

The Evolution of Democracy

In looking at authoritarian and democratic governments, and how each is defined, we now have a much better idea about the two basic types of government structures. We know that authoritarian governments rule in a very strict manner that can be oppressive and that democratic governments are more responsible to the people. Before we move into our own government structure, we do need to take a look at the history and evolution of democracy.

Using the chart on the back of this page, The Evolution of Democracy, you are going to answer the following questions in your notebook. Once we have them all completed, we will take them up as a class, so that you can make sure that you have the most information possible for each answer.

1. Identify one or two key ideas in each passage.
2. In your own words, rewrite each of the passages so that you better understand exactly what is being said. You do not need to include any of the legal jargon or strange phrases that you do not recognize; make sure that you know EXACTLY what is said in the passage.
3. Identify and highlight any of the words that you do not understand; once you have highlighted these words, use a dictionary (online or print) and find out what each of these words mean.
4. Find the approximate date that each document was published and include it on the chart in the space beside the title.
5. Once you have completed the dates, create a timeline on a separate and clean sheet of paper that includes the dates of all eight documents as well as the key idea (of ideas) that relate to the development of democracy. When you complete the timeline, please hand it in.

Evolution of Democracy

<p>Declaration Of The Rights Of Man _____ Approved by the National Assembly of France 3. The principle of all sovereignty resides essentially in the nation. No body nor individual may exercise any authority which does not proceed directly from the nation. 4. Liberty consists in the freedom to do everything which injures no one else; hence the exercise of the natural rights of each man has no limits except those which assure to the other members of the society the enjoyment of the same rights. These limits can only be determined by law.</p>	<p>The Code of King Hammurabi _____ The king who rules among the kings of the cities am I. My words are well considered; there is no wisdom like mine. 195. If a son strike his father, his hands shall be hewn off. 196. If a man put out the eye of another man, his eye shall be put out. 197 If he break another man's bone, his bone shall be broken. Laws of justice which Hammurabi, the wise king, established ... Hammurabi, the protecting king am I.</p>
<p>King John I: Magna Carta _____ No bailiff (policy officer) for the future shall, upon his own unsupported complaint, put anyone to his "law," without credible witnesses brought for this purpose. No freemen shall be taken or imprisoned or disseised (injured) or exiled or in any way destroyed, nor will we go upon him nor send upon him, except by the lawful judgment of his peers or by the law of the land. To no one will we sell, to no one will we refuse or delay, right or justice.</p>	<p>John Locke: Concerning Civil Government _____ The natural liberty of man is to be free from any superior power on earth, and not to be under the will or legislative authority of man, but to have only the law of nature for his rule. The liberty of man in society is to be under no other legislative power but that established by consent in the commonwealth; nor under the dominion of any will or restraint of any law, but what that legislative shall enact according to the trust put in it...</p>
<p>New Zealand: Election Act _____ An Electoral Bill containing provisions on women's suffrage (the right of women to vote in an election) was introduced by Richard Seddon in June. During debate, there was a majority support for the enfranchisement of Maori, as well as Pakeha, women. The Electoral Act gave all women in New Zealand the right to vote.</p>	<p>Amendment XV to Constitution of the U.S. _____ Amendment XV. Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, colour, or previous condition of servitude</p>
<p>European Member States _____ The Union (of European nations) shall set itself the following objectives: Resolved to mark a new state in the process of European Communities. Recalling the historic importance of the ending of the division of the European continent and the need to create firm bases for the construction of the future Europe. Confirming their attachment to the principles of liberty, democracy, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law. Desiring to enhance further the democratic and efficient functioning of the institutions so as to enable them better to carry out, within a single institutional framework, the tasks entrusted to them.</p>	<p>U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights _____ The General Assembly Proclaims this Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction</p>