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| Class Notes / PowerPoint Presentation / Textbook Notes  **American Government**  Name:  Hour:  Date:  **Chapter 1: Principles of Government / Section 1: Government & the State**  Section 1: | |
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| **ESSENTIAL QUESTION** | ***WHAT IS GOVERNMENT & WHAT IS IT’S PURPOSE?*** |
| **Objectives** | * Define government and the basic powers every government holds. * Describe the four defining characteristics of a state. * Identify four theories that attempt to explain the origin of the state. * Understand the purpose of government in the United States and other countries. |
| **Key Terms** |  |
| **government** | the institution through which a society makes and enforces public policies |
| **public policies** | all the things a government decides to do |
| **legislative power** | the power to make laws |
| **executive power** | the power to enforce and administer laws |
| **judicial power** | the power to interpret laws |
| **dictatorship** | a government in which all power rests with an individual or small group |
| **democracy** | a government in which supreme authority rests with the people |
| **state** | a body of people, living in a defined territory, with a government that can make and enforce law without the consent of any higher authority |
| **sovereign** | to have supreme and absolute power within a territory |
| **divine right** | the theory that governments gain their authority from the will of God |
| **Introduction** | * **What is government and what is its purpose?** |
| **Basic Types of Government** |  |
| **The 4 Characteristics of a State** |  |
| **Population** |  |
| **Territory** |  |
| **Sovereignty** |  |
| **Government** |  |
| **4 Theories for the Origins of the State** |  |
| **The Force Theory** |  |
| **Evolutionary Theory** |  |
| **Divine Right Theory** |  |
| **Social Contract Theory** |  |
| **The Purpose of Government**  ***CHECKPOINTS!*** | **1). What is the purpose of government? Explain in your own words.**  **2). Is government necessary? Why or why not?**  **3). Provide an historical example for each of the 4 Theories of the Origin of the State that best illustrates each theory.**  **EVOLUTIONARY THEORY**  **FORCE THEORY**  **DIVINE RIGHT THEORY**  **SOCIAL CONTRACT THEORY** |