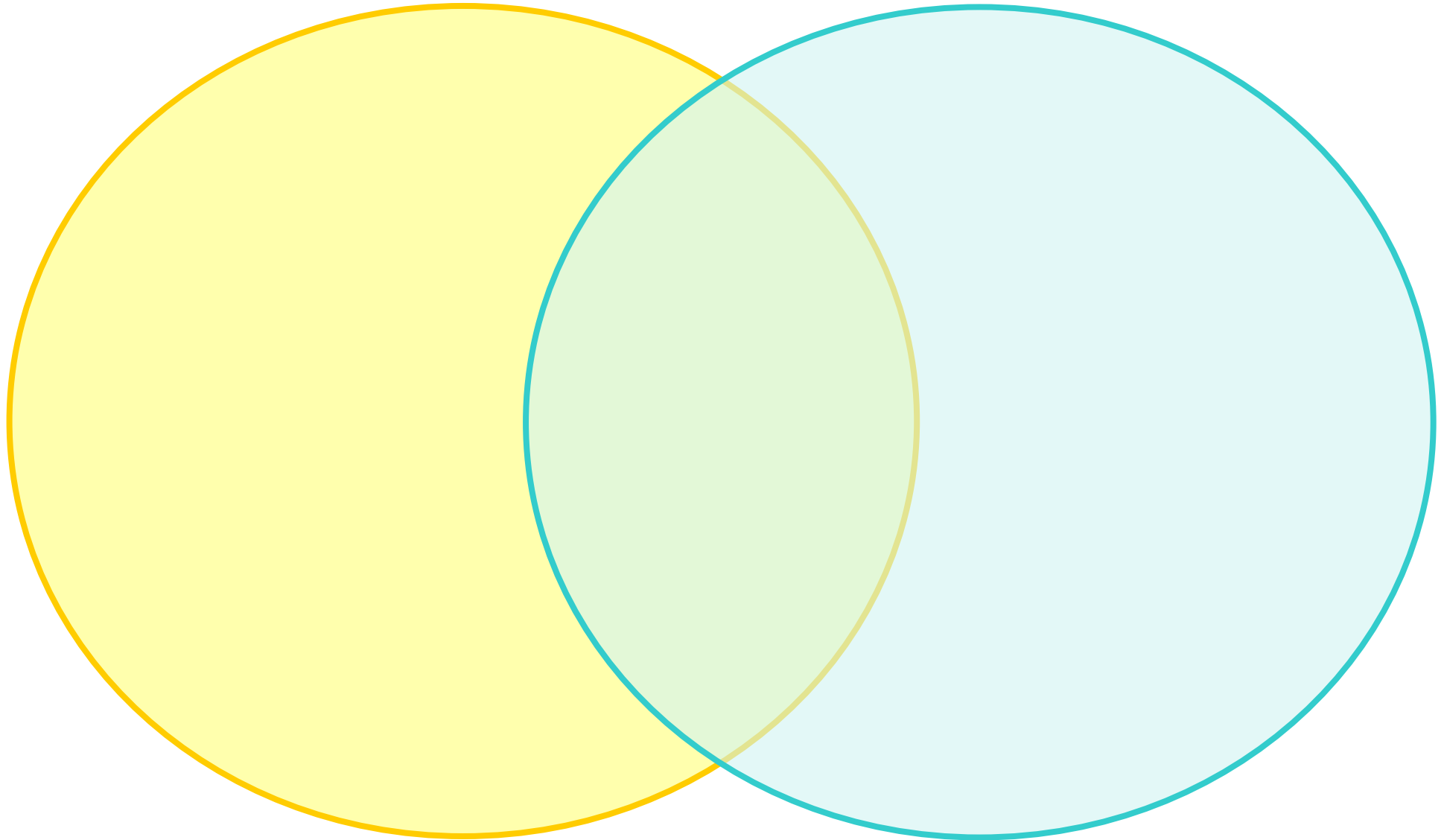


There is usually only one political party in power.	There is more than one party to vote for.	People are free to meet who they like.	Elections are held, but the way people have voted is not kept secret.	The government is expected to be honest about the laws it is passing.
People use violence to make changes.	The government controls what is on TV.	Laws can be changed instantly by the government.	The government uses advertising techniques to make sure it is popular.	People can be put in prison without a fair trial.
One person or group of people stays in power for a long time.	Everybody can vote to help choose the government.	People cast their votes in secret so that they can't be pressured.	A government has a limited amount of time in power, after which another election is held.	People are free to think and say what they like.
Newspapers are free to print what they choose even if it is critical of the government.	Secret police are used to frighten people who are against the government.	Information that people can read and see on TV is controlled by the government.	One leader is built up as a hero.	Laws are made by elected politicians and the courts.
People can follow the religion that they chose.	Even the government must obey the laws of the land.	People who criticise the government may be tortured or imprisoned.	Clubs, societies and meetings are all under government supervision.	People fear their leaders.



Definitely democracy

Definitely dictatorship



**Definitely  
democracy**

**Definitely  
dictatorship**

Sometimes both

## Suggested groupings

### Democracy

Everybody can vote to help choose the government.  
People cast their votes in secret so that they can't be pressured.  
A government has a limited amount of time in power, after which another election is held.  
People are free to think and say what they like.  
Newspapers are free to print what they choose even if it is critical of the government.  
There is more than one party to vote for.  
People are free to meet who they like.  
Laws are made by elected politicians and the courts.  
People can follow the religion that they chose.  
Even the government must obey the laws of the land.  
The government is expected to be honest about the laws it is passing.

### Dictatorship

There is usually only one political party in power.  
Secret police are used to frighten people who are against the government.  
One leader is built up as a hero.  
Elections are held, but the way people have voted is not kept secret.  
Clubs, societies and meetings are all under government supervision.  
Laws can be changed instantly by the government.  
People can be put in prison without a fair trial.  
Information that people can read and see on TV is controlled by the government.  
People who criticise the government may be tortured or imprisoned.

### Sometimes both

People use violence to make changes.  
The government controls what is on TV.  
The government uses advertising techniques to make sure it is popular.  
One person or group of people stays in power for a long time.  
People fear their leaders.

## Teaching notes

This activity is designed as an introduction to the concepts of democracy and dictatorship. It might sit well within a sequence of lessons on the international relations of the 1930s or before an overview of the 20th century. Through interaction and discussion with one another, students should gain a more concrete understanding of what it means to live in a democracy or a dictatorship.

There are a several options included for delivery of the activity:

1. Mini card sort: students are given a copy of the cards (p.2) individually or in pairs, and sort them using the Venn diagram (p.3), followed by discussion.
2. Giant class card sort: enlarge the statements on p.7 to font size 80 and space them to appear one per page. Give one card to each student and ask them to place themselves in an area of the room marked with the correct heading (pp.4-6). The cards can then be stuck onto the wall underneath the heading. Ask your students to return to their seats and review the placement of the cards as a class. You can then ask them to challenge any card which they feel has been placed in the wrong category, and justify why they feel it ought to be moved.
3. Yes/No and Venn diagram activities for IWB (for subscribed members): these might be used to review the learning once one of the above activities has been completed.

## Differentiation

The following is a shortened version of the same task which may be more appropriate for some students/groups:

There is only one political party in power.	There is more than one party to vote for.	People are free to meet who they like.	Secret police are used to frighten people who are against the government.	Laws can be changed instantly by the government.
Everybody can vote to help choose the government.	One person or group of people stays in power for a long time.	One leader is built up as a hero.	People are free to think and say what they like.	Information that people can read and see on TV is controlled by the government.

## Extension activities

More able students/groups might consider the interesting question of whether there could be advantages to living in a dictatorship or if a 'benevolent dictatorship' could ever exist.