

# American Government HC Mid-Year Assessment

## 1. Know the following vocabulary terms:

dictatorship	Federalist	conference
authoritarian	Loyalist	committee
totalitarian	limited government	rules committee
lobbyist	bicameral	standing committee
popular sovereignty	unicameral	Food and Drug
coup d'etat	ad hoc committee	Administration
Anti-federalist		(FDA)

## 2. Know the difference between the following types of governments, theories about governments:

confederate	unitary	anarchy
(confederation)	parliamentary	democracy
federal	divine right to rule	
presidential	Marxism	

## 3. Know the impact of the following on the Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution:

John Locke  
Magna Carta  
Virginia House of Burgesses  
Mayflower Compact

- In the U.S. we have "majority rules." What responsibility does the majority have to the minority?
- What are the main points in the preamble to the Declaration of Independence?
- Define:
  - separation of powers - List ALL of the powers/functions of each branch of government
  - checks and balances (LIST ALL OF THEM)
  - federalism
  - executive privilege
  - general veto
  - line-item veto
  - pocket veto
  - concurrent powers (list them)
  - inherent powers (list them)
  - implied powers (list them)
  - expressed powers (list them)
- What was the **main** point of the following Supreme Court decisions? Marbury vs Madison, Brown vs Board of Education, McCulloch vs MD, Plessey vs Ferguson
- What are the main differences between the Constitution and the Articles of Confederation?
- At the Constitutional Convention, what was the main goal of the Founding Fathers? (They had already determined that they would create a democratic form of government. )
- Under what circumstances may the government limit freedom of expression (First Amendment)?

11. What is the main point of each of the main compromises made during the Constitutional Convention? Who was "appeased" by the compromise?
12. What are the steps taken to impeach a president?
13. Know the powers of the House of Representatives and the Senate (what are the differences?)
14. What are the duties of the president?
15. What procedure is followed if a president has to leave office prior to the end of his/her term? What procedure is followed if a vice president leaves office prior to his/her term?
16. Know the first 15 amendments to the Constitution
17. Which groups/individuals set the public agenda?
18. What impact do interest groups, PACs and lobbyists have on public policy?
19. Why don't the Republicans and Democrats want to get rid of the Electoral College?
20. Which group/individual has the greatest influence on the political party that a person joins?
21. Citizens have rights and responsibilities. List the responsibilities that citizens have in the U.S.
22. What is the goal/objective of national party conventions that are held every four years?
23. What are the similarities between the president and a governor? What types of duties do they both have?
24. What types of services does the government provide to its citizens?
25. **Free Response questions will ask for examples.** This does not necessarily mean that it has to be a REAL example. For example, the question asks: "What happens when the House and Senate have passed different versions of the same bill? What will happen before this bill can become a law?" Your answer should include an example, but you can make one up: "The House and Senate have each passed a bill limiting the amount of pollutants factories can emit. The bill now goes to \_\_\_\_\_ where \_\_\_\_\_. After that, the bill \_\_\_\_\_ and then \_\_\_\_\_. The president then either \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_. If the latter happens, the Congress can \_\_\_\_\_." If the Congress does not \_\_\_\_\_, then \_\_\_\_\_. Another thing that can happen after the bill is sent to the president is \_\_\_\_\_.