

Student Name: _____

Class: _____

Due Date: _____

Page 1: Introduction to Democracy

1. What is democracy?

2. Why is democracy important?

3. Can you think of a time when you made a decision with your friends or family? How did you decide? Was it a democratic decision?

Match the following values with their definitions:

1. Equality
2. Justice
3. Freedom
4. Representation

Definitions:

1. a) The idea that everyone should be treated fairly and have the same opportunities
2. b) The ability to make choices and express oneself without fear of punishment
3. c) The system where citizens elect representatives to make decisions on their behalf
4. d) The principle that everyone deserves to be treated fairly and have their rights protected

Read the following descriptions and identify the type of democratic system:

1. Citizens make decisions directly by voting on laws and policies.
2. Citizens elect representatives to make decisions on their behalf.
3. A combination of direct and representative democracy.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of each system?

What are some ways you can participate in democracy?

1. Voting

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Read the following scenario:

"A new school is being built in your community, and the town council is deciding how to use the land. Some people want a park, while others want a new shopping center. What would you do?"

Write a short essay (less than 250 words) on how you would approach this decision using democratic principles.

Choose one of the following topics and write a short argument (less than 150 words) for or against:

1. Should schools have uniforms?
2. Should the voting age be lowered to 16?

Reflect on what you have learned about democracy so far. What do you think is the most important aspect of democracy? Why?

Design a public service announcement (PSA) about the importance of democracy. What message would you convey? How would you convey it?

1. What is the main idea of democracy?

1. a) Everyone gets what they want
2. b) The majority gets what they want
3. c) Everyone has an equal say
4. d) The government makes all the decisions

2. What is the role of citizens in a democratic society?

1. a) To obey the government
2. b) To participate in decision-making
3. c) To ignore the government
4. d) To only vote

What did you learn from this homework sheet? What do you think is the most important thing you can do to participate in democracy?