

# Advanced Placement Government & Politics Summer Work

## Assignment One:

Complete the 65 question Constitution assignment. Answers will generally be a sentence or two but some answers may require more than that. **(So they do not have to be complex, but be familiar with them)** The questions are sequential. The goal of this assignment is to familiarize you with the United States Constitution. The Constitution is the blueprint for the government of the United States, and therefore, will be the basis for what we study in Advanced Placement Government & Politics. The questions will be broken up into three sections to help you grasp and develop an understanding of how the Constitution is put together. You must obtain a copy of the Constitution, read it, and answer the following questions. **The items in bold?** It is critical you know them. This assignment will be due on the first day of school.

### Part I

Read the main text of the Constitution (Preamble through Article VIII) and answer the following questions:

1. The first paragraph of the Constitution is known as the Preamble. The framers of the Constitution used this section to outline their attention -- their objectives -- in creating this new government. List the six reasons given by the framers for establishing the Constitution.
2. **Article I of the Constitution is the longest and most detailed section of the document. What branch of government is dealt with in Article I**
3. Article I, Section I creates Congress. What two houses does Congress consist of.
4. **What is the length of the term for members of the House of Representatives? What are the qualifications to be a member of the House?**
5. What responsibility does the House have in respect to impeachment?
6. **What is the length of term for members of the Senate? What are the qualifications to be a member of the Senate?**
7. Who serves as president of the Senate? Under what conditions does he or she have a vote in the Senate?
8. **What responsibility does the Senate have in respect to impeachment? Who presides over the impeachment trial when the President of the United States has been impeached? How many members must concur for a person to be convicted?**
9. What bodies determine the rules and laws concerning the election of Senators and Representatives?
10. **Outline the process by which a bill becomes a law as indicated in Section 7.**
11. **Section 8 of Article I outlines the powers granted to Congress. List 10 of the powers held by Congress.**
12. **The last paragraph of Section 8 is referred to as the "necessary and proper" clause (or sometimes the "elastic clause"). What far-reaching powers are given to Congress in this clause?**
13. Section 9 outlines the restrictions placed upon Congress. List 5 things that the Congress is not allowed to do.
14. What is the length of term for the President and Vice-President?
15. **Read the second, third, and fourth paragraphs of Section I of Article II. According to this information, how is the President and Vice-President of the United States selected?**
16. **What are the qualifications to serve as President of the United States?**
17. What role does the President have in respect to the army and navy?
18. What powers can the President exercise "with the Advice and Consent of the Senate?"
19. What occurs if the President, Vice-President and other civil officers of the United States are impeached & convicted?
20. What court is established in Article III? What power does Congress have in regard to establishing courts?
21. **What length of term do federal judges serve?**
22. **Under Article III Section 2, the Supreme Court is given *original jurisdiction* in some cases and *appellate jurisdiction* in others. To have original jurisdiction means the case originates in the Supreme Court. To have appellate jurisdiction means that the Supreme Court accepts the case on appeal from a lower court. In what cases does the Supreme Court have original jurisdiction?**
23. What is treason? Under what circumstances may a person be convicted of treason?
24. Under Article IV Section 1, what must each state accord to laws and records of all other states? Based on this idea, if a person gets married in Virginia in accordance with Virginia law, can any other state claim that the person is not married?
25. What happens if a person is accused of a crime in one state but flees to another?
26. Under Section 4, what three things must the United States guarantee to every state?
27. Based on the information in Article V, outline the process by which the amendments can be added to the Constitution.
28. **The second paragraph of Article VI is sometimes referred to as the "supremacy clause." What does this clause state regarding the Constitution?**
29. What must all Senators, Representatives, members of state legislatures, executive branch officials, and judges be bound by? What may not be required as a qualification for office?
30. **How many of the original 13 states had to approve the Constitution in order for it to go into effect?**

### Part II

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Read the main text of the Constitution (Amendments I-X) and answer the following questions:

31. **The First Amendment is divided into two parts. What fundamental freedoms are protected by this amendment?**
32. **What right is given in the Second Amendment? What right is given to the People?**
33. The Third Amendment is outdated today, but was added because of the experiences of the American colonists with the British Army. What does this amendment prohibit?
34. **The Fourth Amendment is one of the most important aspects of the Constitution, and many court cases have centered on this amendment. What do people have a right to be secure in? If a search is to be conducted, what must the police first obtain in most cases?**
35. **What restrictions are placed on the issuance of warrants?**
36. According to the Fifth Amendment, what must first occur before someone can be held for a capital or infamous crime?
37. The term "double jeopardy" derives from this amendment. What does the amendment state regarding jeopardy?
38. **What can a person NOT be deprived of without due process of law?**
39. What other rights does a person accused of crime have under the Fifth Amendment?
40. The Sixth Amendment further outlines the rights of those accused of a crime. List 4 rights provided for in the amendment.
41. What right is guaranteed under the Seventh Amendment?
42. What are three things prohibited by the Eighth Amendment?
43. The Ninth Amendment is difficult to understand due to antiquated language. It simply means that even though rights have been listed ("enumerated") in the Bill of Rights, this does not mean that these are the only rights we have. In other words, other rights may exist in addition to those stated in the Bill of Rights. Why was it important for the Congress to add this amendment?
44. **The Tenth Amendment is often referred to as the "reserve clause." What does the amendment reserve? And to whom does it reserve?**

### Part III

Read the main text of the Constitution (Amendments XI-XXVII) and answer the following questions:

45. What limitation is placed on citizens in the 11th Amendment?
46. The 12th Amendment alters the method of selecting President & Vice-President. Under the original Constitution, the President & Vice-President could be from different parties, with the Vice-President actually being chosen from among the presidential candidates. How does this amendment provide for selection of the President & Vice-President?
47. The next three amendments are referred to as the "Civil War Amendments." They were written at the conclusion of the Civil War, and all Southern states were required to ratify them as a condition of re-entering the Union. What practice is prohibited under the 13th Amendment?
48. **Outside of the Bill of Rights, the 14th Amendment may well be the most important addition to the Constitution. Courts have used it to extend civil rights and civil liberties more than any other portion of the Constitution. What wording in Section I is similar to that used in the 5th Amendment (in the Bill of Rights)? How is the wording different?**
49. **According to Section 1, what responsibility does a state have toward maintaining equality?**
50. What right is extended to citizens under the 15th Amendment? To whom is this right extended? Does this give women the right to vote?
51. Under the original Constitution, Senators were appointed by the state legislatures in each state. How does the 17th Amendment change this process?
52. What is prohibited in the 18th Amendment?
53. What right is extended by the 19th Amendment, and to whom?
54. The 20th Amendment changes the date for the President and Vice-President to take office. What was the previous date provided for under this amendment? Why would should a change be made?
55. What effect did the 21st Amendment have?
56. Prior to the 22nd Amendment, there were no restrictions on the number of terms that could be served by a President. Only one President however, was elected more than twice. George Washington set the precedent of serving only two terms, and all other presidents followed this unwritten rule until Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Roosevelt was elected president four times (1932, 1936, 1940, 1944). He dies in office in 1945. The 22nd Amendment was created to prevent anyone else from being elected for life. Under this amendment, how many elected terms can a President serve? How many years in total can a President serve?
57. Believe it or not, people who lived in our nation's capitol did not have the right to vote for President until 1961. The reason for this is really quite simple. The Constitution only allowed for citizens living in the *states* to vote in federal elections. Our nation's capitol is not a state -- it is a federal district. This is referred to as the *District of Columbia*. the framers envisioned that Washington, D.C. would simply be the seat of government and that no one would actually reside there. Of course, people did begin to live there, but unfortunately, they were prohibited from voting under the Constitution. How does the 23rd Amendment change this situation?
58. In what ways does the 24th Amendment extend the right to vote?

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59. The 25th Amendment is a direct response to the assassination of John F. Kennedy. President Kennedy had been mortally wounded by a bullet to the brain. Of course, he died within a short time of the shooting, but many people questioned what would happen if a President were wounded to the point of being incapacitated. The Constitution did not provide for such a contingency. Under this amendment, who becomes President upon removal, death, or resignation of the President?
60. Another problem not considered under the original Constitution is the issue of what happens if the Vice-President dies or resigns or is impeached. Under this amendment, what happens if the vice presidency is vacated?
61. What does this amendment allow a President to do if he or she is unable to discharge his or her duties.
62. How can the Vice-President become "Acting President" under this amendment?
63. How does the President resume his duties after he has been declared temporarily unable to discharge his duties?
64. The 26th Amendment further extended voting rights --- in what ways?
65. The 27th Amendment involves compensation (or pay) for Senators and Representatives. What does this amendment provide for?

### Assignment Two:

#### Supreme Court Cases Assignment:

For each case provide (and use the following layout to provide your answers):

1. The facts behind the case.
2. What are the arguments advanced by each side (plaintiff & defendant)
3. What was the majority opinion -- and who wrote it.
4. What was the minority opinion -- and who wrote it.
5. Was there a concurring opinion. Concurring opinions are those votes that agree with the majority but for different reasons than the reasons offered in the majority opinion.
6. How did the court decision impact American history (if it did at all)
7. PLEASE DO NOT CUT & PASTE THE COURT CASE MATERIAL

The cases:

1. Marbury v. Madison - 1803
2. McCulloch v. Maryland - 1819
3. Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School - 1969
4. Gideon v. Wainwright - 1963
5. Wisconsin v. Yoder - 1972
6. Baker v. Carr - 1961
7. Shaw v. Reno - 1993
8. Schenck v. United States - 1919
9. United States v. Lopez. - 1995
10. McDonald v. Chicago - 2010
11. Brown v. Board of Education - 1954
12. Engle v. Vitale - 1962
13. New York Times v. United States - 1971
14. Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission - 2010

Best places to research: [www.oyez.com](http://www.oyez.com), [www.law.cornell.edu](http://www.law.cornell.edu), [www.supremecourtus.gov](http://www.supremecourtus.gov)

**(Attention all students: you will be turning in a hard copy for your notebook, we keep it the whole year.)**

**COURT CASES AND CONSTITUTION ASSIGNMENT TURNED IN ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (MONDAY) WILL BE GIVEN EXTRA CREDIT. However the work can be turned two weeks after school starts for the full credit. It will be a major first grade (Don't be late)**

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CONSTITUTION EXAM SECOND WEEK OF SCHOOL