Use the information on the charts below to answer the questions at the bottom of the page.

### How Colonial Governors Were Chosen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Royal Colonies</th>
<th>Proprietary Colonies</th>
<th>Self-Governing Colonies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Virginia, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, N. Carolina, S. Carolina, New York, New Jersey, Delaware)</td>
<td>proprietor</td>
<td>(Connecticut and Rhode Island)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>king</td>
<td>proprietor</td>
<td>governor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>governor</td>
<td>governor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### How Colonial Legislatures Were Chosen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Royal Colonies</th>
<th>Proprietary Colonies</th>
<th>Self-Governing Colonies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>king or governor</td>
<td>proprietor</td>
<td>(Connecticut and Rhode Island)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>upper house (council)</td>
<td>voters</td>
<td>governor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lower house (assembly)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Massachusetts:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>voters</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>upper house (council)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(assembly)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lower house (assembly)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Completion**

1. Most of the Thirteen Colonies were called ________ colonies.
2. Each colony had a governor and a ________ consisting of an upper house and a lower house.
3. In two colonies, the governor was chosen by the ________.
4. The ________ appointed the governor in the royal colonies.
5. In Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Georgia, the ________ chose the governor.
6. The colonial legislatures, which made laws, were made up of ________ (how many?) houses.
7. The lower house was often called a "representative ________" because it was elected by the colonists rather than chosen by the king or governor.
8. The most democratic form of government was found in ________ and ________.
9. Most of the power in the colonial governments rested in the hands of the ________.
10. The people elected the members of the assembly in ________ (how many?) of the colonies.
The Court System

Persons accused of serious crimes were tried by certain "high courts." These trials were held in the capital cities of the colonies where the crimes were committed. Defendants who were found guilty were usually sentenced to death by hanging. Persons accused of lesser offenses appeared before juries in "local courts." Punishment included fines, public whipping, and suffering disgrace with the pillory, stocks, and ducking stool.

Listed below are ten crimes that were sometimes committed in colonial days. Put a check mark in the space next to each one that you think was punishable by death.

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>armed robbery</td>
<td>(6)</td>
<td>theft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>disturbing the peace</td>
<td>(7)</td>
<td>counterfeiting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>murder</td>
<td>(8)</td>
<td>breaking the Sabbath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>piracy</td>
<td>(9)</td>
<td>drunkenness or swearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5)</td>
<td>slander (the spreading of false stories)</td>
<td>(10)</td>
<td>treason</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Democracy in the Thirteen Colonies

A "democracy" is a form of government in which laws are made by the people or their elected representatives. The word "democracy" also means political, social, and economic equality. It can refer to such things as equal opportunity, freedom of expression, and respect for the rights of all people, including individuals and minority groups.

During the 1700's, there was more democracy in the Thirteen Colonies than anywhere else in the world. Yet by today's standards, it would seem that life in the colonies was quite undemocratic. But compared to European countries and the Spanish and French colonies, America enjoyed a great amount of democracy.

Read the sentences below and decide which ones give a democratic feature and which ones an undemocratic feature of colonial life. Write D for democratic and U for undemocratic.

(1) D In ten of the colonies, the upper house of the legislature was appointed by the king, the governor, or the proprietor.
(2) D In Massachusetts, the upper house was elected by the lower house.
(3) D Voters in Connecticut and Rhode Island chose the governor.
(4) D The king chose the governor in the eight royal colonies.
(5) U In Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Georgia, the governor was picked by the proprietor.
(6) D All of the colonies had a lower house called a representative assembly.
(7) D The laws passed by a colonial legislature had to be approved by the English government.
(8) D The king expected the governors that he appointed to enforce the laws of England, especially acts of Parliament that regulated colonial trade.
(9) Only adult male citizens who owned property could vote.

(10) Women, indentured servants, slaves, and the poorest citizens could not vote.

(11) For many years, most colonies limited voting and other rights to members of a certain church group, such as the Church of England in the royal colonies.

(12) Most Roman Catholics and Jews could not vote.

(13) In the New England Colonies, citizens held town meetings at which they voted on local laws and elected town officials called selectmen.

(14) Since the majority of American colonists were of English origin, they thought of themselves as being Englishmen who were entitled to such basic rights as trial by jury and protection against arrest or search without a warrant.

(15) Each charter granted by the English king gave the colonists the right to form a government with certain lawmaking powers.

(16) In the Southern Colonies, local officials -- the sheriff, clerk, lander of the militia, and justices of the peace -- were appointed by the governor.

(17) The Virginia House of Burgesses became a model for representative government in the other colonies.

(18) The Pilgrims drew up the Mayflower Compact in which they agreed to obey laws passed by the majority.

(19) The Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, the first written constitution in America, gave the people the right to elect the governor and the legislature.

(20) John Peter Zenger, a newspaper publisher put on trial for printing factual articles criticizing the governor, was found "not guilty," thus establishing the principle of freedom of the press.

(21) Almost all colonists enjoyed freedom of worship.

(22) In Puritan Massachusetts, Baptists, Quakers, and other religious groups were not allowed to hold meetings, conduct church services, or vote and hold office.

(23) The charter obtained for Rhode Island by Roger Williams said that all persons "shall freely and fully have and enjoy his and their own judgments and consciences in matters of religion" -- a principle that eventually spread to other colonies.

(24) American colonists were free to choose their own occupations.

(25) People in the lower classes, through hard work, had a better chance to improve their social and economic positions than people in England.

(26) A colonist could open a shop or start his own business.

(27) A woman could not own property or run a business by herself.

(28) In the Southern Colonies, planters looked down on the small farmers.

(29) Although slavery had begun to disappear in Europe, the number of slaves in America continued to grow.

(30) The colonists were not represented in Parliament, which made trade and tax laws that affected the colonies.