

# Systems of Government

7th Grade

Four ways countries decide who holds power.

*Governments differ mainly in who chooses the leaders and how power is limited.*

| System              | Who rules               | Chosen how                  |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Democracy</b>    | elected representatives | by the people, in elections |
| <b>Monarchy</b>     | a king or queen         | by inheritance              |
| <b>Dictatorship</b> | one person or party     | by force, no real choice    |
| <b>Theocracy</b>    | religious leaders       | by religious authority      |

Many countries mix these. The UK is a democracy with a monarch who has no political power.