

Government Reflection

Name _____ Date _____

Read "How Government Works: Comparing Governments" First

Analyze *your* village government according to criteria for democratic governments that were listed in the article. Use the chart on this page to help you.

Name of my village _____

Criteria	Does my village meet it? (Circle one)	Reasons
1. Freedom of speech, the press and religion	Yes No Somewhat	
2. Majority rule with minority rights	Yes No Somewhat	
3. Varied personal backgrounds of political leaders	Yes No Somewhat	
4. Free, competitive elections	Yes No Somewhat	

5. Rule by law	Yes No Somewhat	
6. Meaningful political participation by citizens	Yes No Somewhat	

If you had trouble answering some of the questions, think about your involvement in your town government. Were you keeping track of what they were doing? Did your government just let things happen? Did they purposefully put laws in place to help protect people's rights?