

# AP Comparative Government & Politics

Summer Assignment 2018

## **Welcome to AP Comparative Government & Politics!**

I am so excited to be teaching you *AP Comparative Government & Politics* this year! I can't think of a more exciting time to study these 6 countries, what we will refer to as "the AP 6": the **UK, Russia, China, Mexico, Iran, and Nigeria**. We will spend a lot of time talking about this, but I hope my enthusiasm for the subject is contagious. Here is your Summer Assignment and it is divided into 3 Parts.

**For this assignment, you will use select text excerpts from:**

Wood, Ethel. AP Comparative Government and Politics: A Study Guide. Reading, PA: Woodyard Publications, 2005.

## **Part I: Read and Prep for Your Vocabulary Quiz**

(1) Read the following sections of Ethel Wood's AP Comp Gov review text:

- (a) "Introduction to Comparative Government" (Ethel Wood - pp. 7-41)
- (b) "Advanced Democracies" (Ethel Wood - pp. 51-53)

(b) Click on the "Introduction to AP Comparative Government" **Quizlet** link below. Study this vocab! IT IS ESSENTIAL.

**Quizlet on Ethel Wood's Introductory Chapter (Terms & Vocabulary):**

<https://quizlet.com/176207707/ap-comparative-government-ethel-wood-chapter-1-flash-cards/>

\*If you are unsure of what the definitions in the Quizlet actually mean, look the words up. *Be resourceful!* Find out the context of the words. You will be quizzed on it (yes, the WHOLE list) in the first week of school. The vocab quiz will be, however, purely definitional, i.e. based on the Quizlet provided.

This is *a lot* of vocabulary and just "the tip of the iceberg" for this AP exam. You have TWO MONTHS within which to get this done...so I expect you to use your time wisely and do it well.

## **Part II: Complete Your "Freedom House Graphic Organizer"**

(a) Complete the **Freedom House Organizer** (attached in my email to you, June 2018) using the websites I post below for each of our AP 6 countries.

**\*NOTE:** As you fill in your graphic organizer, be sure NOT to use any numerical rankings or ratings in your graphic organizer. *Freedom House* uses rankings like, "7/40" or "28/30." Do NOT copy any of these numbers. Instead, your graphic organizer should be full of your personal notes: it can be bullet pointed, but it must be complete, detailed....and with concrete examples. **\*Fill in the graphic organizer by hand.**

(Continued....)

**a. Freedom House - UK**

<https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2018/united-kingdom>

**b. Freedom House – Iran**

<https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2018/iran>

**c. Freedom House – Nigeria**

<https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2018/nigeria>

**d. Freedom House – Mexico**

<https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2014/mexico>

**e. Freedom House – Russia**

<https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2018/russia>

**f. Freedom House - China**

<https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2018/china>

Your Graphic Organizer can, of course, make use of very short phrases from the Freedom House website, but absolutely *NO copying whole sentences!* Further, when you have questions about an event and or/consequence of an event, do the requisite research to answer them and include these in your graphic organizer.

**Part III: Read and Outline two texts:**

- (a) **Read and outline:** “*What Democracy is...and is not,*” by Philippe C. Schmitter and Terry Lynn Karl.  
**\*Your outlined should be DETAILED.**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B7kX2ngFgHijUjV3clpSc0VEcGs/view>

What Democracy Is. . . and Is Not Philippe C. Schmitter, Terry Lynn Karl *Journal of Democracy*, Volume 2, Number 3, Summer 1991, pp. 75-88 (Article) Published by The Johns Hopkins University Press DOI: 10.1353/jod.1991.0033

- (b) Read and carefully **outline** the AP College Board's ***Democratization Briefing Paper***, which I posted below. **\*Your outlined should be DETAILED.**

[https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/apc/ap05\\_comp\\_govpol\\_demo\\_42252.pdf](https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/apc/ap05_comp_govpol_demo_42252.pdf)

\* BOTH your outlines can be typed and they should be DETAILED, with very clear examples embedded within them.

- (c) **Respond to Questions:** After reading the Briefing Paper, answer the following questions completely. Your responses to these should be typed. For each, you must use clear examples from your reading (and hopefully, further independent research) to support your responses:

1. List the characteristics of substantive and procedural democracies. Discuss at least two examples of countries that work for both categories. Explain why you think so.
2. Explain why a procedural democracy is not necessarily a substantive democracy.
3. Identify the “three waves of democratization.” Explain each wave in your own words.
4. What is the relationship between level of economic development and the international environment of democracy on the outcome of democratization? Is there correlation and/or causation? Justify your response with an explanation and examples to support your answer(s).
5. Who initiates democratization when it is “from above”? How does this differ when the democratization comes “from below”? What are some concrete examples you came across in your reading/research?
6. What is meant by *democratic consolidation* from transitional democracy?
7. What is missing in an “illiberal” democracy? What is an example of a country that is “illiberal”? Why? Justify your response.

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\* **Special Note:** If any portion of this Summer Assignment (Freedom House Graphic Organizer, Outlines and/or Question responses) is copied/plagiarized directly from a peer, relative, published text and/or a journal, newspaper, magazine and/or website, you will earn an automatic zero.

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**Submit the following at the BEGINNING of our first class of the first week of school. NO excuses! If you are unsure if you are taking the class or not, do the assignment. You learn a ton (and I simply will not entertain any excuses otherwise).**

- (1) Completed *Freedom House Graphic Organizer*
- (2) Two full, detailed outlines. Your outlines can be typed, but they must very clearly be your OWN (typed).
- (3) Question responses (typed).

**\* I will collect all components of your Summer Assignment immediately, so do NOT plan to print anything out in class!**