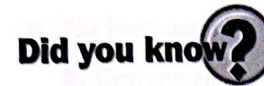
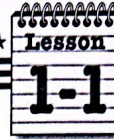


Daily Lecture Notes



Did you know?

In the last 50 years the number of countries in the world has more than doubled. In 2000, there were 196 independent countries, each with its own people and government.

Outline

I. Essential Features of a State (pages 6–8)

- A.** Population, the most obvious essential feature of a state.
- B.** An area with fixed boundaries.
- C.** Sovereignty, or absolute authority, within its territorial boundaries.
- D.** A government which maintains order, provides public services, and enforces decisions that its people must obey.

Discussion Question

U.S. citizens sometimes complain about government, claiming it has too much power and control over their lives. Why do you think they feel this way? (People usually complain about government when it affects them directly.)

II. Theories of the Origin of the State (page 8)

- A.** The state evolved from the family group.
- B.** One person or a group used force to establish its authority to govern the people.
- C.** The rulers of the people were chosen by the gods to govern.
- D.** The people gave the government its power to rule them, and in return the government had to respect the people's rights.

Discussion Question

During World War II the government imposed hardships, such as the rationing of gasoline and food, on the U.S. population. Are such measures justifiable? Why or why not? (When national security is threatened, strong measures are needed.)



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III. The Purposes of Government (pages 9–11)

- A.** Governments are needed to maintain social order by making and enforcing laws.
- B.** Governments provide essential services for people, such as promoting public health and safety.
- C.** Governments protect people from attack by other states and from internal threats such as terrorism.
- D.** Governments pass laws that shape and control the nation's economy in various ways.

Discussion Question

Do you think the government has too much or too little control over the economy of the United States? (Answers will vary. Students should support their opinions with examples.)

11. Comparing and Contrasting (pages 23–24)

- A.** A constitution is a plan that guides the rules for how a government operates.
- B.** A constitution is a document that describes the structure of government and the way it operates.
- C.** A constitution sets out the goals and purposes of government as well as the rights of the people.
- D.** Constitutions provide the highest law for a state and their governments.

Discussion Question

How important do you think a written constitution is to a democratic form of government? (Answers will vary. Students should support their opinions with examples.)

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Daily Lecture Notes

Lesson 1-2

Did you know?

One of the smallest nations in the world also has one of the oldest governments. Switzerland began in 1291 as a confederation of 3 small cantons, or provincial governments, and today includes 23 cantons.

Outline

I. Government Systems (page 12)

- A. A unitary system of government gives all key powers to the national or central government.
- B. A federal system of government divides the powers of government between the national government and state or provincial governments.

Discussion Question

What are the major advantages of a federal system of government? (Security against a concentration of power; participation at more levels of government.)

II. Constitutions and Government (pages 13-14)

- A. A constitution is a plan that provides the rules for government.
- B. Whether written or unwritten, a constitution organizes the structure of government and the way it operates.
- C. Constitutions set out the goals and purposes of government as well as the ideals shared by the people.
- D. Constitutions provide the supreme law for states and their governments.

Discussion Question

How important do you think a written constitution is to a democratic form of government? (Answers will vary. Students should note the need for limited government.)



Daily Lecture Notes

(continued)



III. Politics and Government (pages 14–15)

- A. Politics is the effort to control or influence the policies and actions of government.
- B. Individuals and groups use politics to seek benefits from government.
- C. Although special interest groups seek special benefits, politics also provides benefits for all the people.

Discussion Question

Why do some U.S. citizens consider “politics” negative? (The negative side of political news often receives more attention.)

IV. Governing in a Complex World (pages 16–17)

- A. The world today is divided into industrialized nations, developing nations, and newly industrialized nations.
- B. These groups of nations have many differences, but they are interdependent in many ways.
- C. Other groups besides nations, including multinational corporations, political movements, terrorist groups and international organizations, are important in today’s world.

Discussion Question

What responsibility does the United States bear for the welfare of other nations? (Answers will vary. Students may point out that our welfare is closely linked to that of the rest of the world.)

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Lesson
1-3

Did you know?

Over 100 million Americans voted in the presidential election of 2000. Yet nearly twice that number were eligible to vote. George W. Bush was elected president with less than 50 percent of the popular vote.

Outline

I. Major Types of Government (pages 18–20)

- A.** Governments may be classified according to who governs the state.
- B.** In an autocracy, such as a dictatorship or absolute monarchy, power and authority reside in a single individual.
- C.** In an oligarchy, such as a communist country, a small group holds power in the government.
- D.** In a democracy, such as the United States, the people hold the sovereign power of government.

Discussion Question

Critics argue that the low voter turnout in recent national elections is a weakness in our democratic system. Do you agree or disagree? Explain your viewpoint.
(Answers will vary. Students should support their views with thoughtful analysis.)

II. Characteristics of Democracy (pages 20–23)

- A.** Government works to secure an equal opportunity for people to develop their own abilities.
- B.** Government is based on majority rule through the people's elected representatives, but respects the rights of minorities.
- C.** Government is based on free and open elections in which every citizen has the right to vote, every vote has equal weight, and candidates for office can freely express their views.
- D.** Political parties choose candidates for office, respect the voters' decisions in elections, and act as loyal opposition.



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Lesson
1-3

(continued)

Discussion Question

Why do you think that nations with wide gaps between the rich and the poor are less likely to have successful democracies? (Where there are wide gaps between rich and poor there is less agreement on basic issues.)

III. The Soil of Democracy (pages 23–24)

- A.** Certain conditions or environments favor the development of the democratic system of government.
- B.** Countries where citizens participate fully in civic life are more likely to maintain a strong democracy.
- C.** Stable, growing economies with a large middle class help strengthen democracies.
- D.** A public school system open to all people helps promote democracy.
- E.** A strong civil society in which a network of voluntary organizations (including economic groups, religious groups, and many others) exists independent of government helps democracy to flourish.
- F.** The people accept democratic values such as individual liberty and equality for all in a social consensus.

Discussion Question

As a society, what steps do you think we might take to encourage more people to participate in our democratic government? (Better education about democracy, simpler voting methods, or more direct democracy.)

end

Daily Lecture Notes

Lesson
1-4

Did you know?

Before William F. Gates was 40 years old, he was the richest person in the United States. He made his billions as head of Microsoft Corporation. By the late 1990s, Gates was also the richest person in the world.

Outline

I. The Role of Economic Systems (page 26)

- A. Governments provide for many different kinds of economic systems.
- B. Economic systems make decisions about what goods and services should be produced, how they should be produced, and who gets them.

Discussion Question

Why is some government involvement necessary for economic systems to function?
(Government must provide the basic structure in which an economic system may function.)

II. Capitalism (pages 26–28)

- A. Capitalism is based on free enterprise, or individual economic choices.
- B. Capitalism developed gradually from the economic and political changes in medieval and early modern Europe.
- C. The United States has a capitalist economy, but government plays a role.
- D. Government's role in the U.S. economy has increased since the early 1900s.
- E. Today the United States has a mixed market economy, incorporating both free enterprise and government regulation of business and industry.

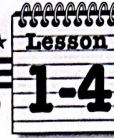
Discussion Question

What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of capitalism? (Advantages: incentives to achieve individual potential, freedom. Disadvantages: extremes of wealth and poverty.)

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Daily Lecture Notes

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III. Socialism (page 28)

- A.** Under socialism, government owns the basic means of production, plans the use of resources, distributes many products and wages, and provides basic social services.
- B.** Socialism developed in Europe during the nineteenth century.
- C.** Some socialists favored taking over the government by means of revolution, while other socialists believed in democratic socialism, in which economic conditions change peacefully and people have some freedoms and rights.
- D.** Socialist governments have taken power in several countries; however, critics argue that this economic system fails to solve most economic problems.

Discussion Question

What groups benefit most from socialism? (Those who use more government services, such as health care and public transportation, benefit most from socialism.)

IV. Communism (pages 29–30)

- A.** Communism is based on the nineteenth-century ideas of Karl Marx, who argued that capitalism exploited workers to benefit a small group of capitalists who controlled the economy.
- B.** Marx predicted workers would eventually rise in a violent revolution, which would result in government ownership of all means of production and distribution; when all property was held in common, there would be no need for government.
- C.** In communist nations, government makes all economic decisions; owns the land, natural resources, industry, banks, and transportation system; and controls all mass communication.

Discussion Question

Why have governments of communist nations such as China used a system of five-year plans for the economy? (To show the government's commitment to progress, elicit support, and provide a measuring unit.)

end