**Guest: Seth Masket, Director of Center on American Politics, University of Denver**

**1.** Name a country that is an example of an autocracy.

**2.** Masket states that words that end in “–ism” often are an ideology or philosophy. However, what do words that end in “–ocracy” usually refer to?

**3.** Circle any words that could NOT be used to describe the United States:

Constitutional Monarchy

Democratic Republic

Totalitarian Regime

Federation

Representational Democracy

Constitutional Democracy

Confederation

**4.** **For discussion**: in the United States we elect representatives to make our laws and enact policy. Would you consider moving away from that model towards more “direct democracy,” where citizens get to write and vote on all the laws? What would be the pros and cons of such a system?

**ANSWER KEY, timestamps of when answer is given:**

1. North Korea [2:03] (also Cuba, Eritrea, Syria, Turkmenistan, many more!)

2. A system of government [3:12]

3. Constitutional Monarchy (like the UK) Totalitarian Regime, Confederation

4. Depending on your state, you might have mechanisms of direct democracy, such as initiatives, referendums, recall votes, etc. But some states (like Civics 101’s home of NH) have none at all! There are good arguments for and against direct democracy, as outlined in these articles:

<https://www.idea.int/news-media/news/case-against-direct-democracy>

<https://vittana.org/19-pros-and-cons-of-direct-democracy>