Unit 1 Worksheet – Foundations and Forms of Government

1. List and describe the four characteristics of a nation-state.
2. Which characteristics of a nation-state do you feel is the most important?
3. Define the term sovereignty in your own words.

Each item refers to autocracy, oligarchy, or democracy. Place an A, O, or D next to each item based on the system to which it refers.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Free elections with competing political parties

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Power derived from wealth, military power, social position, or religion

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Totalitarian dictatorship

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. Power and authority to rule in the hands of a single individual

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. Rule by a small group

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. Individual liberty

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. The governments of Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini, and Joseph Stalin

11. Describe the difference between a direct democracy and a representative democracy.

12. What are the five purposes of government?

13. Why do you think government’s role in society has increased over time?