**Chapter 2 Lesson 3 content and academic vocabulary**

**representative government** government in which citizens elect officials who govern

**federal system** government which divides power between a central government and state governments

**separation of powers** the division of power between the branches of government

**checks and balances** system in which each branch of government limits the power of another branch

**legislative branch** the part of government that passes laws

**executive branch** the part of government that enforces laws

**judicial branch** the part of government that interprets laws

**seek** to look for or try to achieve

**jury** a group of people sworn to make a decision in a legal case

**issue** a concern or problem that has not yet been solved