

Chapter 1 Section 2: The Formation of Government

I. Government Systems

a. Unitary System

- i. Gives all key powers to the national or central government.
- ii. Central government has the power to create state, provincial or other local governments.
- iii. Britain, Italy and France

b. Federal System

- i. Divides powers between national, state and local governments.
- ii. Each level of gov't has sovereignty in some areas.
- iii. U.S., Canada, Mexico, and Australia

II. Politics and Government

a. Politics- the effort to control or influence the conduct and policies of government.

b. Seeking gov't benefits

- i. Through politics, individuals and groups seek to maximize the benefits they get from government.
- ii. People also seek to use government to turn their values and beliefs into public policy.

c. Importance of Politics

- i. Through politics, conflicts in society are managed peacefully.

d. Special Interests

- i. The Constitution should promote the interests of all people, not favoring any special groups.