**AP American Government Readings for Chapter 14b**

*#42 Marcia Coyle – The Roberts Court*

1. What is the proper name of “Obamacare”?
2. Other than PPACA, what 2 recent decisions were very controversial in the Supreme Court?
3. How does Balkin define “high politics” and “low politics”?
4. What does the inclusion of Balkins opinion and his case examples tell you about the bias of the author?
5. What happened seven minutes after president Obama signed the PPACA?
6. Eventually how many states challenged the law?
7. Who was the Solicitor General, the lawyer changed with defending the law?
8. Who was the lawyer changed with challenging the law?
9. How many times was the defender interrupted?
10. How many times was the challenger interrupted?
11. What conclusion can you draw from the answers to the last two questions? (Go beyond the simple answer and think of what the implication is!)
12. What was the broccoli argument?
13. How many days did the Supreme Court hear arguments?
14. In what 2 constitutional ways did the majority not approve the PPACA individual mandate?
15. In what way did the court majority uphold the individual mandate?
16. What is controversial about the majority’s interpretation of the law (individual mandate)?
17. Since the majority rejected the Medicaid provision, what did they do so they could approve the provision?
18. What did the dissent say about the way the majority made their decision?
19. How did CBS News describe the “rift in the court”?
20. How did Randy Barnett of National review saw about the ruling?
21. Is Barnett correct? Why or why not? (your opinion)
22. John Roberts decision (his switch) has been compared to John Marshall. Why? Explain.
23. How was this decision an example of judicial restraint?
24. How was this decision an example of judicial activism?

*#43 Jeffrey Toobin – The Oath*

1. Describe a few things about the background of Sonia Sotomayor that strike you as interesting or unique.
2. Who nominated her to the lower Manhattan judgeship?
3. Explain how judge Sotomayor “saved baseball”?
4. Who nominated her to the 2nd Circuit Court?
5. Describe Sotomayor’s “wise Latina” remark.
6. Did her opinion change during the 2009 hearings? If so, how? Why?