

# Handout A: Republican Government Video Viewing Guide

## Before you watch:

1. Answers may include: republic, freedom, liberty, equality, American dream, government, citizens, states, representatives, rule by the people, Constitution, We the People
2. Accept reasoned responses. Students should address pros and cons of majority rule.

## After you watch:

1. The people select representatives to make and carry out laws.
2. The Founders believed that democracy was just as dangerous to liberty as monarchy. The majority could not be trusted with peoples' rights any more than a monarch could be. Direct democracy had been tried by other nations and had repeatedly failed.
3. Accept reasoned answers.
4. James Madison challenged the thought that republics would only work in small territories. He believed a large republic would better protect liberty. Many different groups or factions with different beliefs and desires would prevent a majority from oppressing a minority.
5. Answers may include: representative or republican government, separation of powers, checks and balances, or civic responsibility.
6. Accept reasoned answers.