Our government is a republic.

In a republic power is held by the people.

The people give power to leaders who they elect to represent them.

The representatives help all the people, not just a few.

If the representatives don’t do their job well, the people will not re-elect them.
## Big Ideas Card

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Big Ideas of Lesson 2, Unit 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Our government is a republic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• In a republic power is held by the people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The people give power to leaders who they elect to represent them. This is called representative government.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• If the representatives don’t do their job well, the people will not re-elect them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Representatives and Senators represent people in the Michigan government.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Word Cards

Word Cards from previous lessons needed for this lesson:

- Government – Word Card #1 from Lesson 1
- The Common Good – Word Card #2 from Lesson 1
- State Government – Word Card #5 from Lesson 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>republic</td>
<td>representative government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a government where people hold the power of government and choose leaders to make laws and decisions for them</td>
<td>people elect representatives to make laws for them and be their leaders</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Example:* Our government is a republic.

*Example:* Representative government is an important part of a republic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>elect</td>
<td>Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to choose someone by voting</td>
<td>a member of the House of Representatives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Example:* People elect their representatives by voting in elections.

*Example:* Your area has a representative who represents you in the Michigan House of Representatives.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10 House of Representatives</th>
<th>11 Senate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>one of the two groups that make up law-making branch of Michigan government</td>
<td>one of the two groups that make up the law-making branch of Michigan government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Example:</strong> The Michigan House of Representatives meets in Lansing to make laws.</td>
<td><strong>Example:</strong> The Michigan Senate meets in Lansing to make laws.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12 Senator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a member of the Senate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Example:</strong> Your area has a senator who represents you in the Michigan Senate.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.
My Representatives in Lansing

My House District is Number __________

My Representative is ______________________________________

He/She is a member of the ___________________________ of 

_________________________________________________________.

My Senator is ______________________________________

He/She is a member of the ___________________________.

The Michigan Capitol where the House of Representatives and Senate meet.

Assessment

Directions: Choose the best answer:

1. Our government is a republic. Who holds the power in a republic?
   A. the President
   B. the people
   C. the richest people in the country
   D. the army and the navy

2. What does representative government mean?
   A. People make all the laws themselves.
   B. People all meet together to make decisions.
   C. People have a king to rule over them.
   D. People elect leaders to make laws and decisions for them.

3. Who represents you in our state government?
   A. the State Police
   B. a community leader like a mayor
   C. a Representative and a Senator
   D. a judge

4. What happens if the representatives chosen by people don’t do a good job?
   A. The people put them in jail.
   B. The people don’t vote for them again.
   C. The people make them pay lots of money.
   D. The people send them to work in another state.

Write a short answer:

5. Why would it be important to know the names of the people who represent you in our state government in Lansing?
Assessment

Directions: Choose the best answer:

1. Our government is a republic. Who holds the power in a republic?
   A. the President  B. the people  C. the richest people in the country  D. the army and the navy

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4. What happens if the representatives chosen by people don’t do a good job?
   A. The people put them in jail.  B. The people don’t vote for them again.  C. The people make them pay lots of money.  D. The people send them to work in another state.

Write a short answer:

5. Why would it be important to know the names of the people who represent you in our state government in Lansing?

Sample Answers:
• You need to know the names so you can write or call them if you have a complaint.
• You need to know the names so you can write or call them if you have an idea for the government.
• You need to know the names so you can follow what they are doing in state government.