

CAMPBELL, CHERYL

This would be an assignment for U.S. Government. At the beginning of the year students review the types of government and this is an excellent opportunity to introduce art and the way governments will use propaganda to promote their leaders and the beliefs of the government.

LESSON OBJECTIVE(S):

- Students will use the portraits of George Washington and Louis XIV to compare symbolism representing Absolutism and Representative Democracy.
- Students will locate a piece of artwork for another form of government and compare that to George Washing to answer the question: What do the symbols tell you about the differences between the two types of government.

MATERIALS:

1. Gilbert Stuart, *George Washington, (the Lansdowne portrait)*, 1796 (3B)
2. Portrait of Louis XIV (such as Hyacinthe Rigaud, *Louis XIV*, 1701)
3. Chart Comparison
4. PowerPoint Presentation

Time:

- 1 class period, 50 minutes

PROCEDURES:

This would be a lesson in a unit about types of government; therefore students would have had prior instruction with an introduction about government.

1. Students will receive a chart at the beginning of the period.
2. Students will be asked as a bell ringer to begin looking for symbols in portraits.
3. Students will be asked to write them on their charts.
4. Students will be asked to brainstorm what those symbols represent. These can be written on the board, an overhead or whatever technology you have available.
5. Ask students to explain if there are any checks and balances to the power of the rulers.
6. Then ask students to write what the differences are between the two types of government.
7. Have students share their answers with the rest of the class.

8. As an exit pass ask students to explain which government they would rather live under a representative democracy or Absolute Monarchy and why.

Assessment:

- Use the internet to find a picture of a leader of a country with a theocracy and complete a chart comparing that portrait to the portrait of George Washington.
- Then answer the question: What do the symbols tell you about the differences between the two types of government?

Absolutism v. Representative Democracy Rubric

Name: _____

Period: _____

1. Students chose a picture of a leader from a country with a Theocracy.

1 2 3 4 5

Comments:

2. Students accurately identified the symbols in the portrait

1 2 3 4 5

Comments:

3. Students gave logical explanations for the symbols in the portraits

1 2 3 4 5

Comments:

4. Students accurately answered the question on governmental differences based on their observations.

1 2 3 4 5

Comments:

Total _____/20