



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# CLASSROOM LAW PROJECT

## *STATE OF DEMOCRACY IN THE WORLD*

### *VOCABULARY*

**Directions:** Frontload (introduce and review) these vocabulary words with your students to facilitate their understanding of the topic and coinciding resources:

1. **Democracy** (n.) - A system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state, typically through elected representatives.
2. **Authoritarianism** (n.) - Any political system that concentrates power in the hands of a leader or a small elite that is not constitutionally responsible to the body of the people.
3. **Backslide** (v.) - Relapse into bad ways or error.
4. **Dictatorship** (n.) - A form of government in which one person or a small group possesses absolute power without effective constitutional limitations.
5. **Illiberal** (adj.) - Opposed to liberal principles; restricting freedom of thought or behavior.

### *CURRENT EVENT ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS*

**Directions:** As you read through news and other resources about TOPIC, consider the following questions:

- What are essential components of a healthy democracy?
- How can citizens work to ensure their nation's democracy is healthy?
- What are the fundamental differences between a democracy and an autocratic government?
- What role does media, both legacy and social, play in the health of a democratic government?
- How important is it for the citizens of a democracy to believe in their form of government? Explain.
- Should the United States be the world's driving force of democracy? If not, should another country take up this mantle? If so, whom and why?
- In your opinion, what are some of the primary causes the world is seeing a backsliding amongst democratic nations?