

Name: _____

AP US Government Summer Assignment

77 points

Directions: This assignment is due the Friday after we return to class. It is worth 10% of your grade.

Find-- Look for a copy of the Constitution online.

Read-- We will be using the Constitution all year long. Read each word thoroughly and look up what you don't understand.

Write-- Complete the worksheet below. You'll use it all year as your personal guide to the Constitution. This review of the Constitution doesn't need to be in complete sentences, but does need to be thorough.

1. The Original Constitution

Read each article of the Constitution. Summarize the general purpose or subject of each article and then write down any unfamiliar words or bigger questions you may have. Look up the unfamiliar terms and write down their meanings.

Article	Big Idea- Main Topic	Unfamiliar Terms and Questions
I		
II		

III		
IV		
V		

VI		
VII		

Follow up #1-- Which article is the longest and most detailed? Why do you think that is?

2. The Three Branches-- Powers

Enumerated powers are those listed specifically in the Constitution. Look through the first three articles for examples. Pay attention to checks and balances-- how each branch of government controls the others. Remember to answer in your own words and look up what you don't understand.

Legislative Branch

Checks and Balances: What are TWO enumerated powers Congress has over the President?

1.

2.

Checks and Balances: What is ONE enumerated power Congress has over the courts?

1.

What other enumerated powers does Congress have?

Executive Branch

Checks and Balances: What is ONE enumerated power the executive branch has over the courts?

1.

Checks and Balances: What is ONE enumerated power the executive branch has over Congress?

1.

What other enumerated powers does the President have?

Judicial Branch

Checks and Balances: What's ONE enumerated power the courts have over the President?

1.

Checks and Balances: What's ONE enumerated power the courts have over Congress?

1.

What other enumerated powers do the courts have?

Follow up #2-- Identify and explain two powers that the Constitution specifically DENIES to Congress.

3. Requirements for National Office

What requirements can you find to hold political office in the United States? Fill in the table below with your findings from the Constitution and the amendments.

	House of Representatives	Senate	President	Supreme Court Justices
Age Requirement				
Citizenship Requirement				
Length of Term				
Gaining office-- How does it happen? Who is involved?				

Follow up #3-- Why would the requirements vary for different offices? Come up with some theories on why the founders would make different rules for different branches.

4. The Amendment Process

In your own words, describe TWO ways to propose an amendment and TWO ways to ratify an amendment.

Proposal	Ratification

Follow up #4-- Which process of proposal and ratification has been used most often?

Which have never been used? Why do you think it's never been used?

5. The Amendments to the Constitution

Identify the main point(s) of each amendment.

Amendment	What did this amendment accomplish?
1	
2	
3	
4	
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Follow up #5-- If you could add an amendment to the Constitution, what would it be? Why?

Which amendment do you think is most important? Why?

Summer Assignment Extra Credit-- 20 points

****COVID 19 DISCLAIMER**** I'm not sure what the summer holds, so if it is not safe to go to these places, DO NOT GO TO THESE PLACES. Watch the local news about social distancing rules and orders to stay home. It's important to be aware of how local events and people play into the larger political and historical narrative.

Visit downtown Knoxville and do visit these things...

- the Suffrage Statue on Market Square.
- the Harry and Vebb Burn memorial at the corner of Clinch and Market Square.
- the Four Freedoms monument at the Veterans' Memorial in World's Fair Park.
- the Pat Summit memorial on UT's campus.
- the UT Conference Center (This is the former home of Rich's Department Store, where there were sit-in protests to desegregate the lunch counters in the 1960s. Depending on the day you go, you may be able to go inside.)
- the East Tennessee History Museum on Gay Street (FREE for people 16 years old and under! Free for everyone on Sunday. For this picture, your ticket for entrance needs to be in it.)

When you go to these sites, read the information available and have someone take a picture of you there or you can take a selfie (you are required to be in the picture). You can then email the pictures or share them on Google with paegan.turner@knoxschools.org. Knoxville is full of rich history. Explore your town and, most importantly, have fun!

If you have any questions, feel free to email me. It may take a few days for a response, so please be patient.

I'm looking forward to meeting you!