

## **AP US Government Summer Assignment 2010**

### **Ms. Im**

In order to prepare for the AP US Government class, you will be required to complete the following summer assignment. There are multiple components, so please take care to read through the directions carefully.

1. Vocabulary – Define each of the vocabulary words. Don't just write down Mr. Webster's definition. Understand the term in its political context, and use your own words to explain it. Consider this: if I were to give you an open-notebook test on these terms, would you feel comfortable with your answers? In addition, you should be at a point in your life where you think of education as something you do for yourself, not a requirement for a grade.
2. Essay – You will write a clear, well-documented essay with a clear thesis, comparing and contrasting Republicans and Democrats. The essay should address the historical evolution of the two parties, changing viewpoints, and target demographics. Also, you should include their positions of the following topics: drugs, crime control, abortion, social security, economy, gun control, immigration, gay rights, and health care. Be sure to address the nuances within the party – you will find that in some cases, there are differing views, even within the party. The essay should be approximately 3-5 pages long.
3. Fact Recall – List the Supreme Court Justices. For each, write a short paragraph on their judicial philosophy, using specific cases as evidence.
4. Constitution – Read it. Know it. Love it. There will be a test on it.
5. Current Events – You are required to collect at least 10 newspaper or magazine clippings pertaining to United States politics. You need to keep abreast of the major events occurring in the U.S. (as a student in AP Government and as a conscientious citizen). You need 2 articles from June, 4 from July, and 4 from August. For each article, include a short summary and your views on the issue. \*Note\* You may have more than 10 articles.

If you have any questions, you can contact me at [cim@krhs.net](mailto:cim@krhs.net). It may take a few days for me to reply, so do not wait until the last minute to ask questions. The summer assignment is due the first day of class. Failure to hand in a summer assignment is grounds for dismissal from the course.

Have a great summer, and see you in September.

## AP US Government Vocabulary

Americans with Disabilities Act	Issue ads
Amicus Curiae brief	Judicial activism
Appellate courts	Judicial restraint
Bill of attainder	Line item veto
Blanket primary	Logrolling
Block grants	Mandates
Brady bill	McCain-Feingold Act
<i>Brown v. Board of Education</i>	Medicaid
Budget and Impoundment Control Act	Medicare
Caucus	Motor Voter Act
Cloture	Pentagon Papers
Congressional Budget Office	Necessary and proper clause
Contract with America	New Deal Coalition
De facto segregation	Office of Management and Budget
De jure segregation	Oversight
Deficit	Patronage
Ex post facto	Plurality
Exclusionary rule	Pocket veto
Executive order	Pork barrel
Federalism	Realignment
Filibuster	Revenue sharing
Franking privileges	Rule of propinquity
Gatekeeper role	Selective incorporation
Gender gap	Soft money
Great Society	Split ticket voting
House Ways and Means Committee	Stare decisis
Interest groups	War Powers Act