

# AP U.S. Government and Politics Summer Assignment

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## CONSTITUTION REVIEW AND GUIDE

### Instructions:

In order to have the necessary background knowledge needed to be successful as an AP Government student, it is important that you have a solid understanding of the U.S. Constitution.

1. Read completely and thoroughly, the Constitution Review and Guide. You can also certainly Google the Constitution and read AND reference it in your answers—you know, using evidence from a primary source document to prove your position.
2. The questions on the Study Guide are organized by the sections of the Constitution Review and Guide.
3. Complete the Constitution Review and Guide Study Guide:
  - a. **Type** your answers on the Study guide along with the questions.
  - b. Answer the questions thoroughly—I don't mean paragraphs upon paragraphs for each question. You have to learn to answer completely and concisely.
4. DO NOT, in any of your answers use what I refer to as WORD VOMIT: 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> person, stuff, things, ok, etc., really, good, bad, a lot...these words are vague. Always be specific and precise in your writing.
5. Make sure you save a copy of the completed Study Guide on your computer to study and print a copy to turn in. This will be

**due on MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2016 NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED, NO EXCUSES**

***THE BIRTH OF THE CONSTITUTION  
The Articles of Confederation***

1. Define:
  - Confederation:
  - Constitution:
  - Commerce:
2. What was the first form of our national government?
3. For a law to pass, how many states had to agree?
4. What were the powers of Congress under the Articles of Confederation?
5. What could Congress NOT do under the Articles?
6. Why was there no executive under the Articles?

***The Constitutional Convention***

1. Define:
  - Convention:
  - Compromise:
  - Delegate:
2. Where did the Constitutional Convention meet in May, 1787?
3. Who served as president of the convention?
4. What was the most serious task that the convention faced?
5. Name two famous politicians who were absent from the convention.

***Compromise***

1. Define:
  - Bicameral:
  - Unicameral:
2. What question was resolved with the Great Compromise?
3. What plan was supported by the large states? Why?
4. What plan was supported by the small states? Why?
5. Fill in the information:
  - A. Virginia Plan:
    1. How many houses?
    2. Number of congressmen determined by:
  - B. New Jersey Plan:
    1. How many houses?
    2. Number of congressmen determined by:
6. What was the Great Compromise, and how did it establish the legislative body?
7. Representatives in the House of Representatives are chosen by:
8. Senators in the Senate are chosen by:

***Separation of Powers***

1. Define

Separation of Powers:

Checks and Balances:

Legislative:

Executive:

Judicial:

2. Name three ways in which the powers of the United States are divided.
3. Why are the powers separated?
4. What is the job of the legislative branch?
5. What is the job of the executive branch?
6. What is the job of the judicial branch?

### ***Organization of the Constitution***

1. Define:
  - Ratify:
  - Amend:
  - Article:
2. What do you think the sun represents in Franklin's quotation?
3. What is the purpose of the Preamble?
4. How many Articles are in the Constitution?
5. What is Article I about?
  - Article II?
  - Article III?
6. Why have certain phrases or sections been italicized?

### ***The Preamble***

1. By whose power was the Constitution written?
2. Fill in the blanks:

GOALS OF THE CONSTITUTION:

#### **(Actual words of the Constitution)**

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.
- f.

#### **(Your own words)**

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.
- f.

3. Rewrite the Preamble in your own words.

### ***THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH*** ***Introduction***

1. Define:
  - Majority:

Minority:

Privilege:

Expel:

2. What is the major duty of the legislative branch?
3. What two houses make up the Congress?
4. When do its meetings begin?
5. What is the name of the record of the meetings of Congress?
6. List two privileges of members of the United States Congress.

### ***The House of Representatives***

1. Define:
  - Census:
  - Impeach:
2. How many representatives are there in the House of Representatives?
3. How many representatives does your state send to Washington, D.C.?
4. What are the three qualifications to be a representative?
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)
5. What is the term of office of a representative?
6. What is the title of the presiding officer of the House?
7. The House begins the impeachment process by doing what?

### ***The Senate***

1. How many senators does each state send to Washington?
2. What is the total number of senators today?
3. What is the term of office of a senator?
4. What are the three requirements to be a senator?
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)
7. What are the titles of the two presiding officers of the Senate?

### ***Rules, Rights, and Privileges of Congress***

1. Define:
  - Quorum:
  - Expel:
  - Adjourn:
2. How many representatives from the House of Representatives would need to be present in order for there to be a quorum?
3. What fraction of the Senate must agree to expel a member?  
What number is that?
4. Where can you find the notes of the meetings of Congress?
5. What house is the only house to introduce bills to raise money?

### ***How Bills Become Laws***

1. Define:
  - Veto:
  - Override:
2. Where can a bill be introduced?
3. Money bills must be introduced in which house?
4. If a bill is approved by the House of Representatives, where must it go next?
5. When both houses approve a bill, then where does it go?
6. If the President vetoes a bill, what process must happen for the bill to become a law?
7. What fraction of representatives and senators must agree in order to override the President's veto?
8. If the veto is not overridden, what happens to the bill?

### ***Powers of Congress***

1. List and describe four powers given to the Congress by Article I, Section 8:
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)
  - d)
2. What is the "elastic clause"?
3. Define enumerated powers and give an example.
4. Define implied powers and give an example.
5. Define inherent powers and give an example.

### ***Limits on Congress and the States***

1. What does "habeas corpus" mean, literally?
2. Why does the Constitution prevent Congress from taking away our right of habeas corpus?
3. What is a bill of attainder?
4. What is an ex post facto law? Give an example.
5. What is one other limit placed on the Congress?
6. What are two additional limitations placed on the states by the Constitution?
  - a)
  - b)
7. Explain these three powers:
  - Delegated:
  - Concurrent:
  - Reserved:

## ***THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH***

### ***Introduction***

1. Define:
  - Execute:
  - Executive:
2. If the legislative branch makes the laws, then the executive branch does what with the

laws?

3. What is the title of the chief executive, or head, of the executive branch of the United States?  
What is the name of the person who is currently in that office?
4. What is the title of the second-in-command?  
What is that person's name today?
5. What is the job of the Electoral College?
6. How many electoral votes does your state have today?
7. What was the original purpose of the Electoral College?
8. Who chooses the President in the event of a tie?

### ***Qualifications for President***

1. What three requirements must be met in order to be President of the United States?
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)
2. In the proper order of succession, who will take over in the event the President dies? List four people.
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)
  - d)
3. When is a President elected?  
When is a President inaugurated?  
Why do you suppose there is a gap of time?
4. Who usually administers the oath of office to the President?

### ***Powers and Duties of the President***

1. What are the five categories that the powers of the President can be put into?
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)
  - d)
  - e)
2. What is the President's responsibility to the United States Military?
  - a) What is his title?
  - b) What can he do?
3. What is the President's responsibility to the business aspect of the United States government?
  - a) What is his title?
  - b) What can he do?
4. What is the President's responsibility to the aspect of foreign relations?
  - a) What is his title?
  - b) What can he do?
5. What is the President's responsibility to approve, disapprove, or suggest laws?
  - a) What is his title?
  - b) What can he do?
6. What is the President's responsibility to his political party?
  - a) What is his title?

b) What can he do?

### ***Impeachment***

1. Define:
  - Impeach:
  - Misdemeanor:
  - Bribery:
  - Treason:
2. Which house of Congress begins the impeachment process?
3. Which house of Congress acts as the jury and tries the case?
4. Who acts as the judge at the impeachment trial of a President?
5. In order for an official to be convicted, what fraction of the Senate needs to agree?
6. Who were the only two Presidents to have gone through the entire impeachment process?  
When?
7. At what point during the impeachment process did President Nixon resign? When?
8. How many Presidents have been removed from office by being found guilty after the impeachment process?

### ***Organization of the Executive Branch and the Cabinet***

1. What are the four divisions of the executive branch?
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)
  - d)
2. How many cabinet departments are there?
3. Which President created the Cabinet? When?
4. Give an example of an independent agency.
5. Give an example of a government corporation.
6. Give an example of a regulatory commission.

### ***THE JUDICIAL BRANCH AND ARTICLES IV-VII***

#### ***Organization of the Judicial Branch***

1. Define:
  - Judicial:
  - Appeal:
2. What is the job of the judicial branch?
  - ... legislative branch?
  - ... executive branch?
3. What is the name of the highest, most important court in the United States?
4. What are the titles of the men and women who serve on the high court?
5. How many serve on the high court? How long do they serve?
6. Who appoints the justices, and who must approve of them?
7. There are 91 \_\_\_\_\_ courts and 12 \_\_\_\_\_ courts that report to the Supreme Court.

8. Name two other courts that are part of the Federal judicial system.

### ***Cases for the Supreme Court***

1. Define:

Jurisdiction:

2. List nine types of cases the Supreme and Federal Courts have jurisdiction over:

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)
- f)
- g)
- h)
- i)

3. What is original jurisdiction?

4. What is appellate jurisdiction?

5. What is a writ of certiorari?

### ***Judicial Review and Treason***

1. Define:

Unconstitutional:

Treason:

2. The process of checking the laws of our land is called:

3. What does it mean when the Supreme Court declares a law "unconstitutional"?

4. Give an example of an act of treason.

5. What must happen in court for a person to be convicted of treason?

### ***Article IV: The States***

1. Define:

Republican:

2. What issue does Article IV address?

3. What must the state of Oregon do about the laws of Idaho?

4. Who is given the power to admit new states?

5. Could Rhode Island, Vermont, and New Hampshire join together to form a new state?

How?

6. What is a republican form of government?

7. Under the Articles of Confederation, how could the relationship between the states be described?

8. Under the Constitution, how could the new relationship between the states be described?

### ***Amending the Constitution***

1. Define:

Amend:

Ratify:

2. What issue does Article V address?

3. What two ways can an amendment be proposed?

- a)
- b)

4. What two ways can an amendment be ratified?

- a)
  - b)
5. What fraction must propose an amendment, and what fraction must ratify an amendment?

### ***Articles VI and VII***

1. Why did the framers include Article VI in the Constitution?
2. Is it possible for the city of Chicago to make a treaty with the country of Germany? Why or why not?

### ***THE AMENDMENTS***

#### ***The Bill of Rights, 1791: Amendments I-III***

1. Define:
  - Assembly:
  - Petition:
  - Quartering:
2. Why did Americans insist on adding the Bill of Rights to the Constitution?
3. What five freedoms does the First Amendment guarantee?
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)
  - d)
  - e)
4. What does the Second Amendment guarantee?
5. What does the Third Amendment prohibit?
6. The First Amendment guarantees us freedom of speech. Do you think it's okay to scream "Fire!" in a crowded theater when there is no fire? Why or why not?

#### ***The Bill of Rights, 1791: Amendments IV-VI***

1. What is a search warrant?
2. What is an arrest warrant?
3. What is a grand jury?
4. What is an indictment?
5. What is double jeopardy?
6. What amendment guarantees the right of due process of the law?
7. Which amendment protects people from unreasonable searches and seizures?
8. Which amendment protects people from being tried twice for the same crime?
9. Which amendment guarantees the right to a lawyer, even if a person can't afford one?
10. Which amendment prevents the courts from forcing a person to witness against himself?

#### ***The Bill of Rights, 1791: Amendments VI-X***

1. What is a jury?
2. What does the Seventh Amendment guarantee?
3. What is excessive bail?
4. What would you consider cruel and unusual punishment?
5. What does the Eighth Amendment protect us from?

6. What does the Ninth Amendment say about rights not listed in the Constitution?
7. The power to set up school districts is not stated in the Constitution. Who has the authority to create schools? What amendment gives them that power?

***1798-1870: Amendments XI-XV***

1. How does the Twelfth Amendment change how the President and Vice President are elected?
2. What war was the Thirteenth Amendment a result of?
3. What does the Thirteenth Amendment abolish?
4. Under the Fourteenth Amendment, who is guaranteed the rights listed in the Constitution?
5. Who was given suffrage with the Fifteenth Amendment?

***1900-1950: Amendments XVI-XXI***

1. The Sixteenth Amendment gave Congress the power to
2. Who elected the senators before the Seventeenth Amendment?  
Who elects our senators now?
3. Which group of Americans was given suffrage with the Nineteenth Amendment?
4. What does the Twentieth Amendment change? Why?

***1950-Present: Amendments XXII-XXVII***

1. According to the Twenty-second Amendment, for how many terms can one be elected as President?
2. Who was given the right to vote by the Twenty-third Amendment?
3. What group was given suffrage with the Twenty-sixth Amendment?
4. What practice was outlawed by the Twenty-fourth Amendment?
5. If a President dies and the Vice President takes over, what must happen to get a new Vice President?
6. What amendment authorizes the above situation?