



DEMOCRACY DOWN UNDER

Power of three

Name/s: _____

Australia has three levels of law-making (also referred to as three levels of government) that work together to make decisions and provide the services we all need.

But, why do we have three? What is each level responsible for? Why can't we just have one level? How do they work together?

Answer the following questions to find out. You will need the 'Democracy down under' fact sheet and the following videos (your teacher can help you find these):

- Snapshots: Federation
- Australia's Federation – Behind the News

Before watching the videos or reading the fact sheet:

What does federation mean?

Why do you think Australia has three levels of government?



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What are the three levels called?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What does each level of government do?

Information from the video, fact sheet and your own general knowledge

1. On what date did Australia celebrate the 'birth of our new nation'?

2. Who was Australia's first Prime Minister?

3. What was Australia before 1901?

4. What did each separate area of Australia have?



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5. Why was travel across the continent difficult?

6. Who was Henry Parkes?

7. What did the colonies think a national government should look after?

8. According to the videos, which of the following **were** issues surrounding the creation of the constitution and a new nation? Tick your answer/s:

- South Australia was the only colony that allowed women to vote and they wanted all Australians to be able to vote for the constitution.
- Tasmania did not want to be part of the new nation.
- Rich states thought they would have to share money with the poorer states.
- Alfred Deakin was fighting against a united country.
- People from New Zealand came to Australia to join the talks about creating a new nation, but decided not to join.
- The draft constitution gave ordinary people too much power.
- Arguments about where Australia's capital should be located.



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9. Which state said 'no' to joining as a nation, but later changed its mind? Circle your answer.

Western Australia Tasmania Queensland

10. Who had to approve the uniting of the colonies?

11. Where did the first federal parliament meet?

12. Where does our federal parliament meet now?

13. Which group of Australians were left out of the constitution?

14. Name the three levels of government and record four things that each is responsible for:

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____



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15. If there is conflict between a federal law and a state law, whose law 'wins'?

After watching the videos and reading the fact sheet

Record two pieces of information that you did not know before watching these videos and two questions that you have now.

Now I know:

1.

2.

I want to know:

1.

2.
