

AP US Government and Politics Summer Assignment

Directions: There are TWO parts to your summer assignment. First, listen to the following two podcasts and answer the questions. Then, read the constitution and answer the corresponding questions.

Podcast 1: Link: <https://www.wnycstudios.org/story/more-perfect-sex-appeal> (you can also subscribe to More Perfect on your podcast app and look for this episode). I recommend listening to it on your phone. Answer the following:

1. What issue did the 19th Amendment fix?
2. What was the Equal Rights Amendment? Why did some support the ERA?
3. Explain the facts of the “beer case”. How were women involved?
4. Why did Ruth Bader Ginsburg choose this case? How was the case ultimately decided? Why?
5. How did this case ultimately benefit women?

Podcast 2:

<https://www.wnycstudios.org/podcasts/radiolabmoreperfect/episodes/one-nation-under-money>

** Also a More Perfect podcast

Questions:

1. Describe the history of the commerce clause in detail (8-10 sentences)
2. What are the facts of the wheat case? What is the role of the commerce clause in the decision of the wheat case?
3. Explain the impact of the decision of the wheat cases on other areas of life.
4. Why couldn't the government stop Ollie's BBQ from segregating its patrons?

5. How did Ollie's BBQ try to keep its patrons segregated? Describe their legal arguments.
6. How did the Supreme Court use the Commerce Clause to end segregation?
7. What are your reflections on the podcast? What did you find most interesting? Surprising?

Directions: Read the U.S. Constitution and complete the following questions directly on this handout.

[Link to the US Constitution:](https://constitutioncenter.org/interactive-constitution/the-constitution)

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Be sure to identify the location of each answer in the Constitution (example: Article I, Section 3)

Part I: THE OVERALL STRUCTURE OF THE CONSTITUTION

1. Read each article of the Constitution. **Summarize** the general purpose or subject of each article in one sentence in the chart below. Do not just copy down each Article.

Article I	
Article II	
Article III	
Article IV	
Article V	
Article VI	
Article VII	

2. Identify two powers denied to Congress in the Constitution. ****Don't forget to list where each power is found in the Constitution!****

3. Identify two powers the Constitution denies to the States. ****Don't forget to list where each power is found in the Constitution!****

4.

Constitutional eligibility requirements (also known as formal requirements) **Don't forget to list where each power is found in the Constitution!**		
HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES	SENATE	PRESIDENT

5. The powers of the Constitution that are specifically granted to the branches of government or to office holders are called expressed powers.

****Don't forget to list where each power is found in the Constitution****

a. Identify two expressed powers of the president.

b. Identify two expressed powers of Congress.

6. According to the principle of checks and balances, each branch of the government must have control over the other branches. Look at the first three articles of the Constitution and identify one of each type of checks and balances. ****Don't forget to list where it is found in the Constitution!****
- a. A power that the executive branch has over the legislative branch.
 - b. A power that the executive branch has over the judicial branch.
 - c. A power that the legislative branch holds over the executive branch.
 - d. A power that the legislative branch holds over the judicial branch.
 - e. A power that the judicial branch holds over the executive branch.
 - f. A power that the judicial branch holds over the legislative branch.

7. According to Article I of the Constitution, who has the power to declare war?

8. What power does the Constitution give the President in the area of war?

Part II: IMPORTANT CLAUSES

1. Where is the "Commerce Clause"? What does the Constitution say about the Commerce Clause?
2. What is the "Necessary and Proper Clause"?
3. Explain what the Constitution means in the Supremacy Clause.

4. How might these clauses have impacted the power of the federal government?
5. What is habeas corpus?
6. Where are bills of attainders discussed? What does the Constitution say about Bills of Attainder? What is a Bill of Attainder?
7. What are ex post facto laws? What does the Constitution say about them?
8. There are two “due process” clauses. Where are they? What does “due process” of law imply?
9. Where is the “equal protection clause?” What does this imply?

Part III: CHECKS AND BALANCES, FUNCTIONS OF BRANCHES

1. Vetoes
 - a. What bodies have the power to override a presidential veto?
 - b. What margin is required to override a presidential veto?
 - c. Where in the Constitution is the veto power described?
2. Treaties
 - a. What body has the power to ratify treaties?

- b. What margin is required to ratify treaties?
 - c. Where in the Constitution is the ratification power described?
3. To impeach means “to bring charges against” or “to indict”.
- a. What body has the power to impeach the president?
 - b. What vote is required to impeach?
 - c. What is the standard for impeachment?
 - d. Where in the Constitution is the impeachment power described?
4. What are two ways that amendments can be proposed?
5. What are two ways that amendments to the Constitution can be ratified?

Part IV. THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Some parts of the Constitution require a simple majority, others a supermajority, while still others protect citizens from the will of the majority. The first ten amendments to the Constitution, the Bill of Rights protects citizens from the will of

the majority. In other words, no majority could vote to take these rights away. Read each amendment to the Constitution and answer the questions below.

1. Outline the general purpose of the following amendments.

Amendment 1	
Amendment 2	
Amendment 4	
Amendment 5	
Amendment 6	
Amendment 7	
Amendment 8	
Amendment 9	
Amendment 10	
Amendment 11	
Amendment 12	
Amendment 13	
Amendment 14	
Amendment 15	
Amendment 17	
Amendment 18	
Amendment 19	
Amendment 20	

Amendment 21	
Amendment 22	
Amendment 24	
Amendment 25	
Amendment 26	