

# Class Guide

## Lesson 3 - What is a republican government?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you think 16 year citizens should be allowed in local elections? Explain.

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**Step 1 – Bell Work:** Answer the question above and be prepared to vote with your feet and your words.

**Step 2 – Vocabulary Work.** Complete the vocabulary work necessary to understand this lesson. The vocabulary should be completed first. Terms to know:

<i>Assembly</i>	<i>Civic Virtue</i>	<i>Common Good</i>	<i>Direct Democracy</i>
<i>Interests</i>	<i>Represent</i>	<i>Representative Democracy</i>	<i>Representatives</i>
<i>Republican Government</i>	<i>Roman Republic</i>	<i>Senate</i>	

**Step 3 – Where did the founders get their ideas about government? Read the handout titled “Greek and Roman Influences on the US Government.” When you finish, complete the graphic organizer that breaks down the influences of Greece and Rome.**

**Ancient Roots of the United States Government: Greek and Roman Influences**

Did you know that the United States government was inspired by ancient civilizations like the Greeks and Romans? These two great civilizations laid the foundation for many aspects of our government, from democracy to the rule of law.

One of the most significant contributions of ancient Greece to the United States government is the idea of democracy. In ancient Athens, citizens had the right to participate in decision-making and had a say in how their city-state was run. This principle of “rule by the people” is similar to what we have in the United States, where citizens elect representatives to make laws and govern on their behalf. While our modern democracy is much larger and more complex, its roots can be traced back to the ancient Greeks.

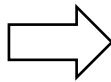
The ancient Romans also played a vital role in shaping the United States government. They introduced the concept of the separation of powers, dividing the government into three branches: the executive, the legislature, and the judicial. This system ensured a balance of power, preventing any one person or group from becoming too powerful. The U.S. government, with its President, Congress, and Supreme Court, adopted this idea to ensure a fair and just system of governance.

Both the Greeks and Romans believed in the importance of the rule of law, where laws apply equally to all citizens, regardless of their status or wealth. This concept laid the groundwork for the American belief in justice and fairness under the law. Today, the United States government follows this principle, ensuring that no one is above the law and that justice prevails.

In ancient Rome, the Senate was a body of elected officials who made important decisions for the empire. This idea influenced the creation of the U.S. Congress, where representatives and senators are chosen by the people to discuss and pass laws for the nation. The American Congress, like the Roman Senate, acts as a crucial part of our legislative process.

The Greek and Roman architectural styles have also influenced the design of important buildings in the United States government. For example, the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C., draws inspiration from ancient Greek and Roman temples. Additionally, the Statue of Liberty, a symbol of freedom, is reminiscent of ancient Roman goddesses.

The United States government has deep-rooted connections to ancient Greece and Rome. From the principles of democracy, separation of powers, and the rule of law to the design of important buildings and symbols, these ancient civilizations have left a lasting impact on how we govern ourselves. As we continue to learn from history, we can better appreciate the foundations on which our modern government stands, carrying the legacy of the Greeks and Romans into the future.



**Greek and Roman Influences on the US Government**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Use the reading “Greek and Roman Influences on the US Government” fill in the information on the graphic organizer below. Use complete sentences in the descriptions so that it will be easy to recall the meaning of what you wrote down.

Greek Influences	Roman Influences
What is the MOST important Greek contribution to the US Government?	What is the MOST important Roman contribution to the US Government?

Lesson 3 – What is a Republican Government?

## Step 4 – I Direct and Representative Democracy Interactive Lecture and Bumper Sticker Assignment.

<p><b>HOW CAN THE PEOPLE RULE THEMSELVES?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THE PEOPLE CAN DECIDE ON EVERY LAW AND DECISION THROUGH A DIRECT DEMOCRACY</li> <li>• DIRECT DEMOCRACIES VOTE DIRECTLY ON HOW TO SOLVE PROBLEMS</li> <li>• IT IS HARD FOR DIRECT DEMOCRACIES TO EXIST IN LARGER CITIES AS THE NUMBER OF DECISIONS INCREASE</li> </ul>	<p>Do you think that with the modern technologies of the internet, smart phones, and instant access that our country could be a direct democracy at the local and state level?</p> <p>What would be the advantages and disadvantages?</p>
<p><b>HOW CAN THE PEOPLE RULE THEMSELVES?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IN A REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY THE PEOPLE ELECT PEOPLE TO ACT IN THEIR BEST INTEREST</li> <li>• ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING AND CARRYING OUT LAWS THAT PROTECT EVERYONE'S RIGHTS, NOT JUST A FEW PEOPLE.</li> </ul>	<p>How do the people hold their representatives accountable when they do not work in the best interest of the people?</p>
<p><b>REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GOVERNMENT POWER WAS HELD BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE</li> <li>• CITIZENS GIVE POWER TO THE REPRESENTATIVES</li> <li>• REPRESENTATIVES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR HELPING ALL CITIZENS, NOT JUST A FEW</li> </ul>	<p>How do the people hold their representatives accountable when they do not work in the best interest of the people?</p>

Bumper Sticker Assignment – Direct and Representative Democracy. Look at the instructions on the Bumper Sticker Assignment.

### DIRECT DEMOCRACY AND REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY BUMPER STICKER ASSIGNMENT

When you're out driving with your family you probably see cars with bumper stickers. They are usually colorful, funny, and make an interesting point.

Create three bumper stickers each for direct and representative democracies. You point out a positive or negative. Make sure the bumper stickers are:

- Related
- Colorful
- Thoughtful
- Clever



Drafts:

Direct Democracy	Representative Democracy

*Create three bumper stickers each for direct and representative democracies. You point out a positive or negative. Make sure the bumper stickers are:*

- *Related to the word*
- *Colorful*
- *Thoughtful*
- *Clever*

## Step 5 – Interactive Lecture

<p><b>HOW DID THE FOUNDERS USE SOME OF THE IDEAS FROM THE ROMAN REPUBLIC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• REPRESENTATIVES ARE SELECTED TO SERVE THE COMMON GOOD</li><li>• REPRESENTATIVES MAKE THE LAWS MORE EFFICIENT</li><li>• PEOPLE HAVE A SAY IN THE GOVERNMENT</li><li>• REPRESENTATIVES HAVE TO LISTEN TO THE GOVERNMENT</li></ul>	<p>Why do you think that representative democracies are capable of making laws faster than a direct democracy?</p>
<p><b>HOW DID OUR COUNTRY CHANGE FROM A REPUBLIC TO A DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• WOMEN, NATIVE-AMERICANS, AND SLAVES COULD NOT VOTE AT OUR COUNTRIES START</li><li>• ONLY WHITE MEN WITH PROPERTY COULD VOTE AND RUN FOR OFFICE</li></ul>	<p>Why do you think there was a property requirement for white men to vote at the beginning of our history?</p>
<p><b>HOW DID OUR COUNTRY CHANGE FROM A REPUBLIC TO A DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC?</b></p> <p>OUR COUNTRY HAS SLOWLY BECOME A DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC WITH THE EXPANSION OF VOTING TO AMERICAN-AMERICAN MALES, WOMEN, NATIVE AMERICANS, AND 18-YEAR-OLD AMERICANS</p>	<p>Why do you think it took so long for women to gain the right to vote? Women received the right to vote in 1920.</p>
<p><b>WHAT IS THE COMMON GOOD?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CONCEPTS FROM THE ROMAN REPUBLIC WAS THE CONCEPT OF COMMON GOOD</li><li>• ROME BELIEVED THE MAIN PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT WAS TO PROMOTE THE COMMON GOOD</li></ul>	<p>How do people who don't directly benefit from a common good still gain indirectly. For example, consider public education. How do people without children in school still gain indirectly from funding public schools?</p>

**Step 6 – Think, Pair, Share. Consider the two following questions**

**“What might be a situation in your school in which you should do something for yourself and not try to help others?”**

<b>Your thoughts</b>	<b>You and your partner’s thoughts</b>
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**“What might be a situation in your school in which you should try to do what is best for everyone?”**

<b>Your thoughts</b>	<b>You and your partner’s thoughts</b>
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**What did you discover from the whole class discussion?**

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# Step 7 – Cincinnatus, Citizen of Rome and Civic Virtue. A short reading and Bio-Poem. Cincinnatus is a common example of the idea of civic virtue. Read about Cincinnatus and then create a Bio-Poem that reflects your learning of why Cincinnatus is the model of civic virtue.

**Cincinnatus: A Model of Civic Virtue**

In the annals of history, there have been many great leaders who have left a lasting impact on their societies. One such leader was Cincinnatus, an ancient Roman statesman known for his exceptional civic virtue. Born in 519 BCE, Cincinnatus rose to prominence during times of crisis and demonstrated the qualities of a selfless and virtuous leader. Let's explore the life of Cincinnatus and discover the importance of civic virtue in shaping the course of history.

Cincinnatus was born into a modest farming family in the Roman Republic. He lived during a time when Rome was a republic, governed by elected officials, and was known for its love of honor, duty, and respect for the law. Growing up, Cincinnatus learned the value of hard work and humility from his farming roots, which would shape his character as a leader.

As a young man, Cincinnatus displayed remarkable leadership skills, and his fellow citizens recognized his potential. He was elected to serve in various public offices and became known for his integrity and wisdom. However, despite holding prominent positions, Cincinnatus always retained his sense of civic duty and humility.

In 458 BCE, Rome faced a severe military crisis. An invading enemy army threatened the city, and the Roman Senate was in desperate need of a capable leader to defend the republic. Cincinnatus was called upon to assume emergency dictatorial powers – a position granted in times of extreme danger – to lead the Roman army against the invaders.

Cincinnatus' response to the call of duty demonstrated the essence of civic virtue – a set of qualities that place the welfare of the community above personal gain. Instead of using his newfound powers for personal gain or to maintain control, Cincinnatus worked diligently to resolve the crisis and restore peace to Rome.

Remarkably, Cincinnatus achieved victory in just 15 days and ensured the enemy's defeat. But, instead of clinging to power, he immediately relinquished his dictatorial authority and returned to his humble farm. Cincinnatus' selflessness and dedication to the welfare of Rome made him a model of civic virtue for generations to come.

Cincinnatus' story has become a timeless symbol of civic virtue and selfless leadership. His actions inspire leaders to prioritize the greater good over personal ambition. In the United States, his name and legacy have been honored through the Society of the Cincinnati, a fraternal organization founded by American Revolutionary War officers who admired his example.

Cincinnatus' life teaches us valuable lessons about civic virtue and selfless service to our communities. His humility, integrity, and devotion to the common good made him an exceptional leader in times of crisis. Today, we can draw inspiration from his story, striving to be responsible and compassionate citizens who place the welfare of our communities above personal interests. By embodying civic virtue, we can contribute positively to society, just as Cincinnatus did for ancient Rome.

### Cincinnatus Bio-Poem

Your Task: Use the reading on Cincinnatus to complete the below information. Each answer should be a line in your poem.

Line 1 -	Name:	<p><b>Example:</b>                  Jackie Robinson                  Educated, Black, Pioneer                  He is from Georgia                  He cares about representing his <u>people</u>                  He feels black athletes should be allowed to <u>play</u>                  Leader, Symbol, Baseball Player                  He gives hope to the <u>community</u>                  He faces injustice from <u>racism</u>                  He would like to see equality between <u>gays</u>                  Jackie Robinson (1919-1972)</p>
Line 2 -	Three traits:	
Line 3 -	He / she is from:	
Line 4 -	He / she cares <u>deeply</u> about...	
Line 5 -	He / she feels...	
Line 6 -	Three more traits	
Line 7 -	He / she gives...	
Line 8 -	He / she fears...	
Line 9 -	He / she would like to see...	
Line 10 -	Name, Years of life:	

Name:

Three traits:

He is from:

He cares deeply about...

He feels...

Three more traits

He gives...

He fears...

He would like to see...

Name, Years of life:

## Cincinnatus Comprehensive Questions. Please answer in complete sentences.

1. In the story, what was the common good for the citizens of Rome?
  
2. Why is it important that citizens in a republican government have civic virtue?
  
3. Describe someone you know who has civic virtue. What did the person do to cause you to think they had civic virtue?