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# Kentucky Class Notes

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*PS 101 Waterman*

*Test 1*

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**PS 101 Waterman  
Fall 2009  
Test 1**

PS 101

Test 1

Tuesday September 1, 2009

- The purpose of PS 101 is to look at the changes that have taken place in the political system and to observe why the changes have taken place.
- **DEMOCRACY:**
  - A form of government created by the people by whom it rules.
  - America today has too many people to participate in a true democracy. Therefore, they have representatives to make decisions for the people. America's government is actually a republic or representative democracy.
  - Direct democracy did exist in small amounts in colonial New England. Every people in the town was asked to attend the town meetings and make decisions. A problem occurred that not enough people would attend to vote; the people didn't care.
  - Governing in a democracy means finding room to compromise, but agreeing on the large principals that hold the government together. Americans generally respect the authority of the official in office until legitimacy is lowered. If the legitimacy of the government is questioned, new principals may be incorporated to stabilize the government.
- **AUTHORITY:**
  - Authority is the right to act in an official capacity by virtue of holding an office.
- **LEGITIMACY:**
  - The widespread acceptance of the candidate.
- **POWER:**
  - The ability to make others act in a way that they otherwise might not.
- **RESOURCES:**
  - Anything of value to others that can be used to sway another.