

Power Play – Who Runs the World?

Have you ever wondered why some countries have presidents while others have kings or queens? Different countries have different ruling systems, which are ways to organize power and (1)..... Let's explore some of the most common systems, how they work, and examples of each.

Republic: Power to the People

In a republic, the people choose their leaders through elections. This system is based on democracy, meaning everyone has a say in how the (2)..... is run. The head of state is usually a (3).....

For example, the United States is a republic. People vote for the president, who leads the executive branch and works with other parts of the government to make (4)..... Ancient Rome was also a republic before it became an empire.

Monarchy: The Rule of Kings and Queens

A monarchy is a system where a king or queen rules. In the past, monarchs had absolute power – they could make any decision without (5)..... For example, Louis XIV of France, known as the "Sun King," had total control over his country in the 17th century.

Today, few absolute monarchies remain. Saudi Arabia is an example where the king has (6)..... power.

Constitutional Monarchy: A Modern Twist

In a constitutional monarchy, the king or queen is more of a symbol, and most decisions are made by (7)..... officials. The monarch's powers are limited by a constitution or laws.

For example, in the United Kingdom, King Charles III is the head of state, but the prime minister and parliament make the country's laws and policies. Countries like Japan and Sweden also follow this system.

Dictatorship: One Person in Control

A dictatorship is a system where one person has complete power. Dictators often take control through (8)..... force or other non-democratic means. People living under dictatorships usually don't have the right to vote or speak freely.

An example of a dictatorship is North Korea, where Kim Jong Un has total control. In history, Adolf Hitler ruled Nazi Germany as a dictator.

Theocracy: Religion and Government

In a theocracy, the government is based on religious laws, and (9)..... are often religious figures. For example, Iran is a theocracy where Islamic law guides the country's policies. In history, the Vatican City has long been ruled by the Pope.

Why Are Ruling Systems Important?

Each system reflects a country's history, culture, and values. While some systems give power to the people, others (10)..... it in one person or group. Understanding these systems helps us see why the world works the way it does.

Whether it's a president, king, or religious leader, every system shapes the lives of the people who live under it. Which system would you prefer to live in?

Word Bank

military, question, president, leadership, leaders, significant, emperor, country, decisions, elected, concentrate