



**DISTANCE LEARNING PACKET**

**6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

Day 1 to Day 3

Human Capital and GDP in Latin America

Day 4 and Day 5

An Introduction to Economics and introduction to Economics part 2 readings

1. In your notebook answer the following:
  - i. What are the positive and Negative incentives?
  - ii. What is a good and a service?
  - iii. What are natural resources, capital resources, and Human resources.

Day 5 and Day 6

Using the two readings

1. Producers and Consumers & Supply and Demand and
2. Entrepreneurship in Latin America readings

In your notebook answer the following:

- iv. What is Supply and Demand?
- v. What are Producers and Consumers?
- vi. What hardships or barriers do Entrepreneurs in Latin America face? (Brazil, Mexico and Cuba)

Day 7 and Day 8

Types of Government in Latin America

In your notebook answer the following:

- vii. Explain the two main forms of government
  1. Presidential democracy and Parliamentary democracy

Day 9 and Day 10

Forms of Government in Latin America

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HUMAN CAPITAL AND GDP IN LATIN AMERICA

A nation's economy can be measured by its strength. To measure its strength, economists use measuring tools called gross domestic product and GDP per capita. The gross domestic product (GDP) is one way to measure the strength of the economy in a nation. The GDP is strictly an estimate, but it is often fairly accurate. The GDP is an estimation of the value of goods and services that are manufactured and produced within one year. The GDP often measures and represents a nation's worth. For example, if an economist says that Brazil is worth \$1.7 trillion, the economist is referring to the estimation of the value of goods and services manufactured and produced within one year, or GDP, in Brazil.

Human capital is a factor in determining a nation's GDP. Human capital is the knowledge and skills of the people in the workforce within a country. Not everyone in a workforce has the same skill set of knowledge. However, improving the workforce through education and training will likely raise the GDP of a country. Economic growth is often linked to the human capital within a nation. A country needs to remain competitive, and the best way to stay competitive is to invest in the human capital. Investing in human capital can happen through education, health care, and training of the labor force. A nation with a high GDP invests in human capital. On the other hand, a nation with a low GDP typically does not invest in human capital. It is reported that Latin America has some of the lowest investment in human capital. Out of 130 nations, Cuba ranked 36<sup>th</sup>, following Mexico at 56<sup>th</sup>, and Brazil at 83<sup>rd</sup>, according to the World Economic Forum report. The economic growth of a country can be measured by comparing the GDP of different years within that country. If a country has an increase in GDP, then its economy is growing.

A second way to measure a nation's economic strength is GDP per capita. GDP per capita is a measurement of the annual income, or salary, of citizens in a specific country. Sometimes this measurement is not a true indication. For example, a small, wealthy group can increase the GDP per capita drastically. Moscow, Russia has a high number of millionaires, which alters the overall GDP per capita of the whole nation. While the GDP per capita is a form of measurement, it is not always a true indicator of a nation's economic strength. In Latin America, most nations' GDP per capita is lower than Canada's and most European countries. Mexico's GDP per capita is roughly \$18,000, while Canada's is roughly \$46,000. The GDP per capita describes the average annual income of a nation's citizens.

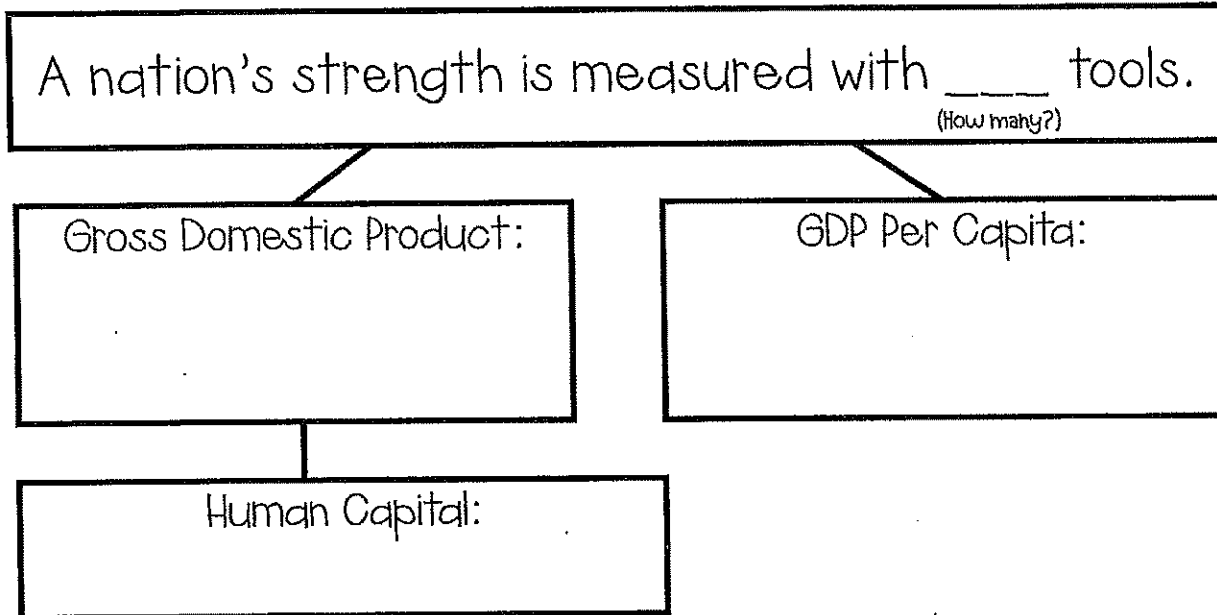
In conclusion, GDP is an estimation of the value of goods and services. GDP per capita is a measurement of the annual citizens' income within a country. Both of these measurements can be used to measure a country's economic strength. Sometimes, though, GDP per capita can be skewed, or distorted, because of unusually high income earners. GDP typically factors in human capital and is a more accurate measurement of a nation's economic strength.

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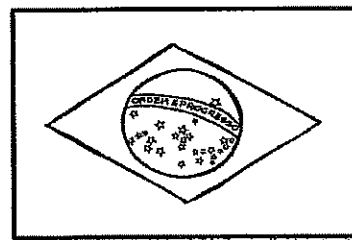
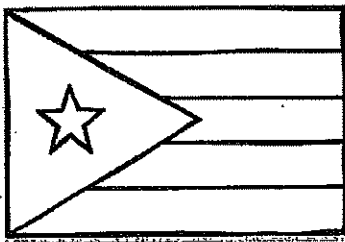
# HUMAN CAPITAL AND GDP IN LATIN AMERICA

DIRECTIONS: FILL IN THE GRAPHIC ORGANIZER WITH DEFINITIONS BASED ON THE PASSAGE.



DIRECTIONS: CIRCLE THE CORRECT ANSWER CHOICE AND FILL IN THE BLANK BASED ON THE PASSAGE.

GDP or GDP per capita is a more accurate measure of a nation's economic strength because it factors in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(two words)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HUMAN CAPITAL AND GDP IN LATIN AMERICA

**DIRECTIONS: MATCH THE VOCABULARY TERM TO ITS DEFINITION.**

Definitions:

1. \_\_\_\_ how two or more things are connected
2. \_\_\_\_ the knowledge and skills of the people in a workforce within a country
3. \_\_\_\_ the spent money or a resource for some benefit in the future
4. \_\_\_\_ a calculation of what a nation is worth
5. \_\_\_\_ the measurement of the annual income of citizens in a country

Vocabulary Terms:

- a. Investment
- b. GDP
- c. GDP per capita
- d. human capital
- e. relationship

**DIRECTIONS: CIRCLE THE BEST ANSWER CHOICE BASED ON THE PASSAGE.**

1. What must be present for an economy to be measured?
  - a. Some form of measurement
  - b. A nation watching
  - c. A Union
  - d. Trade Barriers
2. Which is the best description of Gross Domestic Product (GDP)?
  - a. Grocery stores
  - b. Public Banking
  - c. Estimate of the value of goods and services that are manufactured and produced within a year in a country
  - d. A measurement that compares and contrasts real estate and real estate investments
3. What is human capital?
  - a. Knowledge of another country
  - b. Skills of the military in another country
  - c. A committee that regulates and maintains basic human rights
  - d. Knowledge and skills of a workforce within a nation.
4. Which will likely raise the GDP of a country?
  - a. Picking trade partners
  - b. Tariffs and Banking
  - c. Imports and exports
  - d. Investing in education and training of the workforce



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HUMAN CAPITAL AND GDP IN LATIN AMERICA

**DIRECTIONS: CIRCLE THE BEST ANSWER CHOICE BASED ON THE PASSAGE.**

5. A nation with a high GDP typically does not invest in human capital, while a nation with a low GDP does invest in human capital.

- a. True
- b. False

6. How is the economic growth of a country measured?

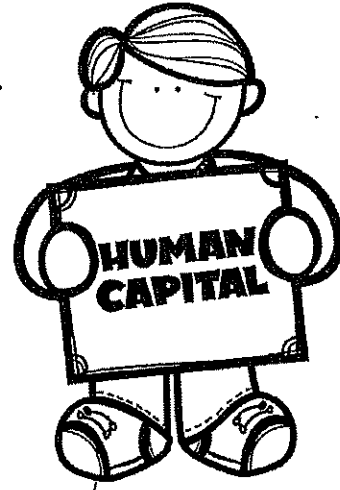
- a. By comparing to other countries
- b. By analyzing natural and produced resources
- c. By studying the types of cars and houses the citizens purchase.
- d. By comparing the GDP of different years

7. What is the GDP per capita?

- a. The annual income of citizens with a nation
- b. The countries import and export costs
- c. The amount of banks that open in a certain area
- d. The amount of houses and building that are constructed

8. Which city has an altered view of GDP per capita?

- a. Paris
- b. Atlanta
- c. Berlin
- d. Moscow



9. In 2-3 sentences, compare and contrast GDP of a country and GDP per capita.

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10. In 2-3 sentences describe how investing in human capital can help strengthen the economy.

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# LATIN AMERICA

# An Introduction to Economics

Have you ever traded something with a friend to get something you wanted? Have you ever tried selling something to someone else? If so, then you have participated in the study of economics! Economics is the study of how people make and spend money by buying and selling goods and services. Sound simple? Not quite!

Goods and Services are a major part of economics. Goods are the actual products that people buy and sell. An iPod, car, apple, or pencil are all goods. A Service, on the other hand, is an action or work that someone provides to help someone. Dentists provide the service of caring for our teeth. Taxi drivers provide the service of getting us where we need to go. Your teacher provides a service, too—he or she teaches you what you need to know!

In order to produce goods and services, productive resources must be used. Productive resources are the resources that are needed to provide goods and services. There are three types of productive resources: natural resources, human resources, and capital resources. Natural Resources are things that are found in nature. Air, water, wood, wind, iron, gold, and silver are all examples of natural resources. Human Resources are the people who work to earn money while producing goods and services. Dentists and teachers are examples of human resources. Construction workers, cashiers, and mailmen are also examples of human resources. Finally, Capital Resources are the products used to create other products. Money is one of the most common capital resources many businesses need. They also need capital resources like buildings, tools, machines, and more.

Companies selling goods and services often offer incentives to their customers. An incentive is something that is offered to help you make economic decisions. Positive Incentives offer rewards for choices and Negative Incentives offer consequences for choices. A restaurant might offer a positive incentive to their customers by sending out coupons for a free lunch. This positive incentive makes people want to decide to visit the restaurant! A National Park might offer a negative incentive to their visitors by fining people for littering. This negative incentive discourages littering. Sometimes, places offering goods and services can offer incentives for their human capital, employees, too!

## An Introduction to Economics: Part 2

Sometimes in economics, you have to make a choice between two or more goods or services. When you choose one thing over another, you are making a trade-off. Imagine that you just earned \$20 for allowance this month. Your best friend invites you to the movies, but you have been saving up to buy a new video game. You won't have enough money to do both. You will have to make a trade-off by choosing the movie or the game.

Often, when you make economic decisions you will have an opportunity cost. An opportunity cost is the cost or value of what you give up when you choose one thing over another thing. If you choose to go to the movie with your friend, you'll have to give up your new video game. The video game becomes your opportunity cost. If you choose to buy the game instead, you won't be able to go to the movie. In this example, missing out on the movie is your opportunity cost.

Comparing the opportunity cost and the benefits can help you make good economics decisions. A decision is a choice you make based on the trade-offs and opportunity costs. Some decisions can be difficult to make, since there is often a trade-off or opportunity cost involved.

In many economic choices you make, there are risks involved. A risk is a chance someone takes when making a decision. Some risks are large, and some risks are small. If you decide to spend all of your allowance on that new video game, you are risking not having enough money to do other things later. If a business decides to spend money by opening a new restaurant, they are taking a risk on whether or not it will be successful enough to earn their money back.



# Producers and Consumers & Supply and Demand

In economics, there are people and businesses who make and sell goods and services. These people are called producers. They are called producers because they PRODUCE, which means to make, goods and services. The people who buy the goods and services are called consumers. They are called consumers because they CONSUME, which means to buy or use.

Without producers making their goods and providing services, there would be nothing for consumers to buy. Without consumers, producers would have no reason to make their goods and provide their services!

If you visit the dentist, the dentist is a producer and you, the patient, are the consumer. When you shop at the grocery store, the store is the producer of goods and you are the consumer.

Producers have to pay close attention to Supply and Demand. Supply refers to the amount of something— either a good or a service— that is available to consumers. Demand, on the other hand, is how much of something—either a good or a service— that consumers want.

For example, since everyone needs to get their teeth cleaned, there is a high demand for dentists. If there are not enough dentists to serve everyone, there is a low supply of dentists. If there are more dentists than patients (the consumers), there is a high supply of dentists.

Sometimes supply and demand fluctuates, or changes. Several years ago, there was a very high demand for Rainbow Loom Bracelet Looms and rubber bands to go with them. Producers of the bracelet makers responded by making a very high supply of the product. After they weren't as popular anymore, the demand from consumers for the product went down. As the demand decreased, producers supplied less and less of the product.

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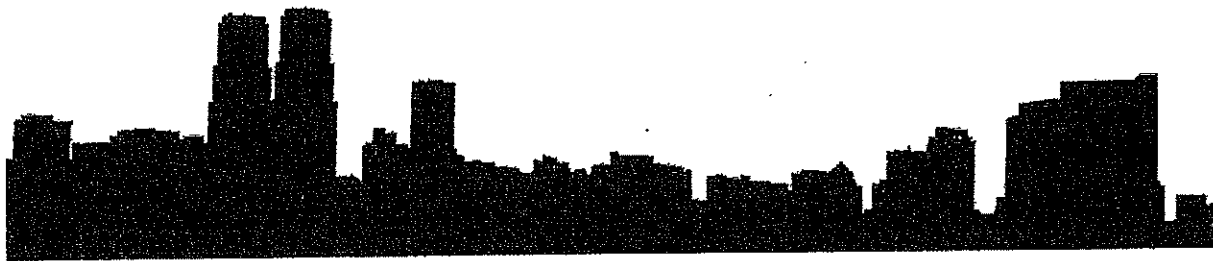
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# ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN LATIN AMERICA

An **entrepreneur** is a private citizen who opens, owns, and operates a business with their own money. They invest their money in new ideas and businesses for financial gain. Entrepreneurs play a large and key role in the economy. Entrepreneurs are typically innovators and produce new ideas, goods, services, or technology. This often requires some type of financial risk. The businesses that succeed will generate a profit. A **profit** is the difference between the cost in producing something and the amount earned. The businesses that do not generate a profit will likely fail.

There are two **sectors**, or section, in the economy of a country – the private sector and the public sector. The **private sector** is operated by entrepreneurs and privately owned businesses. Examples of the private sectors are candy companies, apps, and stores. The most growth typically occurs in the private sector. A factor that impacts the private sector is human capital. **Human capital** is the education and skills of the labor force. Investing in human capital within a country also helps entrepreneurs thrive. The second sector is the **public sector**. This is the section of the economy that is government owned. Examples of the public sector include public schools, police departments, the military.

There are certain areas of Latin America where entrepreneurship is difficult. There are many obstacles and barriers to starting and operating a successful business. In some cases, it's almost impossible. In Brazil, entrepreneurs face heavy taxes, poor government regulation, limited financing, poor government support, and a limited workforce. In Cuba, the government regulates the economy heavily and controls nearly everything. It is very difficult for an entrepreneur to thrive in Cuba due to tight government controls. Mexico is beginning to see a rise in entrepreneurship, but there are still many barriers to overcome. A major barrier Mexico faces is competition with big companies that many small businesses cannot win. Overall, entrepreneurship in Latin America is difficult and slow.



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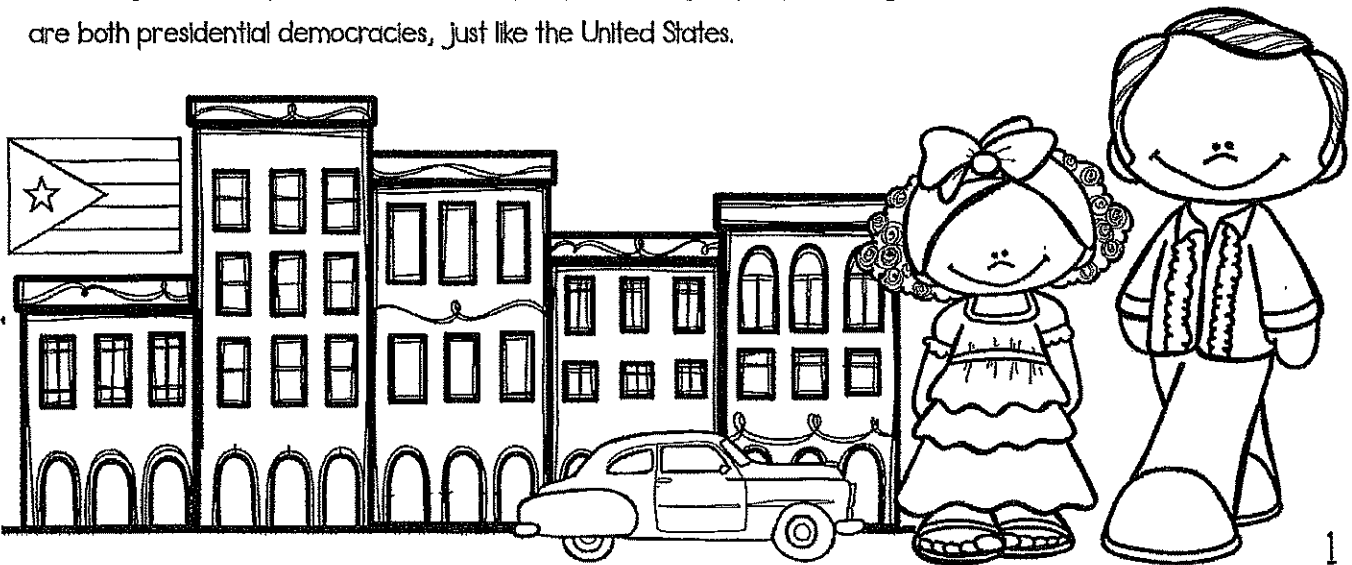
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# TYPES OF GOVERNMENT IN LATIN AMERICA

The two most **predominant**, or main, forms of government are parliamentary and presidential. Both of these are democracies. A **democracy** is a type of government in which the people rule directly or through some type of officials who are elected.

In a **parliamentary democracy**, the people choose members of the nation's legislature through elections. However, they do not choose the head of the government. The legislature is chosen to represent the people's interests and to pass laws on the behalf of the citizens. The people in the legislature, then, choose the head of the government. The head of the government is typically chosen from a major political party within that country. The leader in a parliamentary democracy is usually titled as the **Prime Minister**. The government of Cuba is referred to as a parliamentary democracy. However, only people in a certain political party are allowed to run for office. They must be in the Cuban Communist Party. Government in Cuba is considered to be a democracy; however, the people have very little input because the candidates can only come from one political party.

In a **presidential democracy**, the people elect both the legislators and its leader, or president. The head of the government in a presidential democracy is held accountable by the voters who put him or her into power. One benefit of a presidential democracy is that it does not allow one person or one group to operate a country too heavily. Instead, the country is operated by its people through elected officials. Mexico and Brazil are both presidential democracies, just like the United States.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# TYPES OF GOVERNMENT IN LATIN AMERICA

**DIRECTIONS: MATCH THE VOCABULARY TERM TO ITS DEFINITION.**

Definitions:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ a type of government in which people rule either directly or through elected officials
2. \_\_\_\_\_ a body or group of elected officials who make, change, or repeal the laws and government
3. \_\_\_\_\_ leader of a presidential democracy
4. \_\_\_\_\_ leader of a parliamentary democracy

Vocabulary Terms:

- a. Legislature
- b. President
- c. Democracy
- d. Prime Minister

**DIRECTIONS: CIRCLE THE BEST ANSWER CHOICE BASED ON THE PASSAGE.**

1. Which are the two main forms of government?
  - a. Parliamentary and Communist
  - b. Capital and Stock
  - c. Presidential and Parliamentary
  - d. Capital and Presidential
2. Which country is an example of a parliamentary democracy?
  - a. Cuba
  - b. United States
  - c. Brazil
  - d. Mexico
3. Which country is an example of a presidential democracy?
  - a. United States
  - b. Brazil
  - c. Mexico
  - d. All of the above
4. Which political party do candidates in Cuba come from?
  - a. Cuban Communist Party
  - b. Republican
  - c. Democratic
  - d. Cuban Republic



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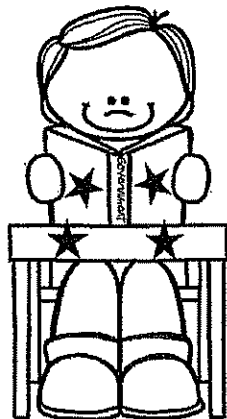
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# Forms of Government: Latin America

The government of each country can be structured in many different ways. All of the governments in the world can be classified as either a democratic or an autocratic government. The citizens in a **democratic government** have all the political power. A **citizen** is a person who lives in a particular country. This power is exercised through free voting. **Voting** is the ability to make a choice for a government leader. In contrast, when the power of the government rests with a single leader, it's an autocratic government. The citizens of an **autocratic government** have extremely limited political power and do not have the power to vote. The power rests with a single leader.

Mexico and Brazil both have similar types of government. Both countries have a democratic government. This means that the citizens have the ability to vote for the government leaders. There is also a president that is elected in both Mexico and Brazil. In Mexico, the president can only serve one six-year term. Citizens who are eighteen and older can vote in Mexico. In Brazil, the president can serve up to two four-year terms. Brazil requires that citizens between 18 and 70 vote, but they can vote as young as sixteen. There are many political parties in both Mexico and Brazil. A political party is an organization that represents a specific political agenda in a country.

Cuba is an autocratic government. Cuba was led by Fidel Castro from 1959 to 2008, then his brother Raul Castro became the leader. The citizens can vote for leaders at age 16; however, the leaders all belong to a certain political party called the Cuban Communist Party. This means that the citizens have very little input, as the leaders all come from a specific political party. There is not a term for the presidents in Cuba. This means that the presidents are not limited by a certain amount of years in office.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Forms of Government: Latin America

## Citizens' role in government

DIRECTIONS: FILL IN THE MISSING BOXES BASED ON THE PASSAGE.

facts	Brazil	Mexico	Cuba
Type of Government	Democratic		
Head of Government is elected by...			Citizens, but only one political party
Terms of Office	Up to 2 four-year consecutive terms		
Voting Age			

## Two Types of Governments

DIRECTIONS: ADD THE PHRASES FROM THE LIST TO THE VENN DIAGRAM.

1. Citizens most control
2. Government most control
3. Type of government

