

Forms of Government

Name: _____

an·ar·chy

noun

ae nər ki

a complete lack of government or law within a country or society.
There was anarchy after the royal family was kidnapped.

au·toc·ra·cy

noun

aw **tə** krə si

- rule by one person with absolute power; despotism.
The republic fell and was replaced by autocracy.
synonyms: absolutism, despotism, tyranny
similar words: autarchy, authoritarianism, monarchy
- a political unit ruled by an autocrat.
While other European monarchies were becoming increasingly democratic, Russia remained an autocracy under tsarist rule.
synonyms: autarchy, despotism
similar words: monarchy

de·moc·ra·cy

noun

dih **ma** krə si

a government in which the people have power in a direct way or through representatives whom they elect. In a direct democracy the people decide on everything. In a representative democracy the people elect representatives to run the government.

dic·ta·tor

noun

dɪk teɪ tər

a ruler who has total authority.
Many dictators use their power in a cruel or selfish way.
synonyms: tyrant
related words: tyrant

mon·ar·chy

noun

ma nər ki [or] **ma** nar ki

a nation or government ruled by or in the name of a monarch. A monarch's power is either unlimited or limited by a constitution.
synonyms: kingdom
related words: government

ol·i·gar·chy

noun

ə lə **gar** ki

- a government or state in which a few people or a family rule.
synonyms: aristocracy

similar words: elitism, monarchy, theocracy, triumvirate

2. the group of those who rule in such a government.

synonyms: aristocracy, nobility, royalty

similar words: elite, establishment, patricians, peerage

pol·y·the·ism

noun

pa li **thi** ih zəm [or] **pa** li thi **I** zəm

the belief in more than one god.

the·oc·ra·cy

noun

thi **a** krə si

a form of government in which a god or gods are acknowledged as the ultimate authority.

They questioned whether nonbelievers would be accorded all the rights of citizenship under a theocracy.