

1.3 Democracy vs Authoritarianism

- Factors that indicate the degree of democracy or authoritarianism of states include the extent of state adherence to rule of law, such as:
 - a. The principle that a state should be governed by law and not arbitrary decisions made by individual government officials
 - b. The degree of state influence on or control of the media
 - c. The degree and practice of free and fair elections
 - d. The degree of transparency of governmental decision making
 - e. The nature of citizen participation in government
- The branches of national government in democratic regimes are more likely to be independent of one another than in authoritarian regimes. Independence can serve to prevent any one branch from controlling all governmental power.
 - United Kingdom
 - Mexico
 - Nigeria **Required in your comparison*
- Authoritarian regimes include illiberal democracies or hybrid regimes, one-party states, theocracies, totalitarian governments, and military regimes.
 - Iran
 - Russia
 - China

Generate the relevant similarities and differences between THREE countries and their governments. You must pick one from the democracies, one from the authoritarian regimes, and you are required to use Nigeria. Each part of the diagram must be completed - use the information from (a) above to decide how you will compare/contrast your states.

