

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class period: \_\_\_\_\_

## **2023-AP Government Summer Assignment**

Your assignment is to read the United States Constitution and create for yourself a basic understanding of the document that contains the guiding principles of American self-rule. Print this out and please be sure to fill out everything in your **best handwriting (if I cannot read it, I cannot grade it)**, as you will hand it in for a grade of **100 points**. This assignment must be done in **pen, blue or black**.

Use this website for the assignment:

<http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution.html>

Begin by clicking on “read transcript”

### **THE PREAMBLE**

This paragraph, which begins with “We the People...”, outlines the basic tasks we ask our federal government to perform. List each one as it’s written in the document; then in the blank next to it, think of something the federal government actually does to carry out this task.

#### **TASK**

#### **ACTION**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

### **ARTICLE I**

...outlines which branch of the federal government? \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 1:** Congress shall consist of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2** ... describes which chamber? \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out each of the following rules & requirements as prescribed:

Length of term in office: \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum age: \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum years as U.S. citizen: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Number of representatives per state shall be based upon: \_\_\_\_\_

Which “sole power” belongs to this chamber as described in Section 2? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Section 3** ... describes which chamber? \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out each of the following rules & requirements as prescribed:

Number of Senators per state: \_\_\_\_

Senators are to be chosen by: \_\_\_\_\_

\*this was later  
amended

Every two years, how many Senators will be up for re-election?: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of term in office: \_\_\_\_\_ Minimum age: \_\_\_\_

Minimum years as U.S. citizen: \_\_\_\_\_

The "President of the Senate" is: \_\_\_\_\_ With what power?: \_\_\_\_\_

Which "sole power" belongs to this chamber as described in Section 3? \_\_\_\_\_

If a president is on trial who presides \_\_\_\_\_

A guilty verdict equals: \_\_\_\_\_

How many members must be present to convict? \_\_\_\_\_

**Sections 4, 5 & 6**... describe how the chambers are to operate with respect to meetings & adjournments, compensation, internal structure, rules, etc.... in general, who is tasked with running the House and Senate? \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Define Quorum:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Can each house punish their members?

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Section 7**... describes the legislative process

In Clause 1, only the House of Representatives may: \_\_\_\_\_

Refer to Clause 2 to fill in the blanks:

A bill must pass \_\_\_\_\_ before being sent to \_\_\_\_\_.

If the bill is not signed into law, it returns to each chamber where a \_\_\_\_ vote is needed before the bill may become a law.

**Section 8**... describes all of the powers given to Congress. Write each power in your own words in the space provided (each separated paragraph or sentence is a clause)

Clause 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Clause 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 5: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 6: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 7: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 8: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 9: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 10: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 11: \_\_\_\_\_

Clauses 12 – 16 call for Congress to: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 17 allows for Congress to appropriate land for: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 18 gives Congress the ability to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 9...** limits the federal government in certain key areas – **look up and define the following terms:**

Writ of habeas corpus: \_\_\_\_\_

Bill of attainder: \_\_\_\_\_

Ex post facto law: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class period: \_\_\_\_\_

Also in this section, Congress cannot place a tax on \_\_\_\_\_,  
nor in regulating commerce favor one state over another.

**Section 10...** places limits on state governments, including the following:

No state may enter into \_\_\_\_\_ with another state or foreign country.

## **Article II**

....outlines which branch of the federal government?

\_\_\_\_\_

Fill out each of the following rules & requirements as prescribed in Section 1:

Length of term in office: \_\_\_\_\_ Minimum age: \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship requirement: \_\_\_\_\_ Residency requirement: \_\_\_\_\_

Paragraphs 2, 3 & 4 of Section 1 (although later amended) describes \_\_\_\_\_

The last paragraph of Section 1 describes \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2...** describes the President's powers

With regards to the military, the President is the \_\_\_\_\_

The President has the power to grant \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> clause: With advice & consent of the Senate, the President may make \_\_\_\_\_ and

nominate/appoint \_\_\_\_\_

When the Senate is in recess, the President may fill vacancies. How long may these appointments last?

**Section 3...** outlines three things the President may do with respect to Congress, they are:

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**Section 4...** for which offenses may the President, Vice President and other executive officers be impeached and removed from office?

**Article III:**

....outlines which branch of the federal government?

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**Section 1...** establishes one \_\_\_\_\_

Who is given the power to establish the “inferior” courts of the federal system? \_\_\_\_\_

Based on the idea that judges shall hold their office during “good behavior,” how long is the term of a federal judge & Supreme Court justice? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Section 2...** identify six areas in which the federal courts have jurisdiction as described in Clause 1:

Clause 2 ...describes the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court

The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction when the parties involved are \_\_\_\_\_

or \_\_\_\_\_

In all other federal cases, the Supreme Court has jurisdiction.

**Section 3...** defines \_\_\_\_\_ as the only crime in the Constitution.

The Framers intended this very specific definition to prevent the loose use of the charge, for example, against people who criticize the government. How is this crime defined?



#### ARTICLE IV:

...outlines relations between the states, and the federal government's obligations to states

**Section 1...** calls for states to extend \_\_\_\_\_ to the acts, records and proceedings of other states.

**Section 2...** describes how citizens of states shall be treated in other states.

Clause 1 entitles citizens of each state all \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 2 does not allow \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\*Clause 3 was later repealed by amendment

**Section 3...** who is given the power to admit new states to the union? \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 4...** the federal government guarantees it will do three things for the states:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Article V:**

...outlines how the Constitution will be amended in the future

Which are the two ways an amendment may be proposed?

Which are the two ways an amendment will be ratified?

## **ARTICLE VI**

Section 1... calls for the federal government to be responsible to \_\_\_\_\_

Section 2... states the Constitution, federal laws and treaties are \_\_\_\_\_

Section 3... calls for federal officers to take an oath, and that no \_\_\_\_\_  
shall be required to qualify for office

## **ARTICLE VII**

...describes how The Constitution itself would be ratified

States needed for ratification: \_\_\_\_ On what day was The Constitution signed?: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Convention attendees who signed the final document: \_

For the following signers, **Pick three**, click on their name, read biography and briefly describe any role, contribution, or views held during the Constitutional Convention:

George Washington (Virginia): \_\_\_\_\_

James Madison (Virginia): \_\_\_\_\_

Roger Sherman (Connecticut): \_\_\_\_\_

Alexander Hamilton (New York): \_\_\_\_\_

Benjamin Franklin (Pennsylvania): \_\_\_\_\_

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Go back to main Constitution page, then click on “Constitutional Amendments 1-10” (aka “The Bill of Rights”), click on “read transcript” and write a brief description of each

amendment's overall intent in your own words (not necessary to be very specific about the provisions in each amendment):

1<sup>st</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

4<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

5<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

6<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

7<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

8<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

9<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

10<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Part II:**

1.) Current government officers:

a. President: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Vice President: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Secretary of State: \_\_\_\_\_

d. Secretary of Defense: \_\_\_\_\_

e. Speaker of House: \_\_\_\_\_

f. Chief Justice: \_\_\_\_\_

g. Governor of Georgia: \_\_\_\_\_

h. Two senators for Georgia: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

i. Oconee's representative in U.S. Congress: \_\_\_\_\_

j. Oconee is in what congressional district: \_\_\_\_\_

2.) Read the copy of **Declaration of Independence** and answer the 12 questions on the form in blue or black ink.

## **Summer Assignment:**

### **Declaration of Independence and Questions**

- 1.) What does Thomas Jefferson mean when he says, “...it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another...”?
- 2.) What is the purpose of the Declaration of Independence as stated in the preamble?
- 3.) According to Jefferson, who has the right to create a government? According to Jefferson, what is the purpose of a government? According to Jefferson, what should be done if a government fails to fulfill its purpose?
- 4.) What does self-evident mean?
- 5.) What does unalienable mean? List the “unalienable rights”.
- 6.) Whose ideas does Jefferson reference when he says, “that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness”?
- 7.) What type of government is referred to by “Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed”?

- 8.) Cite five specific examples that Jefferson uses in his argument against the King of England, George III.
- 9.) At the end of the Declaration of Independence, list the four things, that according to Jefferson, “Free and Independent States”
- 10.) List the four parts of the Declaration. Explain the purpose of each part:
- Part I:
- Part II:
- Part III:
- Part IV:
- 11.) Under what conditions does Jefferson think that people have a right to overthrow their government?
- 12.) What did Jefferson mean by “all men are created equal”?