

Module 1: Government Foundations

Topic 1 Content: The Purpose of Government

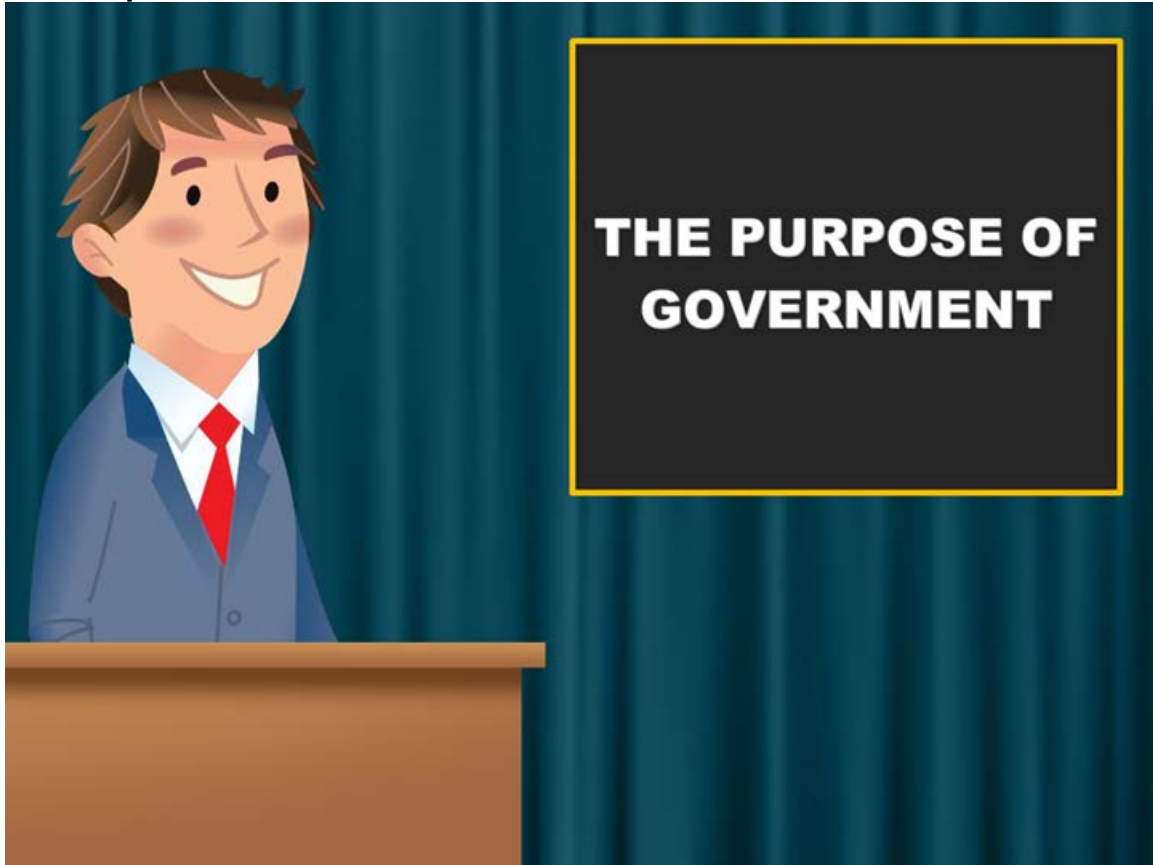
Introduction



Demi Tracy: Welcome to WUSG News. I am Demi Tracy, here with my co-host, Glover Mint. We have all heard of governments, but why do we have them? What purpose do they serve? On today's episode, Glover Mint will answer these questions.

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The Purpose of Government



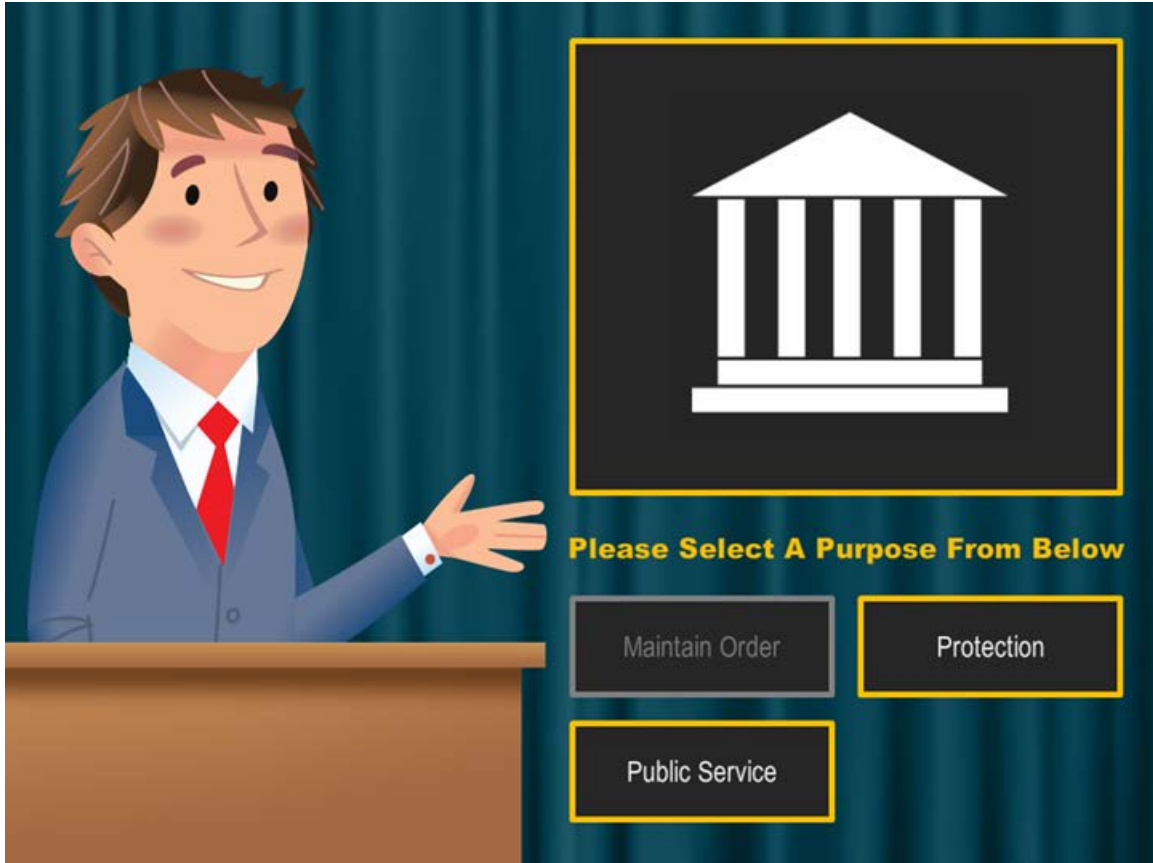
Glover Mint: Thank you, Demi. When humans shifted from hunter-gatherer societies to agricultural societies, these new communities needed a system of organization to maintain order.

To meet this new need, societies had to answer several questions: Who will create the rules? Will everyone have a say or will one person decide? How will people be convinced to follow the rules? Governments were established in order to answer these questions. These are the purposes of government.

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Maintain Order



Please Select A Purpose From Below

Maintain Order

Protection

Public Service

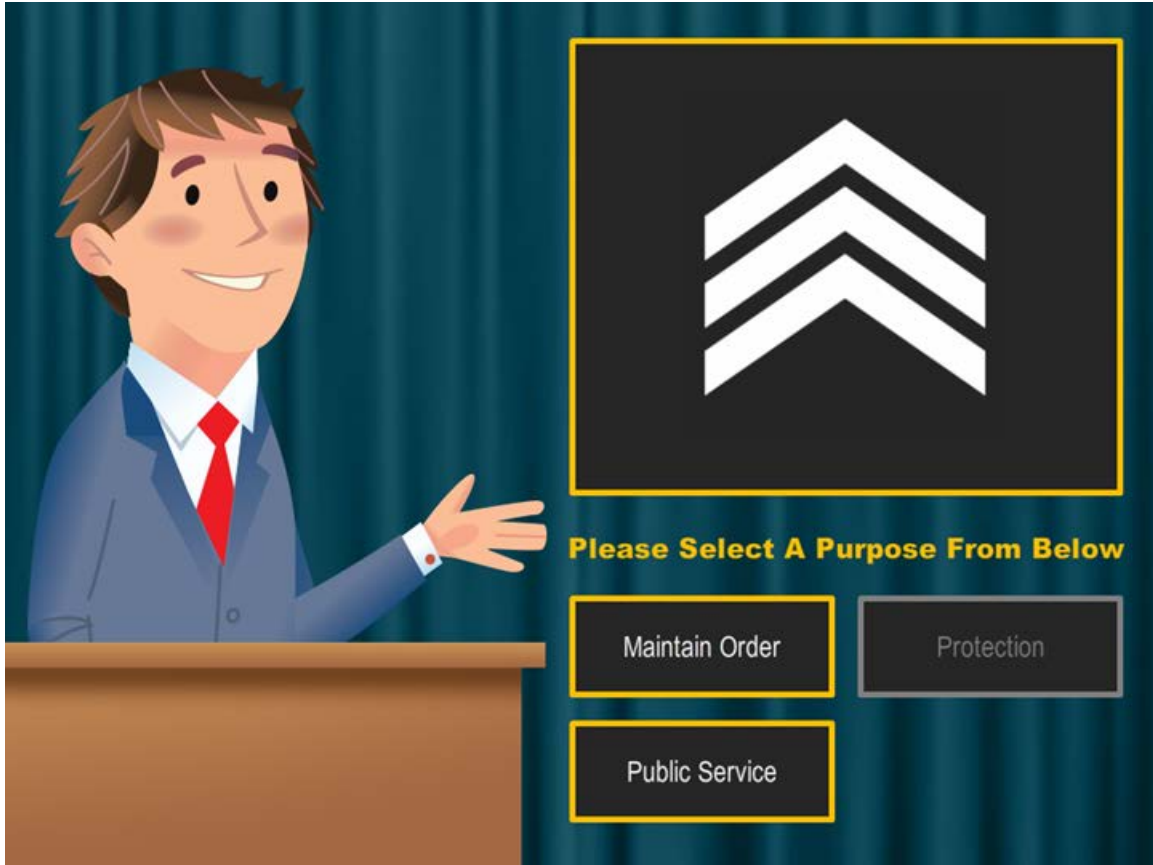
Glover Mint: Governments must have the legislative, executive, and judicial powers necessary to establish policies that maintain order within state boundaries.

- Legislative power allows the government to create laws.
- Executive power allows the government to enforce laws.
- Judicial power allows the government to settle legal disputes, by deciding if laws have been violated and by issuing required consequences.

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Protection



Please Select A Purpose From Below

Maintain Order

Protection

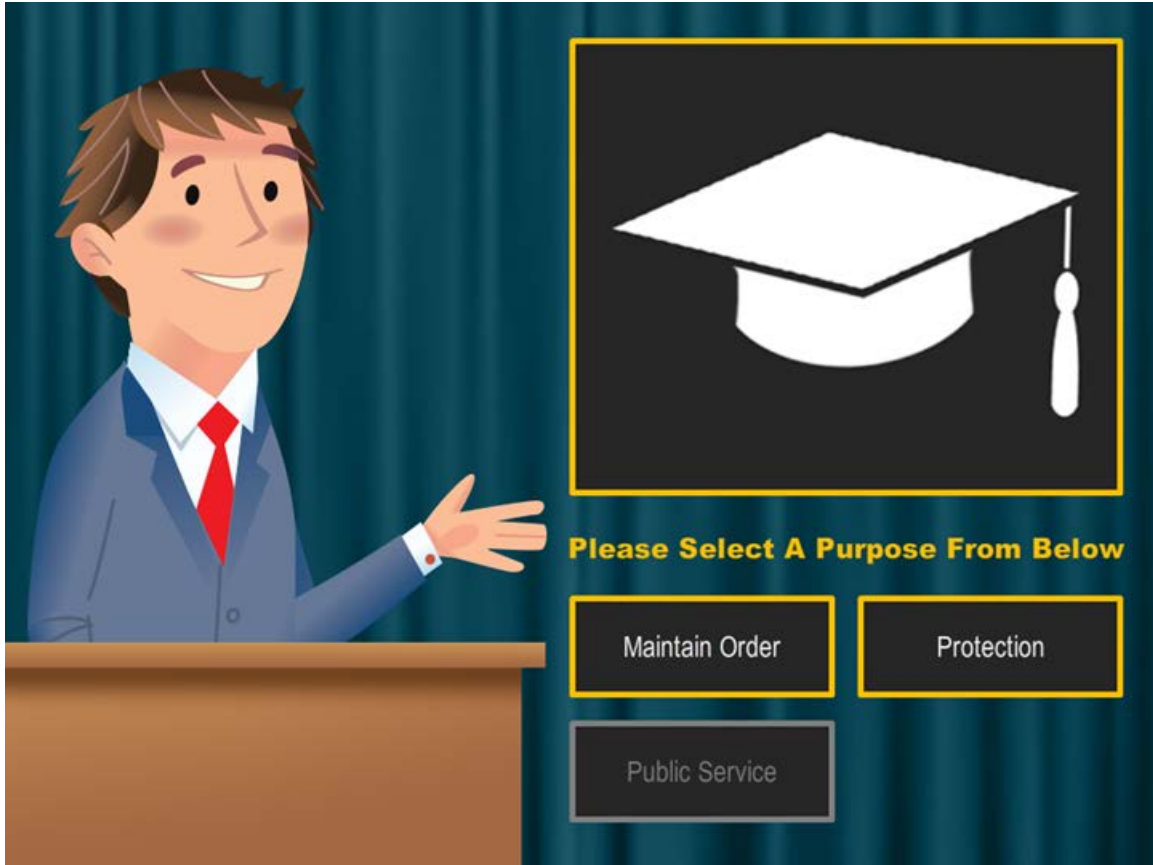
Public Service

Glover Mint: A state must guard its territory against threats. Governments often create and maintain defense forces, such as the police and the military, in order to protect their populations. This not only helps to keep the population of a state safe, it also prevents the government's power from being seized by force. This could be from an outside nation or a faction inside the state.

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Public Service



The illustration shows a man with brown hair, wearing a blue suit, white shirt, and red tie, standing behind a wooden podium and gesturing with his right hand. To his right is a dark blue background with a yellow-bordered box containing a white graduation cap icon. Below the icon, the text "Please Select A Purpose From Below" is written in yellow. Underneath this text are three buttons: "Maintain Order" and "Protection" are highlighted with yellow borders, while "Public Service" is in a grey box with a grey border.

Glover Mint: Most governments provide certain services for the good of the population. These services are generally funded by taxes paid by the people to the government. For example, each year in the U.S., funds received from taxes are allocated to build and maintain public roads, schools, and beaches, all for the public's well-being.

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Ending of Episode



Demi Tracy: Thank you for tuning into today's episode of WUSG News. Until next time, I'm Demi Tracy with Glover Mint, signing off.