

AP Government Summer Assignment Questions

1. Go to the website below, activate & read each module and completely answer the questions associated with each module.

<https://www.ushistory.org/gov/index.asp>

2. Also watch these 6 videos by activating these links

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrk4oY7UxpQ&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtOfse2ncvffeeITrqvhrz8H&index=1>

2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oMoymqXB4Cs>

3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9defOwVWS8&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtOfse2ncvffeeITrqvhrz8H&index=2>

4. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bf3CwYCxXw&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtOfse2ncvffeeITrqvhrz8H&index=3>

5. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J0gosGXSgsl&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtOfse2ncvffeeITrqvhrz8H&index=4>

6. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kCCmuftyj8A&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtOfse2ncvffeeITrqvhrz8H&index=5>

Questions for Modules: Read each module and answer questions.

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Module 1: Nature of Government

Question: What is your viewpoint: Is the government an instrument of the people that represents its citizens OR is it an oppressive self-serving institution that ignores its citizens.

1a. Purpose of Government.

1. How did government originate?
2. What are the modern responsibilities of the U.S. Government?

1b. Types of Government

1. What is legitimacy?
2. Do citizens who are governed by an absolute ruler necessarily experience unhappiness?
Explain
3. Define the following words
 - Oligarchy
 - Monarchy
 - Aristocracy
4. What is the Rule of Law and why is it so important?

1c. What is a Democracy?

1. What is a true or direct democracy?
2. Why did our founding fathers fear a direct Democracy?
3. What “kind of democracy” did our founding fathers prefer and why?

1d. Democratic Values

1. What was the Enlightenment?
2. How did enlightenment philosophers such as Locke, Montesquieu, and Rousseau influence our founding fathers?
3. What two types of balance must our government manage and why is each so difficult to maintain?

Module 2: Foundation of American Government

1. Where did the colonists learn the democratic traditions that led to the American revolution?
2. Why would the ideas of Thomas Hobbes be rejected by the colonists?
3. Explain how John Locke directly influenced founding of our nation and colonists like Thomas Jefferson?
4. Explain the importance of the following English Documents on the formation of our government?
 - Magna Carta
 - Petition of Rights
 - English Bill of Rights

2a. Colonial Experience

1. Contrast the influence of the House of Burgesses with the Mayflower Compact
2. How did the British view the role of the 13 colonies with regard to the concept of mercantilism?
3. How and why did the French and Indian War lead to the American Revolution?
4. Why was religious freedom so important to the colonies?

2b. Independence and the Articles of Confederation?

1. Select one quote in the first paragraph and explain its significance?
2. What was the purpose of the Declaration of Independence?
3. How did Locke influence Jefferson?

4. Why was our first government under the Articles of Confederation so flawed and inefficient?

2c. Creating a Constitution

1. Why was the creation of the new government under the Constitution so difficult to achieve?

2. Explain the following principles

- Separation of powers
- Checks and Balances
- Federalism

2d. Bill of Rights

1. What 2 faction or political parties developed due to the creation of the constitution?

2. Copy the chart on the federalists and Antifederalists

3. Who were the three primary authors of the Federalist Papers? What was their intention for writing the Federalist Papers?

4. What is the Bill of Rights? Who does the Bill of Rights protect? From whom?

Module 3: Federalism

1. What is Federalism? Explain

2. What is a Unitary system? Provide advantages and disadvantages

3. What is a Confederal system? Provide advantages and disadvantages

3a. Founders and Federalism

1. Why was federalism adopted?
2. According to James Madison in Federalist #10, how does federalism prevent political factions from taking over?
3. Define the following Powers:
 - Enumerated Powers (also called Delegated and Expressed)
 - Implied Powers
 - Inherent Powers
 - Prohibited Powers
 - 10th Amendment -reserved Powers
 - Full Faith and Credit

3b. Tipping the Scale Towards National Power

1. What one long standing question still exists with regard to federalism?
2. Summarize and analyze McCulloch v. Maryland
 - Can the federal government create a bank (Implied Powers/ elastic clause)?
 - Can a State tax and federal institution (Supremacy Clause)?
3. Do states have the authority to nullify a federal law? Explain
4. How did the Great Depression and the F. Roosevelt's New Deal lead to more federal government power?
5. Identify the program created by President Lyndon Johnson that increased federal power?

3c. Federal-State Relations and State Rights

1. What is New Federalism and Devolution?
2. What Presidents are associated with it?
3. What is Dual Federalism which existed from 1792 to 1930?
4. What do you think Cooperative Federalism is? (hint: F. Roosevelt established this concept during the Great Depression).
5. What is the difference between Categorical Grants and Block Grants?
6. Block grants are associated with what type of Federalism