

AP GOVERNMENT SUMMER ASSIGNMENT 2020

This assignment must be done in a spiral notebook. Typed responses will not be accepted. It is due the first day of school. The assignment must be done in ink, NOT pencil. Use complete sentences.

There are 15 required Supreme Court cases in AP Government that you are required to know. They are listed below in chronological order:

Marbury v. Madison (1803)
McCullough v. Maryland (1819)
Schenck v. US (1919)
Brown v. Board of Education (1954)
Baker v. Carr (1962)
Engel v. Vitale (1962)
Gideon v. Wainwright (1963)
Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969)
New York Times v. US (1971)
Wisconsin v. Yoder (1972)
Roe v. Wade (1973)
Shaw v. Reno (1993)
US v. Lopez (1995)
McDonald v. Chicago (2010)
Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (2010)

The main source you should use is: www.oyez.org. You may add other sources, especially in searching for concurring and/or dissenting opinions (see below).

This is NOT a completion grade. It will be graded.

For each of the above cases, cover the following:

1. Summarize the facts of the case.
2. What is the constitutional principle (or question) being considered?
3. What was the decision (who won)? What was the numerical vote?
4. Summarize the majority opinion. This is sometimes called the opinion of the court. Who wrote this opinion? There is almost always a majority opinion (unless there is a per curiam opinion). Look that up.
5. Are there any concurring opinions? This is an opinion by a justice who voted with the majority but for different reasons. Sometimes there are no concurring opinions. But if there are, summarize them and name the author(s).

6. Are there any dissenting opinions? This is an opinion written by a justice on the “losing” side of the case. Sometimes there are no dissenting opinions. But if there are, summarize them and name the author(s).

This is not a difficult assignment since you can find all or almost all of the info on www.oyez.org. These court cases will be included in the multiple choice section of the AP exam AND one of the four essays on the AP exam is a Supreme Court Case comparison question involving one of these cases. So it's important. This assignment is summative.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me at dskalski@santafecatholic.org.