

American Government

Writing Ideas

1. After watching the video, summarize three key ideas that you learned. (3-12)
2. After watching the video, did you learn things that didn't fit with what you thought about the laws or how what you already knew reinforced? Do you have new insights into the law? Write two paragraphs to answer these questions. (5-12)
3. Argue that it is (is not) a good thing that the US Constitution a living document. (9-12)
4. Pick an amendment to the constitution and explain why it is an important addition. (6-12)
5. Explain the balance of power set forth in the U.S. Constitution. (6-12)
6. Research the Federalists vs. the anti-Federalists ideas and opinions about the presidential powers in 1787. (9-12)
7. Research and argue who expanded the presidential powers the most importantly: Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, or Franklin Roosevelt. (9-12)
8. Research 5 key differences in the presidency since George Washington to the present day. (9-12)
9. Argue for or against that following the rule of the law leads to an orderly society. (3-8)
10. Explain the levels of the court system and describe the highest court's jobs. (6-12)
11. Describe Missouri's non-partisan court plan and argue that it is (or is not) better than electing judges. (9-12)
12. Describe how a case gets taken to the Supreme Court. (6-12)
13. Should judges be appointed for life? Argue why or why not. (6-12)
14. Describe why free speech is an important right. (3-6)
15. Detail the 14th Amendment and explain why it is (or is not) important. (6-12)
16. Describe the Miranda Rights and argue their importance to citizens. (9-12)
17. Compare and contrast the juvenile vs. adult court. (6-12)

18. Choose the Civil Rights Act, Fair Housing Act or Voting Rights Act and describe why it was enacted and describe why you think it is important. (9-12)