Chapter 6

**Knowledge based**

1. What is the difference between an authoritarian regime and a totalitarian regime? What makes North Korea totalitarian and not authoritarian?
2. How important are different forms of repression in maintaining authoritarian rule? Why is repression alone not enough? Are there any authoritarian regimes around the world that do not use repression?
3. Why are monarchies and single-party regimes so resilient? What do these two regimes share in common? Does this help explain why the monarchies were more resilient than the republics during the Arab Spring?
4. Why are more and more authoritarian regimes holding elections? When does holding elections backfire for authoritarian regimes?
5. Why are military coups less frequent today than in the past? Is military rule unpopular?

**Critical thinking**

1. Today personalism in leadership is on the rise. Is that a concern? Why, or why not?
2. Do you agree that it is important to differentiate between authoritarian regimes that hold elections that have some degree of pluralism and those that do not? Does this make Russia under Vladmir Putin less authoritarian than China under Xi Jinping?
3. Can an authoritarian regime be legitimate?
4. Are there cases where people are better off living in authoritarian regimes than democracies?
5. Why have authoritarian regimes been allocated only one chapter in this book?