

Benchmark 3.2

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Core Idea Comparing Systems of Government

Focal Point #1	Benchmark clarifications contradict Overall Considerations #7 which indicates that students do not need to define terms; the benchmark clarifications indicate that students will “apply their understanding to the definitions”.
Focal Point #2	The content limits indicate that students will not need to name a system of government for countries other than the United States. However, scenarios and examples of systems of government other than the United States will likely be presented on the End of Course Assessment.
Potential Concern	Students should be taught the characteristics of different systems of government while naming examples of these governments.
Sample Item	Note focal point #2; three countries other than the United States are named in the item.

