**Social Studies 30-2**

**Chapter 11**

**Democracy in Theory and in Practice**

**Elements of Democracy**

Explain each of these concepts in your own words.

1. A democracy is
2. Explain what a separation of powers is in terms of politics.
3. All democracies must determine the relationship between the branches of government:

A. Executive

B. Legislative

C. Judicial

1. Direct democracy –
2. Referendum –
3. Representative Democracy-

5. Forms of Representative Democracy

A. First Past The Post (FPTP)

B. Proportional Representation

1. Democracies are built upon the principle of **accountability. Explain.**

7. What is consensus decision making?

1. Responsible Government (this section is not a question, just info)

A. The legislative branch must approval of bills proposed by the executive branch

B. If this approval does not happen then a vote of non-confidence occurs

C. The executive must resign and an election is called

D. This procedure occurs with minority governments

* Majority Government has more than 50% of the seats and a Minority Government has less than 50%

**Comparison of First Past the Post (FPTP) Systems**

**Comparison of Canada to USA**

(this section is not a question, just info)

**Canada USA**

-Parliamentary -Republican

-Responsible

-Constitutional Monarchy

-Multiparty -Two Parties

-FPTP -FPTP

-Written and Unwritten -Written Constitution

***Executive Branch***

-Governor General (Head of State) -President (H of S and H of G)

-Prime Minster (Head of Gov't)

-Cabinet (appointed) -Cabinet (appointed with approval)

***Legislative***

-Parliament -Congress

-Senate (appointed) -Senate (elected)

-House of Commons (elected) -House of Representatives (elected)

* In Canada, the Prime Minster is also a member of the House of Commons. (Responsible Government). This is a major difference between the two democracies

***Judicial***

-Supreme Court (appointed) -Supreme Court (appointed with approval)

**Legislative Branch- current status of Canada**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Provinces/Territories | House of Commons (MPs)  Elected position  Representation by Population |
| Newfoundland |  |
| Prince Edward Island |  |
| Nova Scotia |  |
| New Brunswick |  |
| Quebec |  |
| Ontario |  |
| Manitoba |  |
| Saskatchewan |  |
| Alberta |  |
| British Columbia |  |
| Nunavut |  |
| Northwest Territories |  |
| Yukon |  |
| Total |  |

1. What are the advantages and disadvantages to Canada’s system of single-member constituency?

Advantages:

Disadvantages:

2. Explain the American electoral system.

3. What are the advantages and disadvantages of the American electoral system?

Advantages:

Disadvantages:

4. Explain the American system of checks and balances.

**Proportional Representation**

Proportional Representation is based on popular vote.

Popular vote is based on who won out of the total number of votes cast.

1. What is the advantage to proportional representation?

2. What is the disadvantage to proportional representation?

3. Why is the Swedish system of proportional representation considered to be more representative and democratic than Canada’s electoral system?

**Additional Concepts of Democracy**

**Elite Theories of Democracies**

1. What is meant by an elite theory of democracy?

2. Do you agree with the following quote? Why or why not?

"The best argument against democracy is a five minute conversation with the average voter." -Winston Churchill

**Interest Groups**

3. What are special interest groups?

4. How do special interest groups mobilize public opinion?

5. Look at figure 11-14 for examples of interest groups. Now list 2 other interest groups through your own research.

**Disregarding the Will of the People**

Answer the following questions starting on page 294

1. Why might governments sometimes have to go against the will of the people?
2. Summarize the Conscription Crisis of 1917.
3. What was the will of the Canadian people concerning war resisters staying in Canada?
4. Sometimes governments suspend civil rights in the name of national security. What is the War measures Act and why was it used?
5. The Emergencies Act covers four types of emergencies. What are they?
6. Describe the Anti-terrorism Act.