analysis!

With a partner, Now, using the packet (class set), pick out **3 cartoons** you would like to look at and analyze.

- 1) Write the cartoon number (#) in the first column.
- 2) Finish the sentences in the second column.

Identify the main focus of the cartoon by going through the questions. Tip: **Look for easily identifiable symbols, stereotypes, or current events.**

