

AP Gov't Summer Packet

Summer Homework: Questions and Vocabulary

Philosophies: This should be review by now!

- 1) Who were John Locke, Montesquieu and Rousseau? What do they have to do with the USA?
- 2) What is the "Social Contract"? How does it relate to our government?
- 3) What natural rights did John Locke advocate? Do these sound familiar?
- 4) What were the Articles of Confederation? What was the problem with these?
- 5) Was everyone for the proposed US Constitution? Why or why not?
- 6) How was the Constitution ratified?

Constitution:

Main idea: KNOW THE THREE BRANCHES, THEIR ENUMERATED POWERS AND HOW THEY CAN CHECK/BALANCE EACH OTHER!!!!

These are guiding questions for you reading. Use these for the reflection at the end of this document.

- 1) Describe the basic function of each of the three branches: Legislative, Executive, Judicial. One sentence for each.

ARTICLE I - Legislative Branch

Article I, Section 1: What is the meaning of Section 1? What is Bicameral? Why did they create two branches?

Article I, Section 2 – US House

- Term of Office?
- Qualifications?

4. Define apportionment.

5. Define impeachment. Who has the power to impeach? How does impeachment work?

Article I, Section 3 – US Senate

- Term of Office?
- Qualifications?

2. How were US Senators originally selected? How did the 17th Amendment change this? Which system is more democratic?

3. What are the restrictions on the Vice President's Senatorial power?
4. Who is the President Pro Tempore? Why does this position exist?
5. What is the Senate's impeachment power? What are the vote requirements?

Article I, Section 8-Congress' Powers.

1. What are the enumerated powers of congress? What does enumerated even mean? YOU MUST KNOW
2. Why does the legislative branch have so much power? (Hint Articles of Confederation)
3. How can congress check other branches? Executive and Judicial

ARTICLE II - Executive Branch

Article II, Section 1

1. What is the term of office for president and vice president? What are the qualifications?
2. Explain the president's role as Commander in Chief.
3. What are the President's duties as they relate to diplomacy/foreign affairs?
4. Define pardon.
5. Can the president appoint judges/diplomats without Congress? What is Congress' role?
- . What is the State of the Union address? When is it to be given?
7. List all of the enumerated powers of the president. YOU WILL BE TESTED ON THESE!

Article II, Section 4

1. Under what conditions can the president and vice president be removed from office?
2. Define high crimes and misdemeanors.
3. Who were the only two presidents to be impeached? Were they removed from office?

ARTICLE III - The Judicial Branch

Article III, Section 1

1. What is the only court established by the Constitution?
2. What is the term of office for federal judges? What is the logic of this provision?

Article IV- What is full faith and credit?

*Article VI-*What is the Supremacy Clause?

THE AMENDMENTS

1. What are the first 10 Amendments of the Constitution called? Why were these created?
- 2) What is the 10th amendment? How might this conflict with the "Supremacy Clause"?

Reflection: 4 paragraphs.

What are the benefits and drawbacks of the US Constitution? Is this an ideal structure of government? WHY? If not, what would you change?

Your response should include a thesis statement and evidence to support that thesis!!!!