Political Dictionary

- government (p. 4)
- public policy (p. 4)
- legislative power (p. 4)
- executive power (p. 4)
- judicial power (p. 4)
- constitution (p. 5)
- dictatorship (p. 5)
- democracy (p. 5)
- state (p. 5)
- sovereign (p. 6)
- autocracy (p. 13)
- oligarchy (p. 13)
- unitary government (p. 14)
- federal government (p. 14)
- division of powers (p. 14)
- confederation (p. 15)
- presidential government (p. 15)
- parliamentary government (p. 16)
- compromise (p. 20)
- free enterprise system (p. 20)
- law of supply and demand (p. 21)
- mixed economy (p. 21)

Practicing the Vocabulary

**Matching** Choose a term from the list above that best matches each description.
1. Describes a state that has supreme power within its territory
2. The institution through which society makes and enforces its policies
3. That which a government decides to do
4. An alliance of independent states that expressly delegates limited powers to a central government
5. A form of government that is often totalitarian and authoritarian; can be led by one person or many people

**Fill in the Blank** Choose a term from the list above that best completes the sentence.
6. In a ________, the executive branch of government is led by members of the legislative branch.
7. A ________ is also known as a centralized government.
8. The basic structure and principles of a government may be found in its ________.
9. ________ is the power to write new laws.
10. Government regulates and promotes businesses in a ________.

Reviewing Main Ideas

**Section 1**

11. What characteristics define a state?
12. Briefly describe the four most widely held theories that attempt to explain the origin of the state.
13. What theory on the origin of the state was most influential in the founding of the United States?
14. For what reasons do people form governments?
15. Describe briefly the purposes of government set out in the Preamble to the Constitution.

**Section 2**

16. List the three questions that can be used to classify governments.
17. (a) In a democracy, to whom is the government responsible? (b) In a dictatorship, to whom is the government responsible?
18. What is the difference between an autocracy and an oligarchy?
19. Name and briefly describe the three forms of government that can result depending on how governmental power is distributed geographically.
20. Explain how power is distributed in a presidential government.

**Section 3**

21. Briefly describe the five basic concepts of democracy.
22. What is the difference between equality of opportunity and equality of condition?
23. Describe the relationship between the rights of the individual and the rights of the overall society.
24. (a) What is the free enterprise system? (b) Why can it be said that both a free enterprise system and a mixed economy exist in the United States?
25. List one benefit and one drawback of using the Internet for research.