

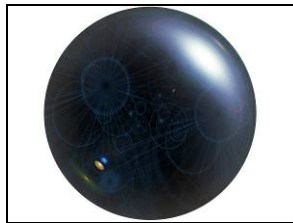
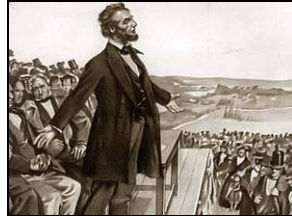
CIVICS READER



THE PEOPLE RULE

PREVIEW

THE PEOPLE RULE



KEY VOCABULARY

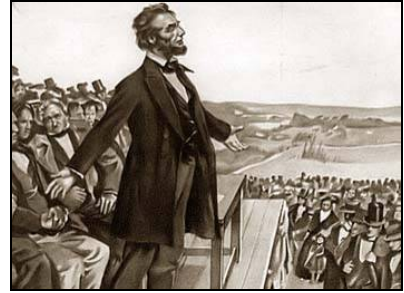
- democracy
- participate
- majority
- revolution
- race
- constitution
- lottery
- rule
- people of color

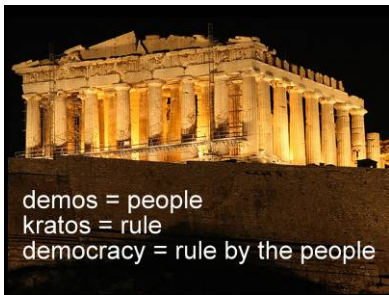
RETELLING

THE PEOPLE RULE



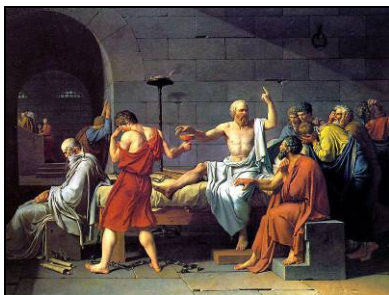
















RETELLING

THE PEOPLE RULE















ILLUSTRATED STORY

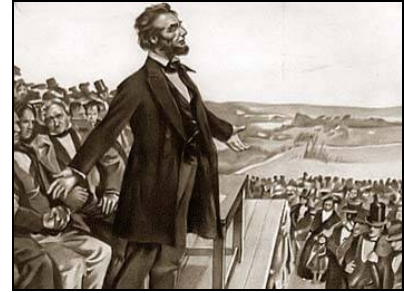
THE PEOPLE RULE



The United States is a democracy. Our constitution begins with the words "We the People." It does not say "The King proclaims."



In a democracy, every citizen has the right to participate in government.



President Abraham Lincoln described democracy as "government of the people, by the people, and for the people."



The word "democracy" comes from two Greek words: *dēmos* (people) and *kratos* (rule). So, democracy means "rule by the people."



One of the first democracies was in Athens, Greece. 2,500 years ago, the people of Athens took power away from their king.



Citizens selected public officials by lottery.



They had trials by jury.



They made decisions by majority rule.



But there was a problem. Slaves and women were not citizens. They could not participate in the democracy.

ILLUSTRATED STORY

THE PEOPLE RULE



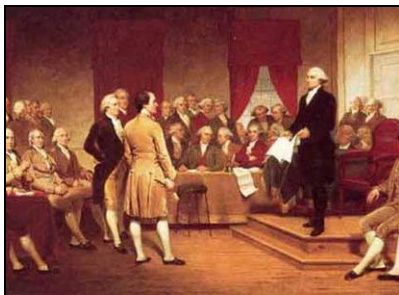
This Greek democracy did not last. During a war, the people of Athens gave up their democracy to powerful rulers.



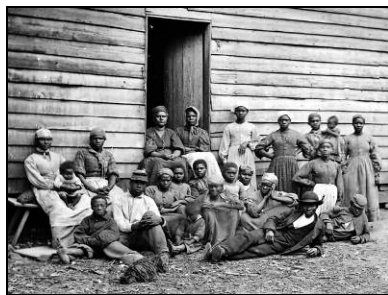
The United States is a modern democracy.



In 1783, people in 13 British colonies won a revolution against the King of England. These revolutionaries created the United States of America.



They chose democracy (rule by the people) for their government.



However, even in the United States, only white men were allowed to vote. Women could not vote. People of color could not vote



After the U.S. Civil War, in 1870, all races were given the right to vote. However, women could not vote until 1920.



Today, many countries are democracies. But, many are not. People around the world continue to fight to gain "rule by the people."

WRITTEN STORY

THE PEOPLE RULE



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Our constitution begins with the words “We the People.” It does not say “The King proclaims.” In a democracy, every citizen has the right to participate in government.

President Abraham Lincoln described democracy as “government of the people, by the people, and for the people.”

The word “democracy” comes from two Greek words: *dēmos* (people) and *kratos* (rule). So, democracy means “rule by the people.”

One of the first democracies was in Athens, Greece. 2,500 years ago, the people of Athens took power away from their king. Every citizen had to participate in government. Citizens selected public officials by lottery. They had trials by jury. They made decisions by majority rule.

But there was a problem. Slaves and women were not citizens. They could not participate in the democracy. This Greek democracy did not last. During a war, the people of Athens gave up their democracy to powerful rulers. They didn’t get it back for over 2,000 years.

The United States is a modern democracy. In 1783, people in 13 British colonies won a revolution against the King of England. These revolutionaries created the United States of America. They chose democracy (rule by the people) for their government.

However, even in the United States, only white men were allowed to vote. Women could not vote. People of color could not vote. After the U.S. Civil War, in 1870, all races were given the right to vote. However, women could not vote until 1920.

Today, many countries are democracies. But, many are not. People around the world continue to fight to gain or improve “rule by the people.”

Many people are worried about the future of democracy. In the words of President Abraham Lincoln, they want to make sure “that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

VOCABULARY

THE PEOPLE RULE

Word or Phrase	Explanation
democracy	rule by the people
Constitution	the supreme law of the land; law that determines the fundamental political principles of a government
to describe	to explain something
to take power away	to remove control from a person
public official	a person who works in a government department
lottery	a situation where the result depends on chance
trial by jury	in a court of law, a group of people who decide whether someone is guilty or innocent of a crime
slave	a person who is forced to work for someone else, held against their will
to last	to exist for a long period of time
to give up	to surrender or admit defeat
powerful ruler	someone who governs a state or nation by use of force
colony	a piece of land that is controlled by another country
13 original colonies	the 13 colonies in North America controlled by England that revolted to create the United States of America. These colonies became the states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.
choose	to decide from a range of options, to select
to be allowed to	to receive permission to do something
people of color	non-white persons (including Latinos)
race	a kind of people defined by shared physical and social characteristics
to gain	to obtain something
to improve	to make better
to be worried	to be concerned or anxious about someone or something
to perish	to die or disappear

PERSONAL DICTIONARY
THE PEOPLE RULE

Word or Phrase	Clue