

What are societies' formal systems of decision-making called?	-government
What are traditions?	-established rules and procedures which governments usually follow
What are institutions?	-groups responsible for carrying out specific aspects of government's work (post office, police schools etc)
What are the 2 functions of an institution?	-provide services to address needs of Canadians -help to unify people by promoting what is common to all the people of a nation
What became the basis for our national and provincial governments?	-British parliamentary system
What does Democracy mean?	-rule by the people
What is direct democracy?	-practiced by the ancient Greeks -every individual votes on every issue -not practical in modern times
What is a representative democracy?	-elected representatives make decisions on behalf of the citizens
Why is Canada called a constitutional monarchy?	-powers and responsibilities of the monarch are subject to the laws set in the Constitution
Who represents the monarch in Canada?	-the governor general (federal) -lieutenant-governor (provincial)
Why is the monarch important?	-the monarch holds the power of the Crown (the crown has ultimate power: is above the government) -ensures that the leaders of the nation follow the laws
What is the Canadian constitution?	-a legal document that outlines who has the power to make various decisions.
What are the 3 main parts of the Canada's written Constitution?	1. Description of the division of powers between the provincial legislature and Federal Parliament 2. Charter of Rights and Freedoms (basic

	rights and responsibilities of all Canadians) 3. an amending formula (sets out ways the constitution can be changed)
What are the amending formula requirements?	-federal government and 7 out of 10 provinces must agree on the proposed changes (the 7 provinces must contain ½ of the total population of Canada)
What constitutes the unwritten constitution?	-numerous customs laws and statutes that are a part of the British tradition
What is a federal system or federalism?	-organization of regional governments (provinces) -each province acts on behalf of its own citizens -a central government is responsible for matters important to the whole nation
What areas were made a federal (or central) responsibility?	-areas that require a consistent national policy: defence, foreign policy, currency, banking, postal system, Aboriginal Affairs, Criminal, marriage and Divorce law, federal prisons
What areas were given Provincial jurisdiction?	-areas best handled locally such as education, health services and hospitals, highways, provincial court, provincial police and prisons, licences
What are the areas of shared responsibility?	Immigration, agriculture, Health Care, Natural resources, environmental issues
What are residual powers? (leftover powers)	-new areas of decision making that did not yet exist in 1867 were given to the federal government -includes telecommunications, cable TV's, computers etc
How long have the provinces been challenging the powers of the federal government?	-since Confederation -East and west feel that the federal government favours Ontario and Quebec (more population)
What services do the municipal government provide?	-garbage collection and disposal, sewage treatment, fire protection, water supply

	-have less autonomy than provincial governments
What are the three branches of government powers?	1. legislative 2. executive 3. judicial
What is legislative power ?	The power to make laws (hint: L for Laws) -all levels of government have this power
What is the executive power of government?	-power to make decisions and administer them - all levels of government have this power
What is judicial power ?	-power to interpret and administer the law -not held by the government directly -held by courts and judges
Why is the judiciary separate from the government?	-to ensure that the government acts within the laws of the land
What is the legislative branch of the government composed of?	Parliament which has 3 parts -Governor General -House of Commons (lower House) -the Senate (upper House)
What is a session?	-a meeting of Parliament
What does parliament do?	-passes new laws -amends or repeals (removes) other laws -debates issues of concern for Canadians
What happens during question period?	-opposition parties challenged the government's action and raise issues they feel the government needs to address
Which part of the legislative branch has elected members?	-House of Commons
What are ridings or constituencies?	-Canada is divided into areas that are roughly equal in population for electing representatives
-How are members elected to the House of Commons?	-eligible voters in each riding elect one candidate to represent them in Parliament

What determines the number of seats in the House of Commons?	-the population of Canada (# of seats increases as the population increases)
Who controls the debates in the House of Commons?	-the speaker of the House
Who is the speaker?	-an elected MP is elected by the other members of Parliament
What is the most important duty of the speaker?	-To ensure that the rules of Parliament are applied fairly and firmly to all members including the prime minister
Which party forms the government?	-the party with the largest number of elected representatives
What is the opposition?	-all the MPs from parties other than the party in power
Who becomes the official leader of the opposition?	-the leader of the 2 nd largest party in the House
What is the job of the Opposition?	-to closely monitor the actions of the government
Why is the opposition so important?	-ensures that the views of all Canadians are represented
What is a caucus?	- representatives in legislature that belong to the same party -they meet privately behind closed doors -members can agree or disagree with the party's position -MP's are expected to support decisions made in caucus
What difficult decisions are some elected representatives placed in?	-to vote with the wishes of the party or with the wishes of their constituents who elected them
What is a free vote?	Allows members of legislature to vote according to what they believe is best -are used rarely for issues of morality
Is the Senate connected with the House of Commons?	-No, the Senate (Upper House) is separate and independent - the senate appoints its own speaker and

	runs its own affairs
How are senators selected?	-the governor general appoints the senators on the recommendation of the prime minister
What are the qualifications of senators	-must be Canadian citizens -at least 30 years old -living in the province or territory they represent -own at least \$4000.00 of property
How long can the appointees remain a senator?	-until they are 75 years old
What are the roles of the senate?	-main role is to provide a last check on the legislation passed in the House of Commons (sober second thought) -may also introduce bills, debate them, pass them and send them to the House (done rarely) -to provide regional representation -investigates issues too controversial for the House of commons (ie euthanasia)
How are Senate seats allotted?	-on the basis of population (In 2001 there were 105 seats)
What is patronage?	-When prime minister gives the Senate seat to party supporters or friends
What is the problem with patronage?	-position not given to the best qualified -results in a non-representative senate (only 20% female, and middle or upper class)
Why are the provinces and territories unhappy with the senate?	They want a greater say in who represents their concerns in the Senate
How were the concerns of the provinces addressed?	-the Constitution was amended to allow for recommendations from provinces but change was not significant enough
What are the arguments for abolishing the senate?	-outdated, unnecessary, undemocratic -patronage destroyed any effectiveness -costs too much

What are the arguments for keeping the senate as it is:	-it is beneficial to have a chamber of sober second thought -the senators have considerable experience and expertise
What are the 3 options for dealing with the Senate?	-1. abolish the senate 2. reform the senate 3. keep the senate as it is
What is the Triple E proposal for senate reform?	-elected, equal and effective
Why is the Senate not considered accountable to Canadian taxpayers?	-because it is not elected and members are there as a result of political patronage
What does the Executive Branch of the government consist of?	Governor general, prime minister, the Cabinet, public service
What is the role of the governor general?	-give formal assent (agreement) to a bill before it becomes law -perform ceremonial functions -act as an advisor to the government
How is the prime minister selected?	-not directly chosen by people -leader of the political party with the most elected representatives becomes PM
What is a political party?	-organization of individuals who support a common set of goals and beliefs -each party elects its own leader and has candidates who run for office during elections
What are the roles of the leader of federal government	-head of government -the leader of the nation -leader of a national party
What are some of the duties of the PM as the head of government?	-asks the governor general to name new judges and senators, and call election - chooses and changes Cabinet members - has final say in creating policies of the government
What are some of the duties of the PM as the national leader?	-address Canadians on issues of national concern -represents Canada on trips to other nations

	-works with provincial premiers to coordinate and share responsibility
What are some of the duties of the PM as a party leader?	-spokes person for the party -give out patronage appointments -leads other party members in Parliament
What is the cabinet composed of?	-Elected party members chosen by the prime minister -PM decides the job responsibilities of each cabinet minister i.e. finance, defence
What would an ideal federal cabinet include?	-equal numbers of men and women -representatives from all the regions and of all major ethnic groups
What is cabinet solidarity?	-Public display of full support for leader and government even though privately they may disagree
What happens to a cabinet member who disagrees publicly with government decisions?	-he is expected to resign from cabinet
What is a party whip?	-A member appointed to ensure that members are present in Parliament to support party bills and vote
What is the public service?	-also called civil service or bureaucracy -group of permanent government employees who perform the everyday business of the government
What is a private members bill?	-A bill introduced by a member who is not in cabinet
What are the steps for how a bill becomes law?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. member has idea 2. cabinet approves idea 3. lawyers draft bill 4. cabinet committee examines bill 5. cabinet and caucus approve bill 6. bill introduced to House for first reading 7. 2nd reading of bill 8. House debates and votes on principle of bill 9. parliamentary committee examines

	<p>bill</p> <p>10. house amends bill</p> <p>11. 3rd reading, debate and vote</p> <p>12. bill passes house</p> <p>13. senate examines, debates, and amends bill</p> <p>14. bill passes senate</p> <p>15. governor general gives formal assent: bill is now law</p>
Why is the first reading just a formality?	<p>It is introduced without debate</p> <p>-allows the opposition parties to see what is in the proposed law</p> <p>-allows the media to notify the public about controversial legislation</p>
In which reading does most of the discussion and debate take place?	2 nd reading
What is the structure of provincial and territorial governments?	<p>-very similar in structure to the federal</p> <p>-have same 3 branches executive, legislative and judicial.</p>
What are the differences?	<p>-premier takes the role of prime minister</p> <p>-monarch represented by lieutenant – governor not governor general</p> <p>-no provincial equivalent of senate</p> <p>-members of provincial legislatures called MLA's (member of legislative assembly) or MPP (member of provincial parliament)</p>
What are the areas of conflict between provincial and federal governments?	<p>-which level should provide specific services</p> <p>-how much revenue each should receive from resources and taxation</p>
How are the disputes resolved?	<p>-if no agreement the Supreme Court of Canada will decide</p> <p>-the court's decision is final and binding</p>
What is the town council?	The simplest form of local or municipal government: are all elected and accountable to local citizens
What is the leader of the town council called?	-Mayor, reeve, chairperson
What are the other elected members of the council called?	-Councillors, alderpersons, or controllers
What are the problems that town councils are now facing due to increased population growth?	<p>-Municipalities are having to provide more and more services to more and more residents</p> <p>-Revenues from property taxes, licences</p>

	<p>and grants may not cover the cost of providing local services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -grants from provincial and federal governments are decreasing -provincial governments now expect local government to assume responsibility for social housing, highways, road construction
<p>What are the 2 choices of the local governments because of these problems?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provide fewer services -Generate money to pay for the services