

"The Golden Ticket" Government Review

NAME:

(Double click [answerHere](#) and type in your answer) AP

Unit I: 15-22% Constitutional Underpinnings

A period of time when **European political thinkers** challenged traditional views of government & religion was known as the **Age of Enlightenment** argued for **natural rights** of "life, liberty, & property."
The **Articles of Confederation** were the first attempt at the U.S. Government & was a **failure**.
Whiskey Rebellion showed that the federal government was (**weak/strong**) after a group of **farmers** **successfully attacked courthouses** when their farms received foreclosure notices.
The **New Jersey Plan** represented **states**, whereas the **Virginia Plan** represented the **people**. A **bicameral** legislature has **2 houses**.
The **3/4ths** compromise declared all slaves as **3/4ths** of a whole person. This # was used to count [answerHere](#) in Congress.
Article 2, Section 2 outlines the **enumerated powers of the Constitution**. Three important powers (your choice) are
Commander in chief power/pardon power, treaty making power/appointing officers/implied powers, & removing officers.
The most common formal amendment process is proposed by **2/3rds** of both houses of Congress & ratified by **3/4ths** of states.
concurrent powers is power **divided between federal, state, & local levels**.
devolution refers to **TRANSFERRING** responsibilities of governing from the federal government to state & local governments.
Articles of Confederation (**foundational doc**) feared a too strong government would limit

Unit II: 25-36% (PART I) Congress, the Presidency

The House (H) serves **two** yr. terms & the Senate (S) serves **six** yr. terms.
There are **535** members in Congress, **435** n the (H) and **100** in the (S).
redistricting occurs after the census.
During the **reapportionment** process, state legislatures need to avoid **gerrymandering- inhibiting voting strength of certain demographics**.
incumbents usually win elections **because of money, visibility, constituent services**. They also have **franking** privilege for constituent mail at gov. expense.
The **majority party** in each chamber **appoints the committee chair**. The **leader of the (H)** is called the **Speaker of House**.
All **revenue bills must originate in the (H)**. The **leader of the (S)** is the **Vice President**. The (H) **Rules** committee gives bills guidelines for debate & amendments.
Most bills die in **House**.
In the (S), members can **filibuster** to delay the vote. A **cloture** motion must be called to stop the talk.
Soft \$ are **unregulated** donations to political parties. Soft \$ was banned by the **Federal Election Campaign Act. 527's** are **tax-exempt**.
POTUS is the **Commander in chief** of the military. POTUS is advised by the **Cabinet**. POTUS uses the **OMB** to advise him on the federal budget.
POTUS vetoes are (**often/ not often**) overridden.
POTUS (**can/ cannot**) use the line item veto option since 1998.
All of POTUS' treaties and appointments must be approved by the **Senate**.
divided government is when POTUS and Congress are different political parties.

Unit II: 25-36% (PART II) The Bureaucracy, & the Federal Courts

the bureaucracy is a **large, complex organization of appointed officials**. The three "points" of the iron triangle are **congress, bureaucracy, and interest groups**.
The **spoils** system was **eliminated** and the **pendleton** Act required government jobs to be earned by merit.
federal Agencies govern and standardize actions by groups like the SEC (Stocks) and the Federal Reserve.
POTUS can issue an **executive order**, which **carries the weight of law**. Congress uses **direct oversight** with the federal bureaucracy to hold hearings/ investigations, control their budget and spending, and reorganize an agency if necessary.
An **iron triangle** is not the same as an **issue** network. An iron triangle has **3 interlocking points** and a **issue** network consists of a wide range of people who debate policy.
SCOTUS judges must use the **constitution (foundational document)** to make decisions in cases.
original Jurisdiction is in courts in which a case is first heard. **appellate** Jurisdiction is used in courts where cases are brought on appeal from a lower court.
The **Rule of Four** is set so that the decision for SCOTUS to hear a case, this **minimum # of judges** must agree.
Judicial restraint argues judges must use the original intent of the constitution in deciding cases. Whereas **Judicial activism** incorporates the belief that social injustices may be corrected with modern standards.
SCOTUS judges and all other Federal Judges serve a **federal appointment**.
Federalist # 78 argued for a **stronger**

Unit III: 13-18% Civil Rights & Civil Liberties

The **Bill Of Rights** is the **first 10 amendments to the Constitution** and protects civil liberties/ rights.
The term **incorporation** means the Bill of Rights applies to federal government as **WELL AS states**.
The **14th Amendment** contains the **due** process clause and the **equal** protection clause.
President Jefferson described the relationship between religion and government as a **"Wall of seperation."**
The **Free exercise** Clause in the **1st Amendment** says our government **will not have a declared religion**. Key cases include **Engel v. Vitale** where it was ruled there will be **NO mandatory prayer** in public schools. The **Free exercise** Clause in the **1st Amendment** says our government will allow individuals to **worship freely a religion of their choosing**. Key cases include **Wisconsin v. Yoder** where it was ruled that a family's religious practice outweighed state's interest in compulsory education.
Schenck v. US = does your speech invoke a **"clear and present danger"?**
Tinker v. Des Moines = **"symbolic"** speech is protected.
Brown v. Board of Education = separate but = is NOT =. Overturned **Plessy v. Ferguson**.
The **New York Times Co. v US** dealt with the **1st Amendment, free** speech clause. The ruling prevented **prior** restraint.
MLK's Letter from a Birmingham jail argued that **African americans** should use **civil disobedience** to seek equality and expand civil rights.
Gideon v. Wainwright assured Americans they have the right to **counsel**. **McDonald v. Chicago** guarantees that the **Second**

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Unit IV: 10-15% Political Ideologies and Beliefs

Government based on consent of the governed is known as a **social** contract. Many American's distrust the government which results in a **low political participation**.
[answerHere](#) is the **#1 factor of political socialization**.
Right to life, laissez faire, & less government regulation describes a **conservative** or (**liberal/ conservative**) ideology. Whereas **liberal** vote **pro-choice, support a national healthcare system, & expanded programs for poor, minorities, & women**. Their ideology is (**liberal/ conservative**). Steps to a **scientific poll**: 1- Define the population, 2- Construct a **random sample** in which every member has an = chance of being chosen, 3-carefully construct questions to avoid **bias**.
The **margin-of- error** in a valid poll is typically +/- 3%.
People with (**more/ less**) education & income are more likely to vote.
Older people are (**more/ less**) likely to vote than younger people.
Younger voters typically vote for the **Democratic** party.
The **gender gap** describes the **difference in voting patterns between males & females**.
The **national voter registration act of 1993** made **voter registration** easier by allowing people to vote when they **renewed their license**.

Unit V: 20-27% Political Parties, Interest Groups, & Mass Media

The **#1 goal of political parties** is to **organize political majority**. Political parties are a **linkage institution** because they provide information & mobilize voters & raise funds to support party candidates.
A **single-member district** only elects **one** candidate(s) for each office.
The **winner takes all** system describes a situation where **ALL of the electoral votes go to the victor**. This makes it hard for **candidates** to win elections.
An **Interest Group's #1 goal** is to **influence public policy**. They **fund** policymakers by attempting to persuade them.
A **PAC can give \$ 5,000**, where as a **private citizen can only give \$ 2,900** to candidates.
Citizens United v. FEC provided the freedom of speech to **First Amendment**. While **size is important**, large interest groups also have the [answerHere](#) problem where members enjoy the benefits of the group, but are not active.
The **elite** theory is a belief that a **small # of wealthy individuals dominate policy**. In the **pluralist** theory, many interest groups compete, **but no one group dominates**. And in the **hyper-pluralist** theory, there are so many competing interest groups [answerHere](#) occurs where there is political deadlock.
Mass media is a **linkage** institution because it **connects people to the government**.
Political campaigns have become more **candidate-centered** = more focus on the

Public Policy/ Miscellaneous Concepts

A grant **categorical** is made for **SPECIFIC** purposes.
A **block** grant is given for **broadly defined purposes**.
The **16th Amendment allowed for income taxes**. The largest portion of the federal budget comes from **income taxes**.
social security and **medicare** are the most expensive federal programs and **pay for the elderly**. An [answerHere](#) program is one that guarantees **access to benefits** for specific groups who meet requirements set by law.
The **Office of Management and Budget (OMB)** has the primary **responsibility of preparing the budget and advising POTUS**.
The Americans With **disabilities** Act increased the power of the federal gov. It requires employers and public facilities to make **"reasonable accommodations"** for people with handicaps.

FRQ Tips!

In the **Argumentative Essay**, the **thesis** point is the MOST IMPORTANT. In order to get it, you must make an **argument** and establish a **position of the argument**.
In the **SCOTUS Essay**, you MUST know factual information from the required cases **AND identify the constitutional** clause used by judges to resolve the case.
In the **Quantitative Analysis essay**, if it asks for a trend, make sure to give **similar** data points.

ADDITIONAL COURT CASES, CLAUSES, AMENDMENTS, LATIN TERMS, & LEGISLATION

****Key Voting Amendments:**
15th (1870) federal government cannot **deny a citizen the right to vote based on race**
19th (1920) **gave women the right to vote**
23rd (**district of columbia**) residents can vote
24th (1964) [answerHere](#)
26th (1971) [answerHere](#)
Constitutional Clauses
****The Necessary and Proper** Clause is also known as the Elastic Clause. It gives Congress the power to make additional laws as appropriate.
****Additional Key Amendments:**
17th (1913) **direct election of U.S. senators** by voters of the state
****Key Cases**
Marbury v Madison = **judicial** Review
McCullough v. Maryland = Strengthens the **supremacy** Clause through the **necessary** and Proper Clause.
****Key Legislation**
War Powers Act allows **president** to send troops into combat without Congress for **60** days.
Civil Rights Act prohibited discrimination in **race, religion, sex, etc.**
racial laws are another term for discrimination towards African Americans.
****Latin Terms**
Amicus Curie is a **person who isn't a party to a case**.
Stare Decisis is Latin for a **legal doctrine** that obligates courts to follow **historical cases** when making a **ruling on a similar case**.
Writ of certiorari is an order of

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