

Notes — Week 2

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Period 3

1. What are the three purposes of government?

Protect its citizens, maintain order, and, more recently, preserve equality

“Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men, even when they exercise influence and not authority; still more when you superadd the tendency of the certainty of corruption by authority” — Lord Acton, 1887

2. Preamble to the Constitution:

“We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, ensure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America”

- Posterity — *All* future generations (for generations to come)
- All of the actions are ongoing (i.e. establishing justice, ensuring tranquility, etc.)
- There are no bars or limits, and change is always allowed. Men and women could rule themselves

3. Theme → change:

- Original — How were things originally?
- How did they change? (The mechanism for change, i.e. court decision, law, election, etc.)
- Why did they change?
- B & C together make up the *explain* verb on FRQs

4. What makes government legitimate?