

**Suffolk Public Schools**  
**AP United States Government**  
**Summer Assignment 2017**

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The purpose of this summer assignment is to allow students to build on previously-learned material from U.S. History and to apply these historical concepts to the study of American government. In order to fully understand the components of this course, we must examine the structure of the U.S. Constitution including its Articles, clauses, and Amendments. As described on the next page, this assignment will require you to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the language and content of the Constitution and its 27 Amendments.

- This assignment will count as a full test grade. Students who do not complete this assignment will receive a zero.
- You will be graded on the content and quality of your work, your writing skills, and your ability to follow instructions. Please review the rubric on the last page of this assignment to see specific details for the grading of this assignment.
- Your work will be checked for plagiarism. Do not, under any circumstances:
  - Consult the work of any other students as you complete this assignment
  - Use exact language from any of your sources (be sure to paraphrase your sources)
    - Direct quotes may be used sparingly, as long as they are cited properly
  - Copy and paste information directly from a website or a source
  - Claim any work that is not your own
- Any student(s) engaging in plagiarism or cheating will receive a zero for this entire assignment and a referral. Students are to work independently on this assignment.
- This assignment will be due on the first day of class:
  - Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> for Odd-day classes, and
  - Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> for Even-day classes
- You may earn 5 bonus points on this assignment by submitting it early. Early turn-in will occur during the Open House before the start of school. Open House will likely be held during the week of August 28<sup>th</sup>. Check the school website for the specific date/time.
- This assignment must be submitted in a professional manner. In order to adhere to this requirement, I encourage you to submit it in a small binder or a pocket folder.
- If you have any questions or concerns at all over the summer, please feel free to contact your instructor:
  - King's Fork High School—Matthew Fike ([MatthewFike@spsk12.net](mailto:MatthewFike@spsk12.net))
  - Nansemond River High School—Jenna Silvio ([jennasilvio@spsk12.net](mailto:jennasilvio@spsk12.net))
  - Lakeland High School—Earl Jones ([earljones@spsk12.net](mailto:earljones@spsk12.net))
- Enjoy your summer...but do not procrastinate on this project! Good luck! ☺

## **U.S. Constitution Questions and Amendment Summaries**

- First, you should read the U.S. Constitution and the 27 Amendments – do this prior to answering any questions.
- You may use the copy of the Constitution which you were given with this summer assignment or you may access it online by using the following links:
  - The Preamble, Articles I, II, III, IV, V, VI, and VII of the Constitution:  
<http://constitution.findlaw.com/articles.html>
  - The Bill of Rights (Amendments 1–10) and Amendments 11–27:  
<http://constitution.findlaw.com/amendments.html>
- Feel free to take notes and highlight significant information using your personal copy of the Constitution. Keep in mind that we will spend extensive time examining this document throughout the course.
- As read the Constitution, I strongly recommend that you look up any words which you do not understand by using [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com).
- Once you have read the U.S. Constitution and its Amendments, refer to the Part One questions included in this assignment. These questions are presented in chronological order and are organized by each section of the Constitution.
- Be sure to follow all specific directions contained within the Part One questions.
- Part Two requires you to create summaries of the 27 Amendments. In completing this portion, your summaries must be in complete sentences. If you need additional space for this task, you may use a word processor to create a chart and type your summaries.

## **Works Cited**

- This assignment must include a works cited page. Although a majority of questions will be answered using the U.S. Constitution, some questions will require outside research.
- In conducting outside research, you may use textbooks, online databases or encyclopedias, websites, etc. All sources used for outside research must be included in the works cited section.
  - When conducting research online, be sure that you are only using reputable sources. Do not consult Wikipedia or include it in your works cited.
- Cite all sources using MLA formatting guidelines. Email Mr. Fike if you need assistance formatting your sources properly.
- The U.S. Constitution does not need to be included in the works cited section.
- The works cited page must be typed and should be submitted with this assignment.

## Part One – U.S. Constitution Questions

*Directions:* Use the U.S. Constitution in order to answer the following questions. Most answers can be found in the language of the Constitution itself. However, some questions require analysis, critical thinking, or some minor outside research. Remember to use a dictionary to help you with words that you do not understand.

NOTE: Questions with an asterisk (\*) will require outside research. Consult outside sources to answer these questions and include these additional sources on your works cited page.

### The Preamble

1. What six provisions are contained within the Preamble and what do you think they mean?

Provision of The Preamble	Explain the meaning (in your own words)

2. What purpose do you think the Preamble serves?

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3. Why do you think the Framers included it in the Constitution?

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### Article I – The Legislative Branch

#### *Article I, Section 1 – Congress*

1. Where does all legislative power in the United States exist?

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2. The U.S. Congress consists of what two chambers?

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3. Why do you think the Framers of the Constitution created a bicameral legislature?

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#### *Article I, Section 2 – The House of Representatives*

1. How many years is the term of office for a member of the House of Representatives?

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2. Who elects members of the House of Representatives?

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3. What are the three requirements for members of the House of Representatives?

a.) Age: \_\_\_\_\_ b.) Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

c.) Residence: \_\_\_\_\_

4. How is the number of representatives from each state to be determined?

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5. How often does the Constitution direct that a population count (census) should occur?

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6. When vacancies happen in the representation of any state, what shall happen?

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7. Who is the only officer of the House of Representatives to be named in the Constitution?

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8. What procedure does the House of Representatives have the sole power to initiate?

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*Article I, Section 3 – The Senate*

1. How many senators does each state have?

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2. How many years is the term of office for a member of the Senate?

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3. Under the original Constitution, how were Senators selected?

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4. Which amendment altered the way in which Senators were selected?

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5. Why did the Framers divide the entire Senate into three classes after the first election?

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6. What are the three requirements for members of the Senate?

a.) Age: \_\_\_\_\_ b.) Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

c.) Residence: \_\_\_\_\_

7. According to the Constitution, who is the President of the Senate? (Position, not his name)

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8. When does the President of the Senate get a vote?

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9. Besides the President of the Senate, who is the highest ranking official in the Senate?

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10. When does this person (named in #9) get to exercise authority over the Senate?

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11. What is the sole power of the Senate in the impeachment process?

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12. Who presides over the impeachment trial of a U.S. president?

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13. What kind of vote (fraction) is required to convict a government official in an impeachment trial?

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14. Does a government official's impeachment conviction automatically mean that person will go to prison? Explain.

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*Article I, Section 4 – Congressional Elections and Meetings*

1. The Constitution requires the Congress assemble at least how many times per year?

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2. The original Constitution stated that sessions of Congress should begin on the first Monday in December. Which Amendment changed this?

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3. On which date do sessions of Congress now begin? (Refer to the amendment stated in #2.)

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*Article I, Section 5 – Congressional Powers and Duties*

1. \*A quorum of members must be present in each chamber to conduct business. What does this mean?

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2. Who determines the rules and procedures for the House of Representatives?

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3. Who determines the rules and procedures for the Senate?

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4. What type of vote (fraction) does it take for a chamber to expel one of its members for disorderly behavior?

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5. Why do you think the Framers included a provision for a journal of each chamber's proceedings and votes to be kept?

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*Article I, Section 6 – Privileges and Restrictions of Members*

1. From where does the compensation (pay) for members of Congress come from?

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2. Members of Congress are immune from arrest (except in cases of treason, felony, or breach of the peace) while attending and traveling to and from sessions. Why do you think the Framers included this in the Constitution? (Hint: Think about Old England, the King, and Parliament)

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3. Members of Congress also have legal immunity for anything they say (speeches, debates, etc.) while Congress is in session. Why do you think the Framers included this?

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4. Members may not be appointed to any other civil office while serving in the House of Representatives or the Senate. Why do you think the Framers included this provision?

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*Article I, Section 7 – The Legislative Process*

1. All bills dealing with taxation (revenue) shall originate in which chamber?

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2. What happens after a bill is passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate?

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3. What does the President do if he approves of the bill?

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4. What happens if the President disapproves of the bill? What is this called?

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5. How can Congress override a presidential veto?

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6. What happens if the President fails to sign a bill after 10 days and Congress has adjourned (is no longer in session)?

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7. \*What is the scenario (described in #6) called?

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Article I, Section 8 – Legislative Powers of Congress (Also called Enumerated/Expressed Powers)

Directions – Read the expressed powers contained in clauses (indented paragraphs) 1–18 of Section 8. Then, match each clause number with a brief description of its content. Each clause will be used only once.

Clause 1	Clause 4	Clause 7	Clause 10	Clause 13	Clause 16
Clause 2	Clause 5	Clause 8	Clause 11	Clause 14	Clause 17
Clause 3	Clause 6	Clause 9	Clause 12	Clause 15	Clause 18

Congress shall the power.....

- a.) To raise and maintain a navy \_\_\_\_\_
- b.) To establish uniform rules of citizenship \_\_\_\_\_
- c.) To make copyright and patent laws \_\_\_\_\_
- d.) To exercise jurisdiction over the District of Columbia \_\_\_\_\_
- e.) To raise and support armies \_\_\_\_\_
- f.) To levy and collect taxes \_\_\_\_\_
- g.) To coin money and set uniform weights and measurements \_\_\_\_\_
- h.) To call up a national militia in times of uprising or foreign invasion \_\_\_\_\_
- i.) To make all laws necessary and proper to the execution of Congress' other expressed powers \_\_\_\_\_
- j.) To establish post offices and post roads \_\_\_\_\_
- k.) To regulate foreign and interstate commerce \_\_\_\_\_
- l.) To declare war \_\_\_\_\_
- m.) To organize, arm, and discipline a militia when it is called into service \_\_\_\_\_
- n.) To borrow money \_\_\_\_\_
- o.) To define and punish piracy and other violations of international law \_\_\_\_\_
- p.) To establish military laws \_\_\_\_\_
- q.) To punish counterfeiters \_\_\_\_\_
- r.) To establish national courts inferior to the Supreme Court \_\_\_\_\_

1. Take a closer look at Clause 18 (the necessary and proper clause). Why do you think the Framers included this provision in the Constitution?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How do you think the necessary and proper clause has affected the overall power of Congress?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What is commerce?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. How do you think the commerce clause (Clause 3) has empowered Congress?  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Article I, Section 9 – Prohibited (Denied) Powers*

1. According to the Constitution, (international) slave trade cannot be banned by Congress before what year?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \*What is the writ of habeas corpus?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Under which circumstances can the writ of habeas corpus be suspended?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \*Congress is prohibited from passing bills of attainder. What is a bill of attainder?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \*Congress is prohibited from passing ex post facto laws. What are ex post facto laws?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What is the only way that money can be drawn from the national Treasury?

\_\_\_\_\_

*Article I, Section 10 – Powers Denied to the States*

1. The Constitution pertains almost exclusively to the federal (national) government. Why do you think the Framers went so far as to list powers which are *denied* to the states?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. How do you think Article I, Section 10 demonstrate the Framers' commitment to limited government?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Article II – The Executive Branch**

*Article II, Section 1 – The President and Vice President*

1. Where does all executive power in the United States exist?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. How many years is the term of office for the chief executive of the United States?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. In electing the President and Vice President, a state's number of electors is equal to what?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What types of people are not permitted to be appointed electors in any state?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What are the three requirements to be elected President of the United States?

a.) Age: \_\_\_\_\_ b.) Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

c.) Residence: \_\_\_\_\_



6. If the President and Vice President are unable to serve (due to removal, resignation, incapacitation, or death) who establishes the procedure for selecting the new President?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Why do you think the Framers prevented the President's salary from being increased or decreased during his term?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What must the in-coming President do before prior to assuming the presidential duties?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Why do you think the Framers created a presidential oath to be recited prior to any person ascending to office of President of the United States?  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Article II, Section 2 – Powers of the President*

1. What do the President's "commander in chief" powers refer to?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \*Among the President's judicial powers are his ability to issue reprieves and pardons. What do each of these mean?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. In which type of cases can Presidents not grant pardons or reprieves?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. \*Some presidential actions require "advice and consent of the Senate." What does this mean?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. In order for a treaty to take effect, what vote (fraction) is required by the Senate?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What types of officials does the President have the power to appoint?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What must happen before these officials (named in #6) can official take office?  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Article II, Section 3 – Duties of the President*

1. According to the Constitution, who was originally intended to be the audience of the President's State of the Union address?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Why do you think the Framers wanted the President to give a State of the Union address?  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \*The President holds the power to convene both the House of Representatives and the Senate. What does this mean?

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4. \*The President holds the power to receive ambassadors and other public ministers. What does this mean?

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5. What is the President's key responsibility relating to the laws of the United States?

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*Article II, Section 4 – Impeachment*

1. What three types of people may be removed from office through impeachment?

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2. For what reasons can these people (stated in #1) be removed from office?

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**Article III – The Judicial Branch**

*Article III, Section 1 – The United States Courts*

1. Where does all judicial power in the United States exist?

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2. What government institution is able to establish inferior (lower) courts?

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3. How long are Supreme Court judges and lower court judges allowed to serve?

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4. Why do you think the Framers gave federal judges this tenure (answered in #3)?

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5. There are no constitutional requirements for being appointed to a federal judgeship position. Why do you think the Framers established this?

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6. Why do you think the Framers prevented the salaries of federal judges from being decreased while they are in office?

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*Article III, Section 2 – Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court*

1. Read Article III, Section 2, Clause 1 and fill in the blanks below.

*The judicial power [of the Supreme Court] shall extend to all cases:*

- a. ...in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, arising under this \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ...the \_\_\_\_\_ of the United States and \_\_\_\_\_ made
- c. ...affecting \_\_\_\_\_, other public \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- d. ...of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ jurisdiction
- e. ...to controversies to which the \_\_\_\_\_ shall be a \_\_\_\_\_
- f. ...to controversies between \_\_\_\_\_ or more \_\_\_\_\_
- g. ...between a \_\_\_\_\_ and citizens of another \_\_\_\_\_
- h. ...and, between a \_\_\_\_\_, or the citizens thereof, and \_\_\_\_\_, citizens, or subjects

2. \*In regards to the judicial system, what is jurisdiction?

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3. In what type of cases does the Supreme Court have original jurisdiction?

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4. \*What is appellate jurisdiction?

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5. When the Supreme Court acts through its appellate jurisdiction, what two factors can it interpret?

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6. What two judicial factors are guaranteed to a criminal defendant accused of a crime?

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*Article III, Section 3 – Treason*

1. What actions constitute committing treason against the United States?

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2. What are two ways a person can be convicted of treason?

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3. Which government institution has the ability to declare the punishment for treason?

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## Article IV – Relationship of Between the Federal Government and the States

### *Article IV, Section 1 – Official Acts of States*

1. According to the full faith and credit clause, what type of actions must be honored from one state to another state?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Why do you think the Framers created the full faith and credit clause?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### *Article IV, Section 2 – Privileges of Citizens*

1. Read Article IV, Section 2, Clause 1. In your own words, what is the meaning of the privileges and immunities clause?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Article IV, Section 2, Clause 2 is sometimes referred to as the “extradition clause.” Identify the significance of this clause.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why is Article IV, Section 2, Clause 3 no longer relevant?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### *Article IV, Section 3 – New States and Territories*

1. Which government institution has the ultimate authority in admitting new states into the Union?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What must occur in order for a new state to be formed from part of a pre-existing state?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### *Article IV, Section 4 – Protection of the States*

1. \*The Constitution requires that every state have a republican form of government. What does this mean? (Hint: It has nothing to do with the political party)  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. In what way does the federal government offer protection to the individual states?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Article V – The Amendment Process (This article does not contain separate sections)

1. What vote (fraction) is required in each house of Congress to propose an amendment to the Constitution?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the other method (which has never been used) by which the states can initiate the amendment process by proposing an amendment to the Constitution?  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What percentage of states (fraction) must vote in favor of a constitutional amendment in order for it to be ratified and be added to the Constitution?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the other method (used only once) and percentage (fraction) by which the states can vote to approve an amendment to be added to the Constitution?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Why do you think the Framers established a procedure in the Constitution (Article V) for amending the Constitution?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. \*What is another word for amend?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Article VI – General Provisions** (This article does not contain separate sections)

1. Clause 2 of Article VI contains what has come to be known as the supremacy clause. In your own words, what is the meaning of this clause?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What do members of Congress, executive and judicial officers, and members of the state legislatures have in common?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What kind of test cannot be administered to any person wishing to hold public office?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Article VII – Ratification of the Constitution** (This article does not contain separate sections)

1. \*What is another word for ratify?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Of the original 13 states, how many had to ratify the Constitution in order for it to take affect?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. How many of 55 delegates to the Constitutional Convention actually signed the Constitution?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. On what date did the delegates sign the final draft of the Constitution?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Part Two – Amendment Summaries

*Directions:* After you have read the 27 Amendments to the Constitution, document the year of ratification and summarize each. Please make sure these summaries are in your own words; however, you may make reference to the language used in each amendment. Some amendments are brief and can be summarized quickly and other amendments are extensive and will require longer summaries. Be sure to use full sentences and proper grammar for this portion. You may type this portion if you need more space.

	Year	Summary
First Amendment		
Second Amendment		
Third Amendment		
Fourth Amendment		
Fifth Amendment		
Sixth Amendment		
Seventh Amendment		
Eighth Amendment		

<b>Ninth Amendment</b>		
<b>Tenth Amendment</b>		
<b>Eleventh Amendment</b>		
<b>Twelfth Amendment</b>		
<b>Thirteenth Amendment</b>		
<b>Fourteenth Amendment</b>		
<b>Fifteenth Amendment</b>		
<b>Sixteenth Amendment</b>		
<b>Seventeenth Amendment</b>		

<b>Eighteenth Amendment</b>		
<b>Nineteenth Amendment</b>		
<b>Twentieth Amendment</b>		
<b>Twenty-first Amendment</b>		
<b>Twenty-second Amendment</b>		
<b>Twenty-third Amendment</b>		
<b>Twenty-fourth Amendment</b>		
<b>Twenty-fifth Amendment</b>		
<b>Twenty-sixth Amendment</b>		
<b>Twenty-seventh Amendment</b>		



## AP U.S. Government and Politics Summer Assignment Rubric

<b>Part One: U.S. Constitution Questions</b>		
	Points Possible	Points Earned
Preamble Chart – Purpose/Goals of the Constitution	3	
Article I Questions – Legislative Branch	20	
Article II Questions – Executive Branch	10	
Article III Questions – Judicial Branch	10	
Article IV Questions – Federal/State Government Relationship	3	
Article V Questions – Amendment Process	2	
Article VI Questions – General Provisions	1	
Article VII Questions – Ratification of the Constitution	1	
<b>Total Points from Part One</b>	<b>50</b>	

<b>Part Two: Amendment Summaries</b>		
	Points Possible	Points Earned
<u>Content of the Summaries</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do your summaries demonstrate a clear understanding each Amendment?</li> <li>Do your summaries include all important provisions contained within each Amendment? (Some Amendments are fairly extensive)</li> <li>Did you paraphrase each Amendment rather than copying it word-for-word?</li> </ul>	20	
<u>Formatting, Grammar, and Spelling</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Did you use full sentences, proper grammar, spelling, and legible handwriting?</li> </ul>	10	
<b>Total Points from Part Two</b>	<b>30</b>	

<b>Works Cited</b>		
	Points Possible	Points Earned
<u>Summaries of the Amendments</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are your sources properly formatted using MLA format?</li> <li>Did you type your works cited page?</li> <li>Did you cite all outside sources which were consulted to in order complete this assignment?</li> </ul>	20	

5 Bonus points for early turn-in

**Final Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

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