

Making Systems Simple!

A Guide to Understanding Systems of Government

Benchmarks

SS.7.C.3.2 Compare parliamentary, federal, confederal, and unitary systems of government.

First things First

PowerPoint ID

- Take out a sheet of paper
- Describe the diagrams on the following slides – you can use complete sentences or just descriptive words.

Diagram #1

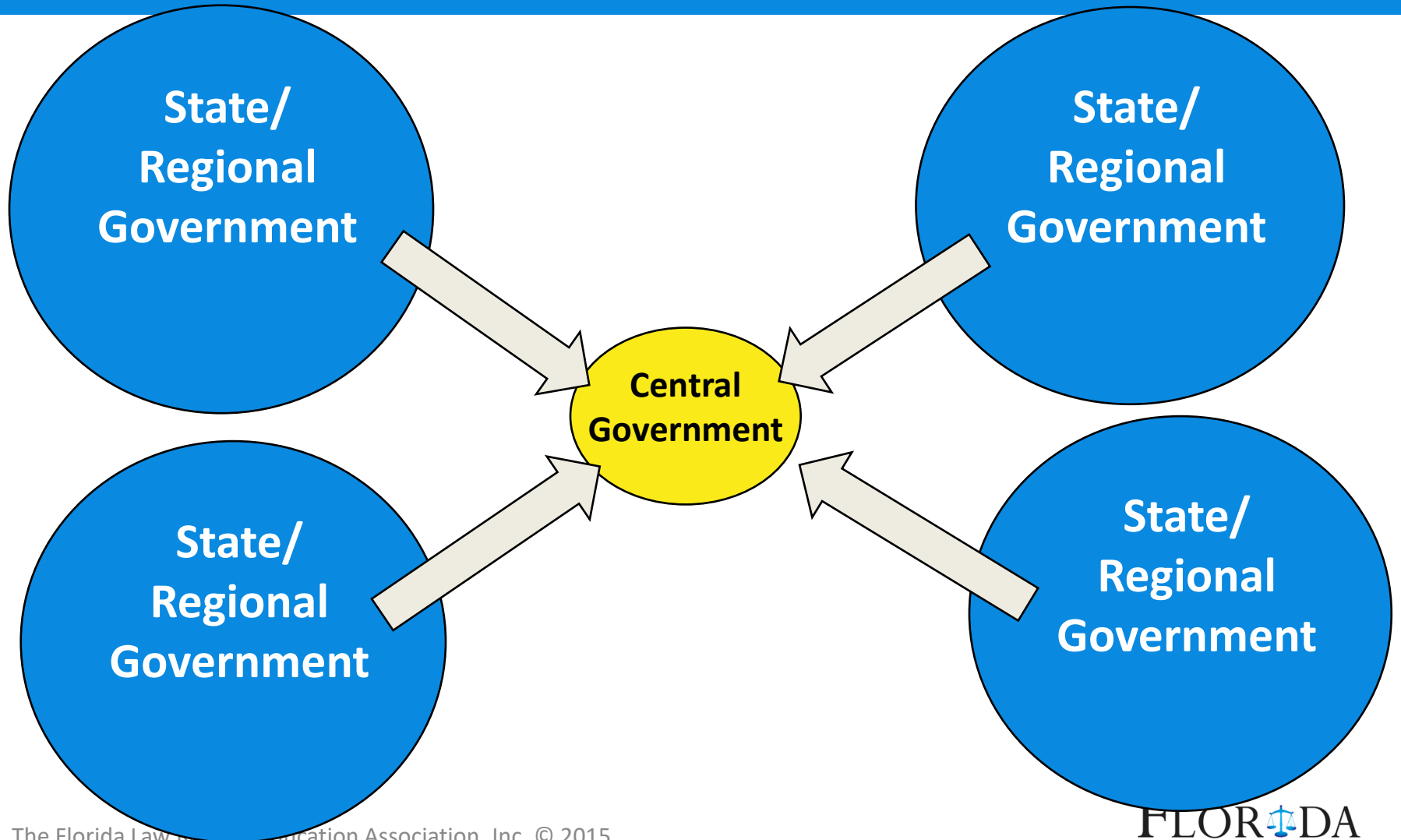


Diagram #2

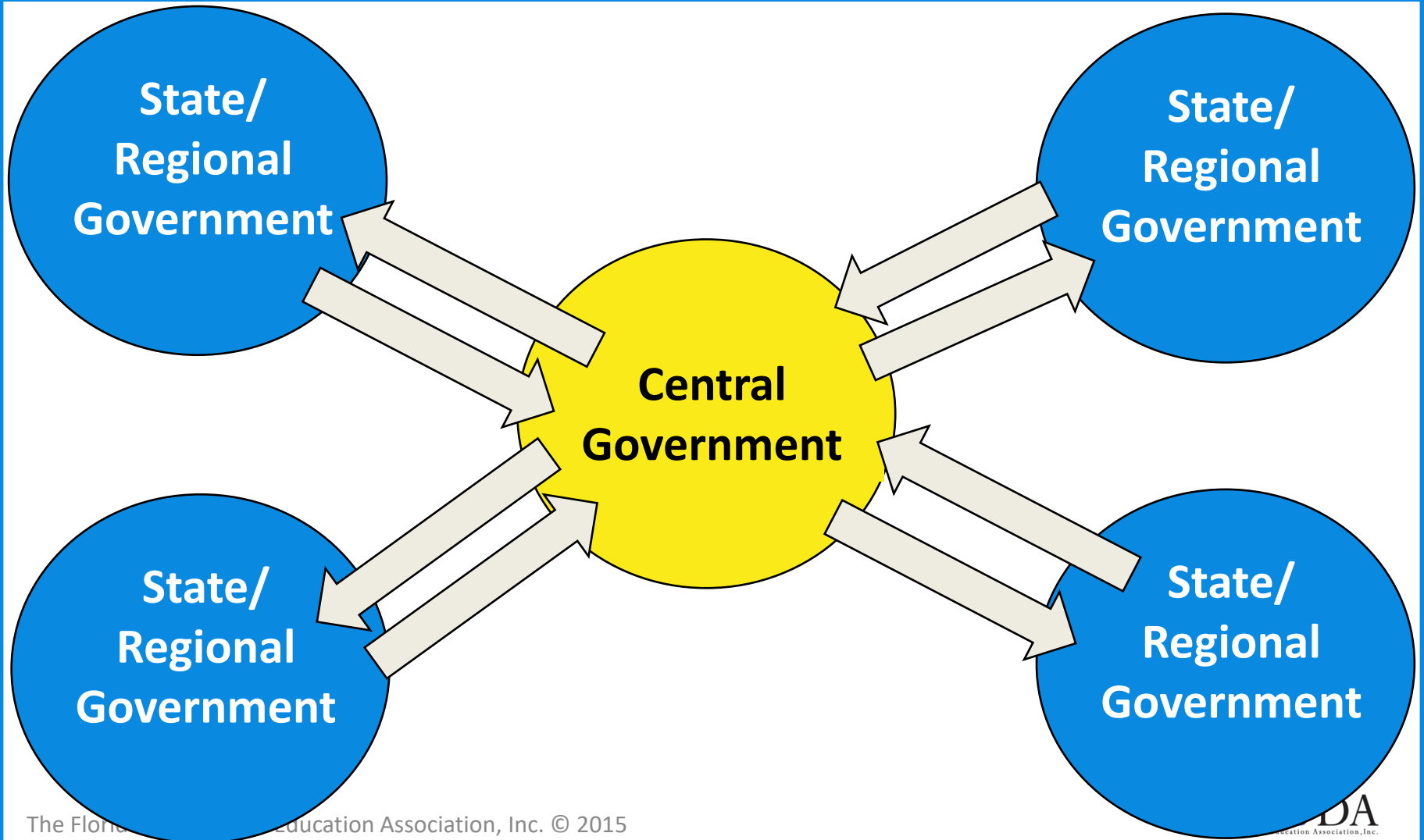
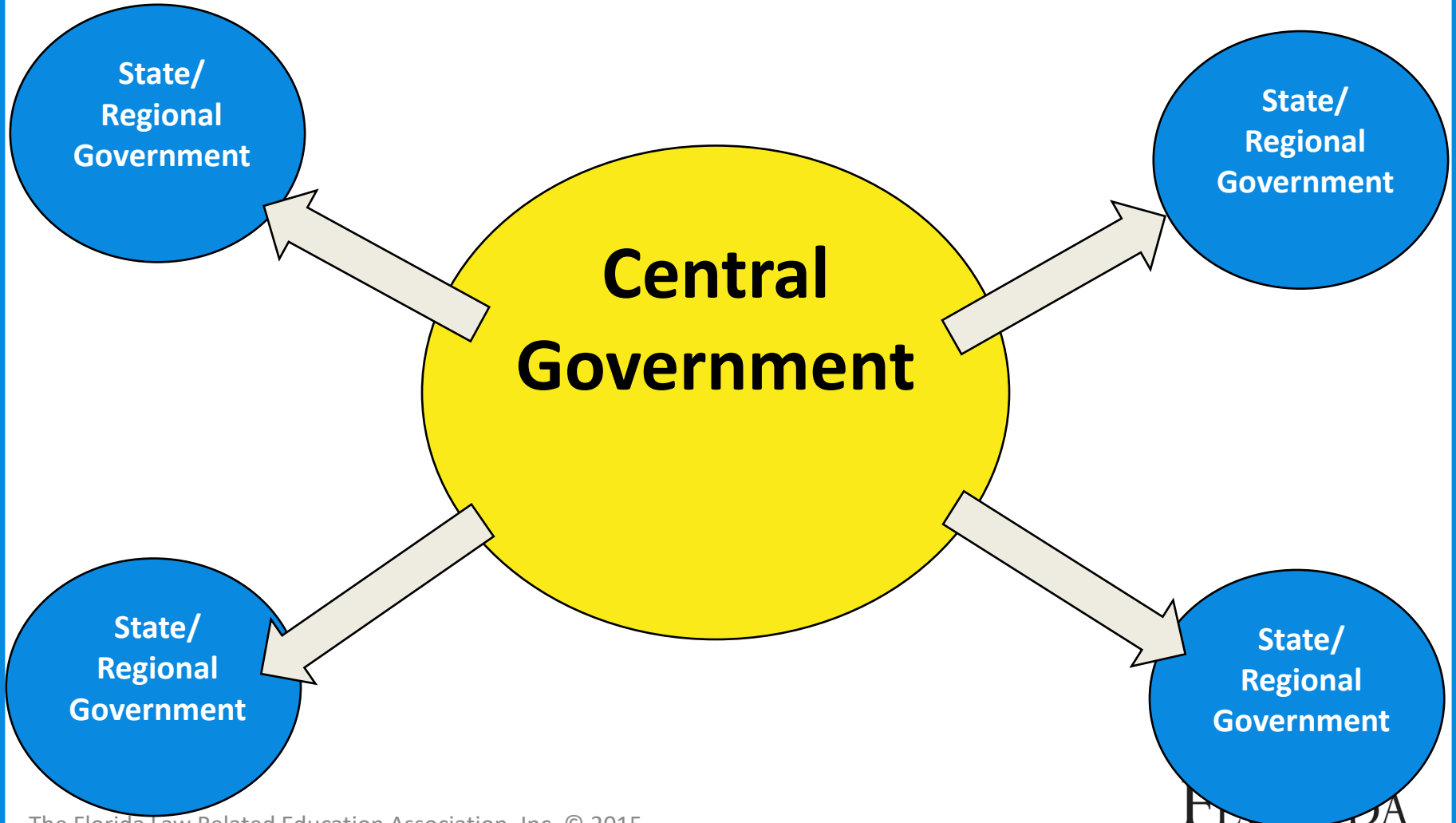


Diagram #3



Diagramming Systems

The diagrams you just looked at were outlining three different systems of government:

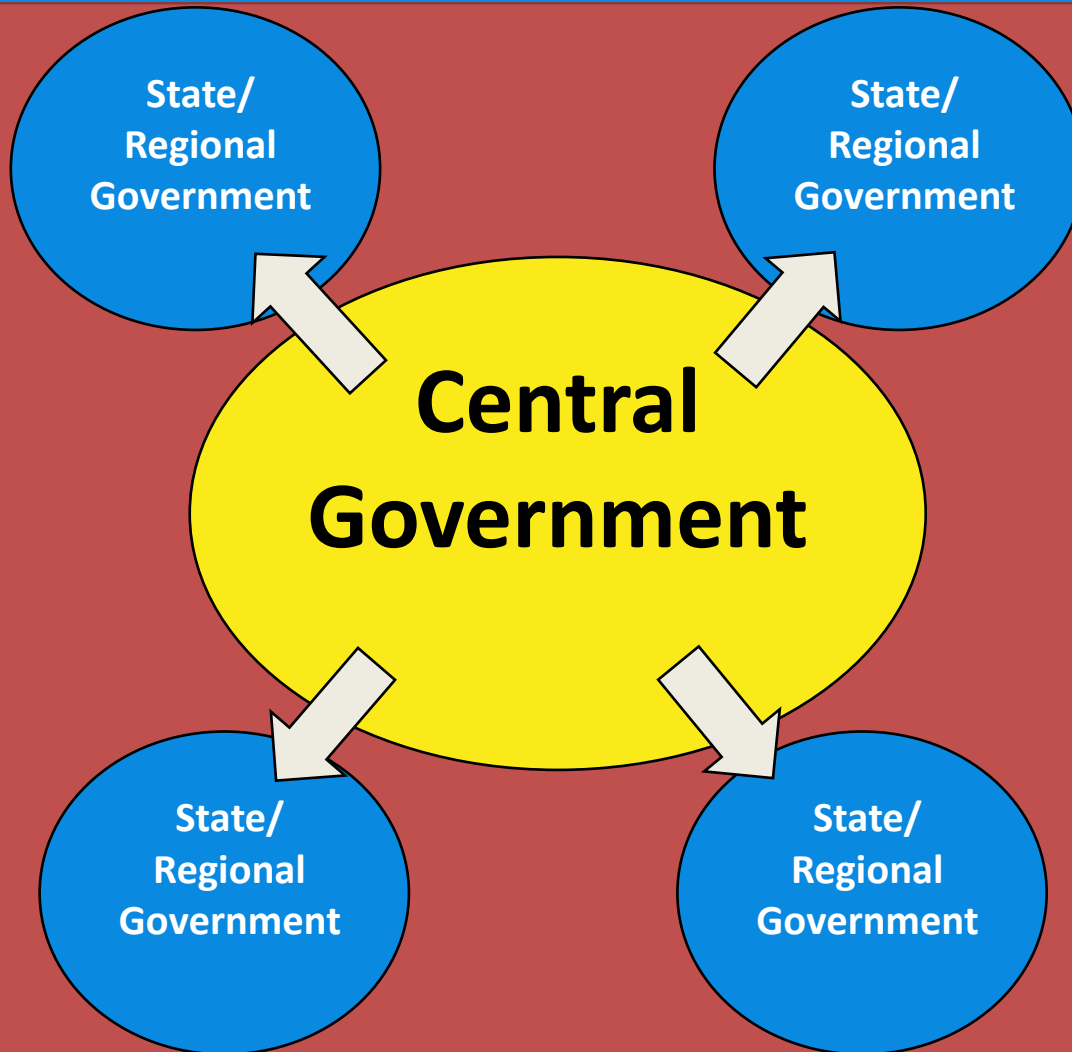
Federal

Unitary

Confederal

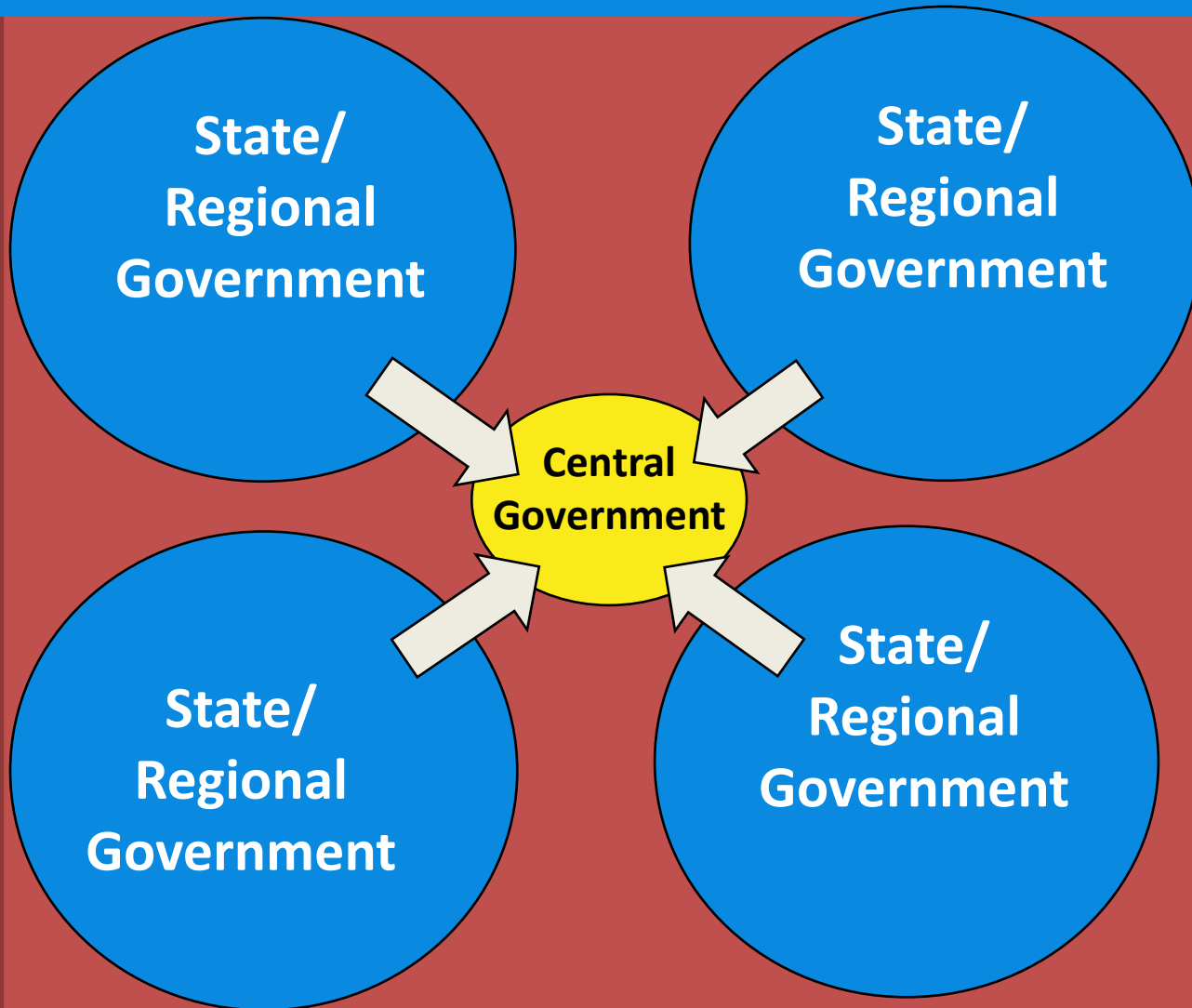
The diagrams of these systems of government show how power is distributed among the central government and state/regional governments.

Unitary System



- One central governing body
- Smaller governments only have the powers granted, or delegated, to them

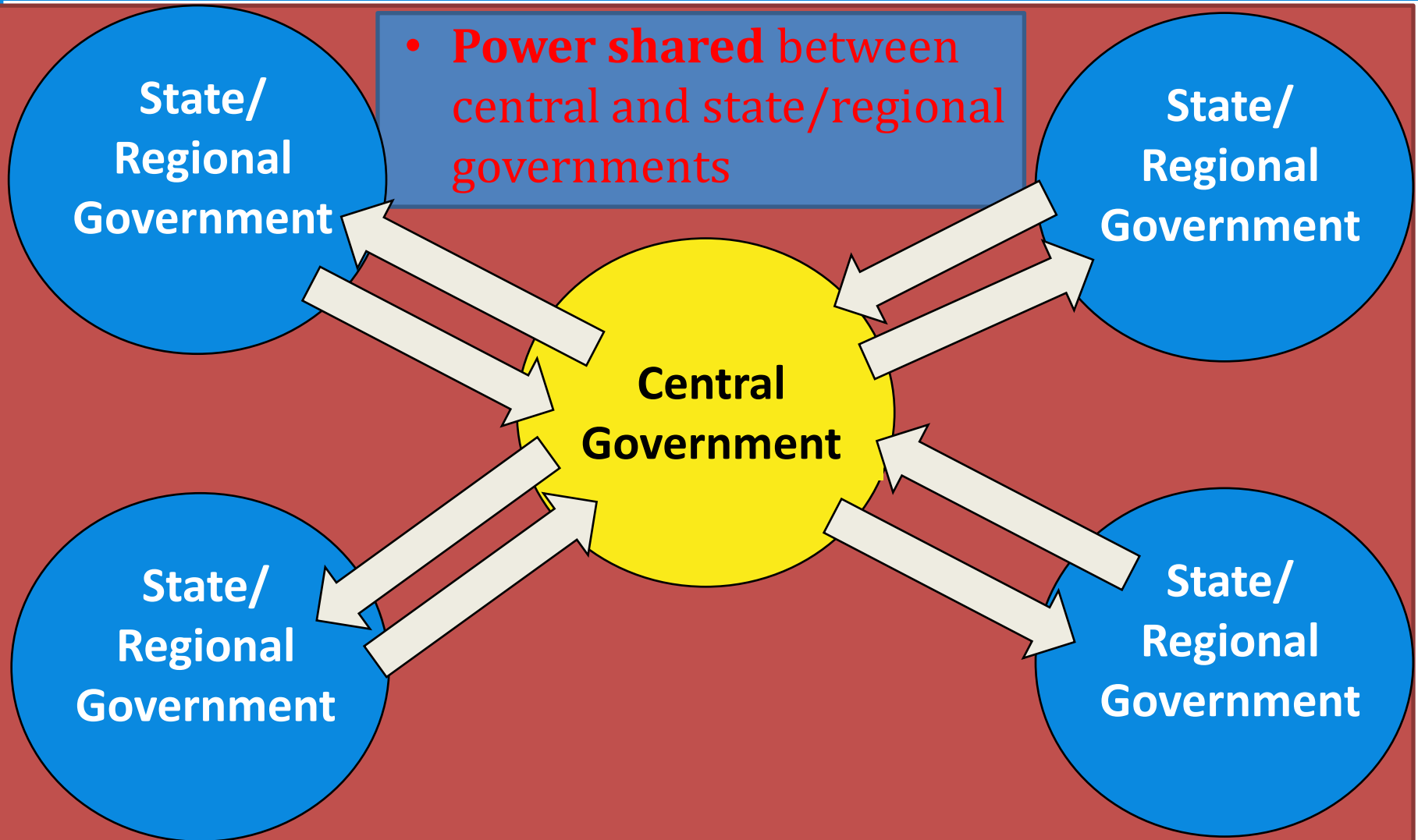
Confederal System



- State/regional governments hold the power
- Central government receives power from state/regional government

Federal System

- **Power shared** between central and state/regional governments



Line them up!

- These three systems of government are all about the distribution of power.
- How would you place these systems on a “power line,” from most centralized power to least centralized power?

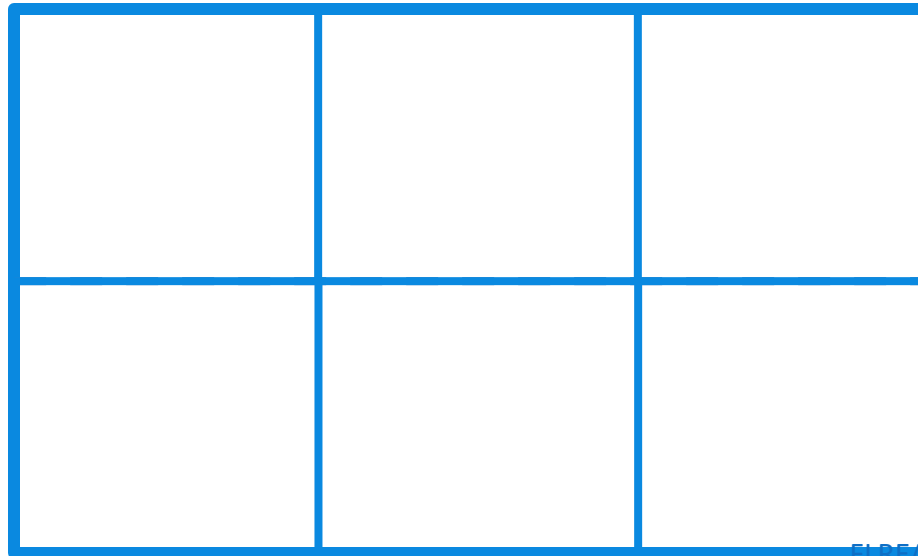
Federal

Confederal

Unitary

First of all...Foldable Notes!

- Follow these steps to make foldable notes for this lesson:
 1. Fold one sheet of paper in half, long ways (hot dog), to create a crease. Unfold paper and lie flat.
 2. Cut one side in 3 equal parts, creating flaps.
 3. When folded in half, it will look like the image below.



Label Your Foldable:

Draw a line across your foldable. On the outside write the names of the systems of government in order from most centralized to least centralized.

Most Centralized		Least Centralized
<hr/>		

On the Inside:

Draw a diagram of each system under the appropriate flap and a written description of each system of government.

Diagram	Diagram	Diagram
Description	Description	Description

Unitary

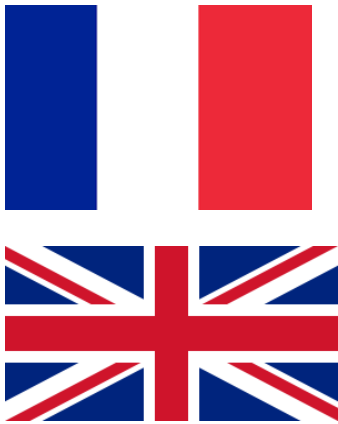
Federal

Confederal

Most Centralized

Modern Examples:

- France
- United Kingdom



Least Centralized

Modern Examples:

- European Union



Modern Examples:

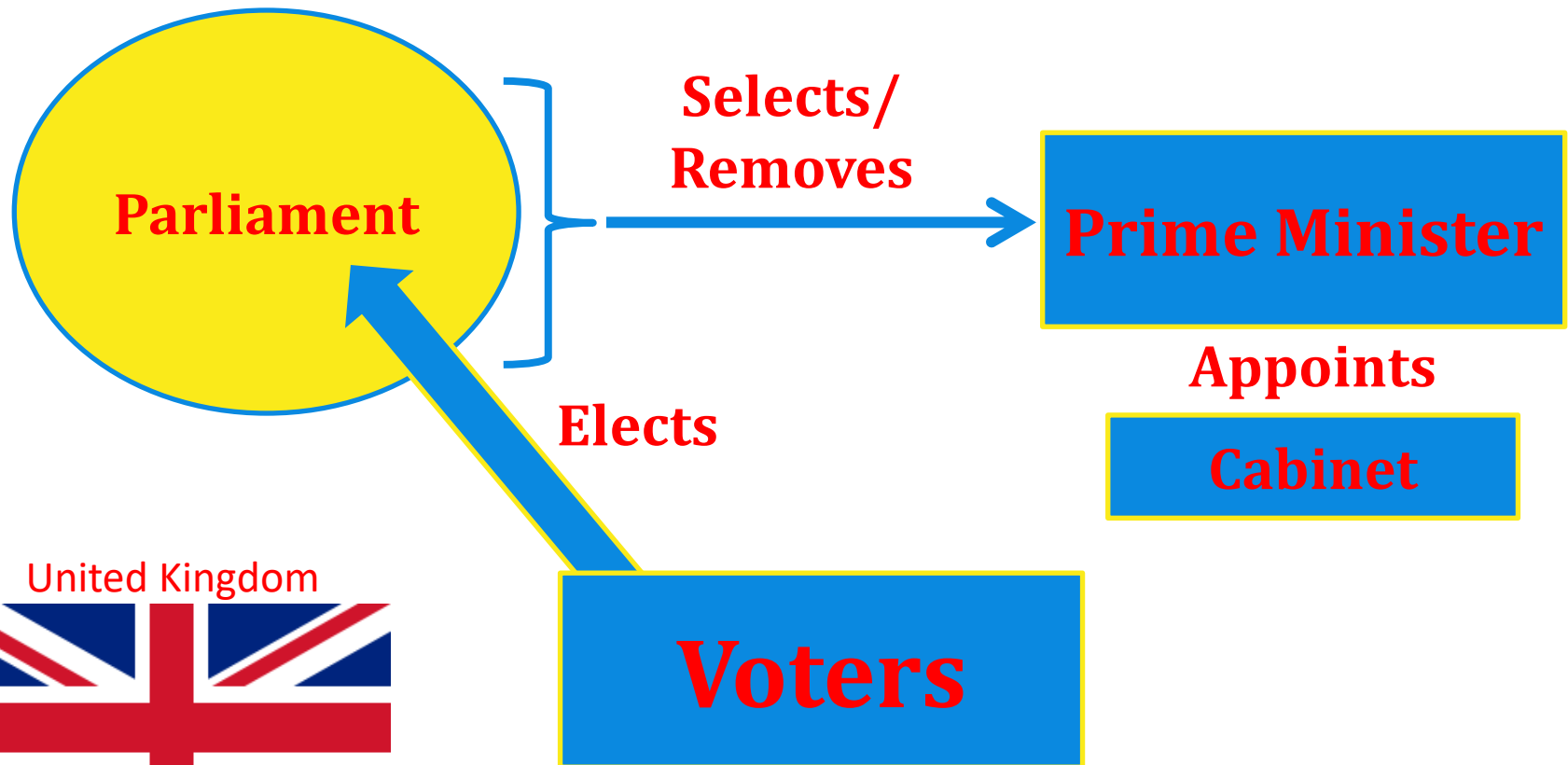
- Canada
- United States



Comparing Parliamentary and Presidential Systems

THE DIFFERENCES IN REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACIES

Parliamentary System



United Kingdom



Presidential System

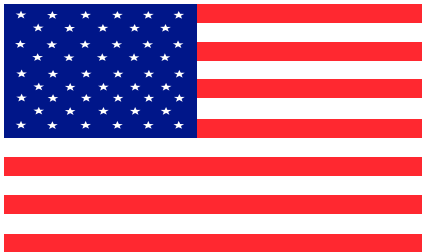
Legislative Branch

Congress

House

Senate

U.S.A.



Elects

Elects

Voters

Executive Branch

President

Appoints
with Senate
approval

Cabinet

Florida's Government

Legislative Branch

Florida Legislature

House

Senate

Executive Branch

Governor

Cabinet

Voters

Elects

Elects

Elects

Florida



Checking for Understanding

The table below shows a comparison of two different systems of government.

COMPARISON OF FEDERAL AND UNITARY SYSTEMS OF GOVERNMENT

Federal System	Unitary System
Canada and the United States	France and the United Kingdom
?	?

Which information completes the table?

Remember that systems of government are about how power is distributed between central governments and smaller state/regional governments, not within the governments .

- ★ A. power shared / power delegated
- ~~B. rule by a democracy / rule by a monarchy~~
- ~~C. role of government expanded / role of government limited~~
- D. power divided among the branches / power held by one branch