

Name _____

Democracy: The Power of the People

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Individual rights and freedoms in a democracy are essential because they empower citizens to express themselves, practice their beliefs, and live without fear of oppression. These rights contribute to well-being and happiness by promoting personal autonomy, diversity of thought, and a sense of justice.
2. Decision-making challenges in democracy, such as slow processes and the influence of populism, can be addressed by fostering political education and engagement, promoting transparency and accountability, and encouraging civil discourse. These measures help maintain democratic principles while improving governance.
3. A society without democracy may lead to limited citizen participation, lack of representation, and potential abuses of power. Quality of life and governance may suffer, and individuals may have fewer opportunities to influence decisions that affect their lives.
4. To enhance the effectiveness and inclusivity of a democracy, measures such as electoral reforms, campaign finance regulations, and efforts to reduce inequality in political influence can be implemented. Encouraging active citizen participation through education and community engagement also plays a vital role in improving democracy.

