

**Crooms AOIT**  
**Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics**  
**2010 Summer Assignment**

The following assignments are presented to introduce the basic foundations and sources of government and politics in the United States today. The assignments cover information corresponding with a number of chapters of the text will be using this school year. The following tasks are to be independently done. That is, without any assistance from other students.

**Summer Contact Information and Availability:**

If at anytime while working on any assignments and you have questions or need direction, you may contact me through the following email address.

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Please Label All Emails in the Subject Line:  
APGOPO Summer Assignment

**I. Constitution Research**

(For each of the following, please type responses in complete sentences.)

**Assignment 1: A Guided Tour of the United States Constitution**

Using a U.S. Constitution, a dictionary, and any other hard resources necessary, answer 15 of the following questions in your own words. You must note the citation (Article, Section, and Clause), designating where the information is found.

The Constitution is available at the following website:

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/constitution.overview.html>

1. What are the purposes of the government created by the United States Constitution?
2. List the seven Articles and the basic purpose of each.
3. How is representation in the United States House of Representatives determined? In the Senate?
4. How is the Speaker of the House chosen? Must the Speaker be a member?
5. What officers of the Senate are required by the Constitution?
6. How has the Necessary and Proper Clause expanded Congressional Power?
7. List and briefly explain the 18 expressed powers of Congress.
8. Describe the Tenth Amendment and its Relationship to the Supremacy Clause.
9. Explain in your own words the importance of Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.
10. List and explain the three powers expressly denied Congress.
11. List and explain three powers denied the states.
12. What are the qualifications for becoming President?
13. List and explain the powers of the President.
14. How can the Senate check the President?
15. How are the lower courts created?
16. How many justices are required on the Supreme Court?
17. What is impeachment? Who has the power to impeach? Who tries an impeachment?
18. What is the relationship between the States concerning their laws?
19. What is the relationship between national and State law?
20. What are the methods to amend the Constitution?
21. What freedoms of expression are protected by the Constitution?
22. List and explain the rights of an accused person.
23. Where are the "due process of law" clauses found in the Constitution? Explain how they work.

24. When is a search warrant required?
25. List the four times that suffrage has been expanded.

### **Assignment 2: The Federalist Papers**

(For each of the following, please type responses in complete sentences.)

Use the following web site: <http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/federal/fed.htm>

You are to select from the inventory of the Federalist Papers the following “Papers” and answer all of the following questions relating to these “Papers”.

Federalist #1: This essay provides historical background and introduces the entire series. Questions related to Federalist #1:

1. What question do the people of United States seemed destined to answer for all mankind?
2. Why is it unlikely that the people of the United States will make their decision about ratifying the new Constitution based only on what is best for the country?
3. What will motivate those who oppose the new Constitution?
4. Why should we be tolerant toward those who have opposing views on this subject (or any subject for that matter)?
5. Why should we distrust those who advocate liberty more than those who propose a strong and efficient government?
6. What does Alexander Hamilton reveal about his own point of view?

Federalist #10: This Paper focuses primarily on the problem of special interest groups. Questions related to Federalist #10:

1. How does Madison justify his concerns about the problem of factions?
2. Why is it impractical and unwise to eliminate factions?
3. What aspects of human nature make factions inevitable?
4. How does the existence of factions undermine law-making?
5. Why are majority-factions more dangerous to democracy than minority factions?
6. Why are pure democracies more vulnerable to factions than republics (representative democracies)?
7. What are two important differences between a pure democracy and a republic?
8. Why are good representatives more likely to be elected in a large republic than in a small republic?
9. Why does a small republic need more representatives in proportion to its population than a larger republic?
10. Why is a smaller republic less likely to find enough good representatives?
11. Why does a larger expanse of territory protect against the formation of majority-factions?

Federalist #39: This is an in-depth discussion of the nature of federalism.

Questions related to Federalist #39:

1. What are two characteristics of a true republic?
2. The state governments served as models for which aspects of government proposed by the Constitution?
3. The opponents of the new Constitution claimed that it did not create a true republic. They claimed that it was not close enough to which form of government?
4. Does the procedure for ratification more closely resemble a unitary or a confederate government?
5. Does Congress represent a unitary or a confederate feature of the new government? Explain your answer.
6. How does the Electoral College combine elements of both unitary and confederate government?
7. Madison says that the laws of the new government will operate directly on the citizens, not on the citizens indirectly through the states. Does this make the government more unitary or confederate? Explain your answer.

8. How does the new Constitution allow for local matters to be decided at the local level and national matters to be decided at the national level?
9. How is the amendment process a combination of unitary and confederate features?

Federalist #51: This Paper discusses separation of powers and checks and balances.

Question related to Federalist #51:

1. Why will judicial branch officials (judges and justices) remain independent even though they are appointed by the executive branch and approved by the legislature?
2. If Congress could raise or lower the President's salary, it would be difficult for him to remain independent. Why?
3. What two groups must government control?
4. For what purpose is power distributed in governments, or in any organization?
5. How will the powers of the legislative branch be balanced against those of the weaker, executive branch?
6. What features of the new Constitution doubly protect the rights of the people?
7. By what two methods can the rights of the minority be protected against unjust actions of the majority?
8. Why would rights not be secure if an unelected official were in charge of protecting minority interests against threats from a majority faction?
9. According to Madison, why are rights less safe in a small republic than in a large one?
10. What special features of the country and of the proposed government will protect the United States?

Federalist #70: This essay concerns the structure and power of the presidency. Questions related to Federalist #70:

1. What benefits does a strong presidency provide to a representative democracy?
2. Why does a weak executive create a bad government?
3. What are the four ingredients of an energetic executive?
4. What according to Madison is the most necessary quality of a President?
5. What are the characteristics of the legislative branch?
6. How do human weaknesses complicate decision-making according to Madison?
7. What problems might arise if the presidency was split between two people?
8. Why is disagreement within the legislative branch beneficial while in the executive branch it is detrimental?

Federalist #78: This is an argument in favor of a strong, independent judiciary. Questions related to Federalist #78:

1. What issues regarding the judiciary does Hamilton say he will not write about in this essay because they have already been discussed?
2. What governments already granted judges life-tenure when this essay was written?
3. What protection do unlimited terms of office give to judges?
4. In what ways is the judicial branch the weakest branch?
5. What would happen if the judiciary could not maintain its separation from the other branches?
6. How does a strong judiciary branch help to maintain limited government and therefore individual rights?
7. Why is it true that any law which contradicts the Constitution must be invalid?
8. Why can't the legislature decide which laws are unconstitutional?
9. Why does Hamilton say that it is pointless to argue that the power of judicial review will enable judges to rule in ways that will serve only their own interests?
10. Why is life tenure necessary in order that the judicial branch is able to protect individual rights against a majority of the public?
11. Why shouldn't people be able to act in ways that violate constitutional principles if they do not agree with the Constitution?
12. How does everyone benefit when the rights of individuals or groups are protected?
13. Why should neither the legislature nor the people voting directly be allowed to elect judges for limited terms of office?

14. Why would a federal judge need to be a person of great skill and learning?
15. Why might limited terms of office discourage the best qualified people from accepting judgeships?

## **II. Federalist Papers Collage**

### Federalist Papers Collage

- Using Federalist Papers 1, 10, 39, 51, 70, and 78, you will create a collage exemplifying modern applications of the influential papers.

#### Directions:

1. Title the collage “Federalist Papers: Modern Influences”
2. You will select, at least, two important quotes from each of the above Federalist Papers. For each quote, you will find a picture that either directly or indirectly represents a modern influence of the selected quote.
3. On the back of the collage, attach a one page (typed/12 font/double spaced) analysis of the pictures with references to the quotes.