

WELCOME TO AP GOVERNMENT!!! For many of you, I can understand your relief to be rid of Ms. Jefferson. In order to make you feel welcome in AP Government, and to have you think about me all summer, you are going to have the opportunity to have a summer reading assignment!!!! However, since you are at the top of the class now, the creme de la creme, big time seniors...no more stuffy textbook assignments! Complete the following assignments-

#1 You get to read a classic piece of literature entitled *A Brilliant Solution: Inventing the American Constitution* by Carol Berkin. It is informative, well-written, and perhaps even an enjoyable story of the Constitutional Convention of 1787. This book will give you an excellent foundation for this class, in addition to giving you some excellent background for succeeding on the AP examination in May.

Your assignment is to:

1. Write a half-page synopsis of each chapter. Include a short description of the major 'players' mentioned in the chapter and the ideas or principles that were discussed. Also, pick your favorite quote and write a reaction to it. Include any questions and comments that came to mind while you were reading the chapter. The format for your paper should look like this:

- Chapter and Title
- Synopsis
- Brief Description of Major Players
- Main Ideas, Principles, and Arguments and your thoughts related to them
- Quote and Reaction
- Questions and Comments

*Each chapter should only be one page and one page only. (Single spaced)

→You will also be required to write a one page evaluation of the book. Berkin is a widely recognized scholar. Pay particular attention to the lack of end/footnotes. This will be assigned the first day back with one week to complete so be prepared. Quotes to illustrate points will be required.

* It is due the first day back and there will be a test over the book, so make sure you read it!

#2 In order to complete the complete assignment throughout the year you will need to check out from the library or purchase the book *Barron's How To Prepare For The AP US Government and Politics* (@Amazon.com new- \$11.53 / used - \$5.00).

Here is my Email address if you have questions or comments!

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Happy Reading! See you at the beach.

P.S. Working together, forming summer discussion groups, reading out loud to each other, etc. are all encouraged. Copying your friend's (nah, you'd never ask a friend to do that) work will result in both of you taking an early exit from AP Government.