

Civics	The study of the duties and rights of citizens.
Citizen	Legal members of a community who owe loyalty to a government and, in turn, are entitled to the protection of that government.
Government	Organizations, institutions, and individuals that exercise political authority on behalf of a group of people.
4 Purposes of Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping People Cooperate Providing Services Providing Laws Guaranteeing Freedom
Constitution	A detailed, written plan for government.
Amendment	A change to the United States Constitution.
Civil Rights	The rights guaranteed to all U.S. citizens by the U.S. Constitution.
4th Amendment	<p>Protects us against "unreasonable searches and seizures." No officer of the government can search a person's property or take his or her possessions at will, (whenever they want.) Before most searches, law enforcement officers must get approval by asking a judge to issue a search warrant. To get this search warrant, the officer must have probable cause, describing the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized. Only items listed in the search warrant can be taken.</p>
Search Warrant	A court order allowing law-enforcement officers to search a suspect's home or business and take specific items as evidence. To obtain these, officers submit evidence to a judge to establish probable cause that a search will yield evidence related to a crime. If the officers establish probable cause, the judge will issue the warrant. (See definition of probable cause.)
Probable Cause	Strong reasons to think that a person or property was involved in a crime.

Seizure	The act of taking something.
Public Policy / Domestic Policy	The decisions and actions a government takes to solve problems in the community / within the United States.
Foreign Policy	A nation's overall plan for dealing with other nations.
Terrorism	The use of violent acts to frighten the people in an area as a way of trying to achieve a political goal.
September 11, 2001	On this date, members of a terrorist group called al-Qaeda carried out a terrorist attack on New York City, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania. Almost 3,000 people died in those attacks.
The USA Patriot Act of 2001	("Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001".) A law that increased the government's power to seek information that could be related to terrorism.
Infringement	Encroaching (advancing beyond proper limits) on a right or privilege that belongs to someone else.
The Department of Homeland Security	A Department within the Executive Branch of government (part of the President's Cabinet) that was created in 2002 in response to the terrorist attacks in 2001. One task of this Department is to advise the President in matters related to terrorism and disasters. Its three main goals are to try to stop terrorist attacks on the United States, reduce the threat of terrorist attacks and to help with recovery from attacks or other disasters.
Type (Form) of Government	The way a government is structured: The way their leaders are chosen and in the amount of power held by the people. (Who rules?)
Absolute Monarchy	A form of autocracy where a person becomes the sole leader of a country by being born into a family of rulers whose actions are restricted neither by written law nor by custom.

Anarchy	The absence of any form of government.
Autocracy	A form of government where one person has unlimited power.
Communism	A form of government in which a single ruling party owns and controls all production and distribution of goods, and in which no private ownership is allowed. In theory, it is a classless society (no social classes) in which all property is owned by the community as a whole and where all people have access to equal social and economic status. As a political movement, it is intended to overthrow capitalism (privately owned businesses and free markets) through a workers' revolution and redistribute the wealth to the workers.
Constitutional Monarchy	A form of monarchy in which the power of the king or queen is limited because they share power with an elected body such as a legislature and/or their power is limited by a constitution.
Democracy	A government in which political power resides with the people.
Dictatorship	A form of autocracy where a military leader becomes the leader of a country often through violent means.
Direct Democracy	A form of government in which the power to govern lies directly in the hands of the people rather than through elected representatives.
Junta	A small group of people—usually military officers—who rule a country after taking it over by force.
Monarchy	A form of government headed by a king or queen who inherits the position, rules for life, and holds power that can range anywhere between limited to absolute.
Oligarchy	A form of government in which a small group has total control and power.

Representative Democracy	A government in which the people elect representatives to make policies and laws for them, also known as a republic.
Republic	A government in which the people elect representatives to make policies and laws for them, also known as a representative democracy.
Socialism	An economic system in which the government owns the primary means of production. A mix of some private ownership and some public ownership of property. Society controls, through its government, major decisions about production. For example, the government controls steel mills, shipyards, railroads and airlines. It also provides services such as health and medical care. Individuals and private companies own and run the other businesses.
Theocracy	A form of government that recognizes God or a divine being as the ultimate authority.
Internment	To confine, restrict, or limit movement within a Country or place.