**AP Government Summer Assignment 2020 DUE: 1st day of class (no exceptions)**

**Book requirements**

1. We the People: An Introduction to American Government, (12th Edition)

Thomas Patterson

Publisher: McGraw Hill Education, 2017

ISBN-13: 978-1259439186 / ISBN-10: 1259439186

1. The Lanahan Readings in the American Polity 6th Edition

Edited by Ann Serew and Everett Ladd

Publisher: Lanahan Publishers, Inc.; (2016)

ISBN-13: 978-1930398191

1. Decision in Philadelphia: The Constitutional Convention of 1787

By Christopher Collier and James L Collier

Ballantine Books

ISBN 0-345-34652-1

**Summer Assignment**

Read entire book (Decision in Philadelphia) and as you read answer the following questions.

**Preface**

1. What are the three ways to look at the US Constitution?

**Chapter One: A Nation in Jeopardy**

1. Why was it important that the newly independent states gather to amend the Articles of Convention?

**Chapter Two: America in 1787**

1. Why was the 1787 Constitutional Convention not called earlier? Why did it take so long?

**Chapter Three: The Mind of James Madison**

1. What was James Madison’s approach to government making?
2. Was Madison happy with the constitution as he left the convention?
3. What did he study to prepare himself for the convention?

**Chapter Four: The Unbelievable George Washington**

1. What was Washington involved in that convinced him that there needs to be a national assembly to discuss commerce and trade issues?
2. What was the conclusion of those that attended the Annapolis, MD conference?
3. What did Washington do to prevent the army (following the victory against the British) from marching on Congress to demand their back pay?
4. Describe the 2 sides of Washington?

**Chapter Five: Madison Plans a Government**

1. Why was it important that Washington attend the Philadelphia 1787 meeting?
2. Why pick Philadelphia for the meeting?
3. What did Madison want from the convention?
4. What three virtues did Madison say an extended republic creates?
5. What 2 principles of government did Madison support?
6. What kind of government was Madison’s ultimate goal?

**Chapter Six: Alexander Hamilton & the British Model**

1. How was Hamilton’s background different from other founding fathers?
2. Describe the British system at the time of the convention?
3. What are the three basic types of governments and what eventually becomes of them?
4. What does the British system have that prevents these results listed above?
5. What type of government did Hamilton like?

**Chapter Seven: The Puzzle of Charles Pinckney**

1. Where did Charles Pinckney get his idea for his government proposal?
2. Why will we never know what plan Pinckney presented to the convention? Explain
3. How could you define the one major speech that Pinckney made at the convention?

**Chapter Eight: Men, Manners & Rules: The Convention Begins**

1. Were the delegates “typical” Americans? Why or why not?
2. Other than G. Washington who was the most famous delegate? Why?
3. What two major developments occurred in the 1st day?
4. What two rules were created?

**Chapter Nine: Roger Sherman & the Art of Compromise**

1. What was the difference & purpose of creating a “committee of the whole”?
2. What was the main issue between the big states and small states? Why?
3. What state threatened to leave early in the convention? Why?
4. Which delegate signed almost all major documents in American history? Which ones?
5. What was Roger Sherman’s plan of compromise on representation?

**Chapter Ten: William Paterson Picks a Fight**

1. What three principles did Paterson bring to the convention?
2. Why did many small states (like Georgia and South Carolina) support the big state plan?

**Chapter Eleven: The Battle Joined**

1. What is the “original” idea that began the creation of a bi-cameral legislature?
2. What type of person did R Sherman of CT want to serve in the upper house (Senate)?
3. What was the compromise that tried to join the large state position & the small state position together?

**Chapter Twelve: Luther Martin and a Lost Opportunity**

1. What seemed to be L. Martin’s main purpose (goal) as a delegate?
2. Martin was accused of what indulgence during the convention?
3. Martin believed that any union must be a union of what and not what?

**Chapter Thirteen: The Most Serious and Threatening Excitement**

1. Why/how did the equal representation proposal win for the Senate if most states supported proportional representation?

**Chapter Fourteen: A New Alliance**

1. Where did the idea of the 3/5ths compromise originate?
2. Why did the 3/5ths compromise proposal pass 9 to 2 in the convention?
3. What major economic practice did the states of CT and SC have in common?
4. Why was the idea of a 10 year census and reapportionment such a controversial issue?

**Chapter Fifteen: The Western Lands**

1. Why was the issue of western lands a contentious one?
2. How was the convention able to get the 3/5ths compromise agreed to?

**Chapter Sixteen: Another Trade-Off**

1. What was the Committee of Detail?
2. What did northern states get in the Committee of 13 in order for them to accept slavery?
3. Why didn’t the constitutional ban slavery or even slowly eliminate it (and thus prevent a future Civil War)?
4. Why did the south give political power to the north?
5. Why did the northern states accept the existence of slavery and not move to eliminate it?

**Chapter Seventeen: Balancing Act**

1. What were the two main conflicts at the convention?
2. According to Madison in Federalist #55, why is government necessary?
3. Besides governing a people what must good government also do?
4. What two methods were considered to give the national government power? (pg. 246)
5. What was the level of debate, and the final vote total or the “enumeration” power (the necessary and proper clause) created by the Committee of Detail and presented August 16th?
6. What was the first list of enumerated powers that the committee of detail created? (pg. 257)
7. According to the author, what enabled the US to economically expand so rapidly?

**Chapter Eighteen: Curing the Republican Disease**

1. What was the main reason that the south rejected the idea that the National Government could “veto” state laws?
2. As a replacement for the national governments “veto” what was chosen?
3. Who did the convention determine should be the final interpretation of the meaning of the constitution?

**Chapter Nineteen: James Wilson Democratic Nationalist**

1. What three elements did many delegates want in a national Executive?
2. What did Montesquieu advocate in his Spirit of the laws?
3. What other philosopher proposed the same idea?
4. What type of government did James Wilson fight for and why?
5. What was unique about Wilson (as compared to other convention delegates)?
6. Why do most Americans not know about Wilson even though he supported the idea of democracy in America?

**Chapter Twenty: In the Shadow of Washington**

1. What were the three basic questions the convention asked in regards to the executive?
2. The idea of an “executive council” was rejected by the convention. What form did this take in the actual presidency of George Washington and every President following him? (pg. 294)
3. Who proposed the idea of an Executive election that eventually came to be the Electoral College?
4. How was the Electoral College system approved if some states delegates wanted direct election of executive vs those that wanted elected officials to choose the president?

**Chapter Twenty One: Elbridge Gerry’s War Against the Army**

1. Why was there so much fear in the colonies in 1787? (The author outlines six. Can you think of more than six – other than a standing army?)
2. Why were the delegates afraid of a “standing army”?
3. Instead of purchasing or forcing states to comply with federal law, what did the delegates decide?
4. Why did E. Gerry not sign the Constitution?

**Chapter Twenty Two:**

1. What two Enlightenment figures posed that all people have “natural rights” given to them by “The Creator” (God)?
2. What civilizations first had the idea of Natural Rights?
3. What three elements of the Constitution satisfied most delegates at the convention that a Bill of Rights was not necessary?
4. What are the four basic reasons why the convention rejected a Bill of Rights?
5. What two states needed to ratify the Constitution (because of their economic power) or the United States may never have happened?
6. What were the two main reasons why the Constitution was ratified even with strong opposition?

**Chapter Twenty Three: The Most Remarkable Work**

1. Why does the US Constitution work (for the most part!)? (Five reasons)
2. According to the authors, in what four ways did the delegates make major errors in their constitutional creation?