Systems of Government Worksheet

1. Describe the difference between a federal and unitary system.
2. How are the leaders in a parliamentary government selected? How does this differ from the way that leaders are selected in a presidential system?
3. Draw a picture of a federal and a unitary system.
4. Describe the five measures of an authoritarian system.

Systems of Government Worksheet

1. Describe the difference between a federal and unitary system.

* Unitary systems have all the power of their government centralized in one area, either by an organization or group.
* Federal systems share power between a central authority and a state government.

1. How are the leaders in a parliamentary government selected? How does this differ from the way that leaders are selected in a presidential system?

* The MP’s are elected by the general public during annual elections (when the elections are actually held vary.
* The PM, the head of government, comes from the legislature. An individual does not run for PM like an individual would run for president. The party in parliament that has the majority gets to appoint an individual to PM.
* In a presidential system the president and the legislature are separate. A president runs for the position and is most often elected by free elections. These elections are separate from the legislature’s elections.

1. Draw a picture of a federal and a unitary system.
2. Describe the five measures of an authoritarian system.
   * Citizens as subjects
   * Restrictions of communications and speech
   * Narrow recruitment of political leaders
   * Rule of individuals, not law
   * No competitive elections