

SOCIALS STUDIES 11

CHAPTER 9 – THE STRUCTURE OF CANADA’S GOVERNMENT

Introduction:

1. Four services provided by government are given in the first paragraph. List them.

Representative Democracy:

2. Define: **DEMOCRACY**
3. Define: **DIRECT DEMOCRACY**
4. Define: **REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY**
5. Who is the Crown’s representative for Canada?
6. Where do we find the specific details of the powers and responsibilities of the various parts of our government?
7. What are the two main functions of the Constitution of Canada?
8. Define: **CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY**
9. In what year was our Constitution patriated?
10. Briefly state the three main parts of our Constitution.
11. State the amending formula.

The Federal System:

12. Define: **FEDERAL SYSTEM**
13. Define: **RESIDUAL POWERS**
14. Who has these “residual powers”?

The Parliamentary System:

15. State the three functions or branches of government.
16. Explain and define: **POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH**
17. Explain and define: **POWERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**. Give an example from each of the three levels of government.
18. Explain and define: **POWERS OF THE JUDICIAL BRANCH**

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The Legislative Branch:

19. List the three parts which compose the legislative branch of the federal government (also referred to as Parliament).
20. What is the only part of the legislative branch that has elected members?
21. What is the maximum time between elections for seats in the House of Commons?
22. What title is given to each person elected to represent a riding?
23. Currently, how many seats are there in Canada’s House of Commons?
24. What is the job of the Speaker of the House of Commons?
25. What determines which members of parliament make up the “**government party**”?
26. What name is given to all other members of the House of Commons?
27. Give a full definition of **caucus**. Refer to both pages 228 and 462.
28. Explain what happens at a caucus meeting.
29. Explain the tradition governing decisions made in caucus.
30. See Figure 9-10. Explain how the seat distribution might contribute to the feeling that Ontario and Quebec dominate decision making in Canada.
31. State the two, sometimes conflicting, loyalties which determine how M.P.’s vote.
32. Define: **FREE VOTE**

The Senate

33. Who **officially** appoints senators?
34. Who actually chooses the persons who will become senators?
35. What is the senate's main role?
36. What, in addition to giving "sober second thought" to all bills, is the senate meant to provide?
37. Define: **PATRONAGE**
38. What accusation does this practice lead to?
39. In what ways is the composition of the Senate not demographically representative of Canada's population?
40. Explain (list the words) the concept of a "triple E" Senate.

The Executive Branch

41. List the **four** parts of the executive branch of the federal government.

The Governor General

42. Who is the monarch's (Queen or King's) representative in Canada?
43. State the **three** aspects of this person's role.

The Prime Minister

44. Explain how the prime minister is determined.
45. What do members of a political party have in common?
46. State the **three** roles performed by the leader of the federal government (the prime minister).
47. A party leader often appoints positions based on patronage (see definition in question 37). State **three** positions filled by patronage appointments.

The Cabinet:

48. From which specific body are members of the cabinet selected?
49. Who chooses them?
50. What is each cabinet minister responsible for?
51. Give **two** examples of federal cabinet ministries.
52. Why are cabinet meetings held in secret?
53. Explain fully the term **cabinet solidarity**.
54. Why is cabinet solidarity important?
55. What is expected of a cabinet minister who is unable to accept a cabinet decision?

How a Bill Becomes Law:

56. Who can introduce a bill?
57. What name is given to bills introduced by members of the House of Commons who not it the Cabinet?
58. Which group almost always introduces bills and controls which bills are introduced?
59. Outline, in your own words, the steps prior to the bill being introduced to the House of Commons.
60. The most publicity in the law making process occurs after the second reading and prior to the third reading. List the four steps involved at this stage.
61. How many readings are there in the House of Commons.
62. Where, assuming that the bill was introduced in the House of Commons, does the bill go next?
63. What is the final step in the procedure?
64. Which group decides which matters require new legislation?

65. What are the two stated purposes of the first reading?
66. What is the major activity associated with second reading?
67. Which group, not mentioned in Figure 9-17, may be involved after second reading?
68. Why is there usually not too much debate at third reading?
69. What happens to the bill after it passes third reading in the House of Commons?

Provincial/Territorial Governments:

70. State the provincial counterpart to the prime minister.
71. State the provincial counterpart to the governor general.
72. State B.C.'s counterpart to the House of Commons.
73. Which part of the federal government has no provincial counterpart?
74. What do the letters M.L.A. stand for?
75. What is the federal counterpart?
76. State the purpose of equalization and transfer payments.
77. Explain what is meant by “**balance of power**”.
78. State the issues cited over which conflict between the two levels of government sometimes occurs.

Local Governments:

79. State several names for the leader of a local or municipal government.
80. State several names for the other elected members of the council.
81. List several areas of responsibility handled by municipal governments.