

Who Holds Power?

Compare how governments choose leaders and limit power.

SS7CG4 "Compare and contrast various forms of government."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline a fact that shows how leaders are chosen in each country, then circle a fact that shows how power is limited or not limited. Number 1, 2, and 3 beside the evidence about India, Japan, and China so you can compare the systems.

Power Across Asia

- ① Governments organize how a country makes decisions, chooses leaders, and limits power. In Southern and Eastern Asia, India, Japan, and China show different forms. India is a federal parliamentary democratic republic. Voters elect representatives to the national Parliament and to state governments. The party or coalition with support in the lower house forms the national government, led by a prime minister. India also has a president, whose role is largely ceremonial. Its written constitution divides some powers between national and state governments.
- ② Japan is a constitutional monarchy and a parliamentary democracy. Its emperor is a hereditary monarch and serves as a symbol of the state, but does not direct daily government policy. Citizens elect members of the National Diet, Japan's legislature. The Diet chooses the prime minister, who leads the government. Japan's constitution limits government power and protects certain rights. Unlike India's federal system, Japan has a unitary system, so the national government holds more authority than local governments do. Both countries use elections and written constitutions.
- ③ China is a one-party authoritarian state led by the Chinese Communist Party. Citizens vote in some local elections, but they do not choose competing national political parties in nationwide elections. The party controls major national decisions and appoints key leaders through its political system. China has a constitution, yet courts and other institutions do not independently limit the ruling party in the same way as in India or Japan. All three countries have national governments and laws. However, their leader selection, party competition, and limits on power differ greatly.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is one way India and Japan are alike in how citizens take part in choosing government leaders?

2 How is India's federal system different from Japan's unitary system?

3 How does the selection of national leaders in China differ from leader selection in India and Japan?

4 State one similarity among all three countries and one difference in their governments.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Create a comparison table for two imaginary countries. Compare how leaders are chosen, whether political parties compete, and how government power is limited, then name the form of government each country most closely resembles.

FEATURE	COUNTRY A	COUNTRY B

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline a fact that shows how leaders are chosen in each country, then circle a fact that shows how power is limited or not limited. Number 1, 2, and 3 beside the evidence about India, Japan, and China so you can compare the systems. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is one way India and Japan are alike in how citizens take part in choosing government leaders?	In both countries, citizens elect representatives to a legislature. Those elected representatives help determine or choose the national government and prime minister.
2	How is India's federal system different from Japan's unitary system?	India's constitution divides some powers between the national and state governments. In Japan's unitary system, the national government has more authority than local governments.
3	How does the selection of national leaders in China differ from leader selection in India and Japan?	In China, the ruling Chinese Communist Party appoints key leaders. In India and Japan, citizens elect representatives, and the legislature or its support determines the national government and prime minister.
4	State one similarity among all three countries and one difference in their governments.	All three have national governments and laws. They differ in leader selection, political party competition, and how strongly institutions limit government power.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

FEATURE	COUNTRY A	COUNTRY B
Leader selection	Citizens elect lawmakers, who choose a prime minister.	The ruling party appoints national leaders.
Political parties	Several parties compete in elections.	One ruling party controls national politics.
Limits on power	Independent courts enforce the constitution.	Courts do not independently limit the ruling party.
Closest form	Parliamentary democracy	One-party authoritarian state

Accept accurate comparisons that clearly address all three features and reasonably classify each imaginary government. Students may use different country names and details if the details match the stated forms of government.