



Citizen Empowerment Course

Module 1 | Unit 1

Worksheet 1



Worksheet: Reflecting on Representative Democracy

Instructions:

- Reflect on the concept of Representative Democracy using your own experiences, as well as information gathered from reputable sources on the Internet.
- Consider the main strengths and weaknesses of the Representative Democracy system as you examine each statement below.
- Write down your thoughts considering whether each point is a strength or a weakness, and explain your reasoning.

Tips:

- Use credible sources to support your arguments.
- Provide specific examples where possible.
- Consider historical and contemporary contexts in your reflection.
- Aim to identify at least one strength and one weakness for each statement.
- Be critical and thoughtful in your analysis.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT...	IS THIS A <i>STRENGTH</i> OF THIS SYSTEM? WHY?	IS THIS A <i>WEAKNESS</i> OF THIS SYSTEM? WHY?
<p>Age of Electoral Participation</p> <p>Statement: People can elect their own representatives from a list of choices (when they are 18 and older).</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does the age threshold for voting ensure an informed electorate? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How does the ability to choose representatives from a list affect the quality of governance? 		

<p>Inclusivity in Voting:</p> <p>Statement: Everyone is able to participate by voting, even if they can't make decisions directly.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are the benefits and drawbacks of having a system where direct decision-making is not available to all? ▪ How does this level of participation affect public trust and engagement in the political process? 		
<p>Representation in Parliament:</p> <p>Statement: Members of Parliament come from their local area, so know the issues of the area well.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How does local representation contribute to the overall effectiveness of Parliament? ▪ Can local ties affect the objectivity and fairness of a representative? How? 		



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