

# Guided Reading Activity

networks

## Foundations of Government

### Lesson 1 *Purposes and Origins of Government*

#### Review Questions

**Directions:** Read each main idea. Use your text to supply the details that support or explain each main idea.

**A. Main Idea:** Legitimate and functioning governments maintain order, protect people, and provide them with ways to settle disagreements fairly and peacefully.

1. **Detail:** Governments provide \_\_\_\_\_ by setting priorities and making decisions on behalf of the people.
2. **Detail:** Governments maintain \_\_\_\_\_ by placing limits on what individuals are permitted to do and by enforcing these limits.
3. **Detail:** Governments provide \_\_\_\_\_ such as schools, sewer systems, roads, and often the means of promoting public health and safety.
4. **Detail:** Governments provide for \_\_\_\_\_ in order to protect the people against attack by another country or by terrorists.
5. **Detail:** Governments provide \_\_\_\_\_ through trade deals, protection of national businesses, and economic policies.
6. **Detail:** Many governments provide \_\_\_\_\_ to people in need.

**B. Main Idea:** Although the terms *nation*, *country*, and *state* are sometimes used interchangeably, they have slightly different meanings.

1. **Detail:** A \_\_\_\_\_ is a sizable group of people who believe themselves united by common bonds of race, language, custom, or religion.
2. **Detail:** States and countries are political communities, each occupying a defined \_\_\_\_\_ and having an organized government.

## Guided Reading Activity *cont.*

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3. **Detail:** The four essential features of a state are \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

**C. Main Idea:** Scholars have constructed four key theories to explain the origin of governments.

1. **Detail:** The \_\_\_\_\_ theory suggests that the state evolved from the family unit in order to provide more organization to extended families.

2. **Detail:** According to the \_\_\_\_\_ theory, states were created when leaders used their power to compel cooperation between people.

3. **Detail:** The \_\_\_\_\_ theory came from European monarchs who claimed that their right to rule came directly from God.

4. **Detail:** According to the \_\_\_\_\_ theory, governments are created when people surrender their freedom to the state in exchange for order and security.

### Summary and Reflection

**Directions:** Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the prompt below.

Identify the purposes of government. Explain which purposes would be most important to a government formed according to the force theory and which would be most important to a government formed under the social contract theory.

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