

## AP Government Final Exam Study Guide 1112

1. Define and describe “federalism.”
2. During the writing of the Constitution, the leaders of most states had a fear that the national government would become ... what?
3. A lawsuit filed by one person against another person is called a \_\_\_\_\_ suit and is tried in \_\_\_\_\_ court.
4. Explain the difference between a budget deficit and the national debt. Just because an interest group is successful in getting its agenda put into legislation, does that necessarily mean the interest group is in step with the majority of the American people on this issue?
5. Are there any circumstances, in the Supreme Court’s opinion, in which free speech can legitimately be curtailed? Is the government denied the power to abridge the right of free speech under any circumstances?
6. Can the government limit any type of speech that the majority of Americans find offensive? Is there any distinction in free speech rights between print/broadcast media and the spoken word?
7. What are some powers shared by the state and federal governments?
8. What are some powers (and duties/responsibilities) that only states exercise?
9. What are two ways a president can kill a bill passed by Congress?
10. What term would you use to describe the organization of the two main political parties, and what does this term mean in relation to parties?
11. What is the media’s method for its role in establishing the public agenda?
12. The higher impact of education will more likely cause a voter’s ideology to be \_\_\_\_\_.
13. What was the importance of the *Gideon* case?
14. How does media attention to an election affect the likelihood of a person voting? What does the Tenth Amendment say?
15. Explain what the “necessary and proper” clause says/does.
16. What does the House Rules Committee determine, in relationship to proposed legislation?
17. What is an entitlement program?
18. Even when it is necessary to reform an entitlement program, such as Social Security to keep it from going broke, why is it difficult to do so?
19. How does the constitutional definition of the president’s powers make limitations on these powers uncertain?
20. How can the secretary of state and the president’s national security advisor find themselves sometimes working in tandem on issues?
21. How can a state increase the significance of its influence on the primary election system?
22. What does it mean when a member of the president’s cabinet “goes native?”
23. What constitutional basis has been used by opponents of the death penalty?
24. Which amendment, and what particular part of that amendment, is most often cited by the Supreme Court to apply portions of the Bill of Rights to state law?
25. How were senators selected under the original Constitution? Explain the reason for this.

26. Know the powers given to, and denied to, the national government under the Articles of Confederation.
27. Independent regulatory agencies are headed by commissioners representing both major parties. This is done to protect them from what?
28. In order for the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to have the teeth it needed to get rid of segregation in public schools, the law allowed Congress to withhold what from discriminatory school systems?
29. The rules of the electoral college make it especially important for presidential candidates to concentrate their campaigns and resources in what kinds of states?
30. In most cases, this level of government ends up implementing federal programs through means of grants, etc.
31. What does Article III of the Constitution say about the creation of federal courts?
32. Explain the difference between an open primary and a closed primary.
33. PACs proliferated as an unexpected result of what law passed in 1974?
34. What is the minimum voting age in the country? How was this established?
35. Define "salience."
36. Under Chief Justice Earl Warren, the Supreme Court greatly expanded the rights of this particular group of people.
37. What case studied in class deals with the use of racial quotas (affirmative action)?
38. How did Madison in "Federalist No. 10" argue that a federal system of government reduces the danger of political factions?
39. Most action on a bill in the House takes place in/on \_\_\_\_\_.
40. If you are accused of a felony but the prosecution fails to prove its case, is there any provision at all for you being tried again for the crime? (This is a semi-trick question.)
41. Congressional oversight most often takes place at what level?
42. Non-whites are most likely to vote for what party?
43. Low-income voters are most likely to vote for what party?
44. Fundamentalist Christians are most likely to vote for which party?
45. What types of groups make up an iron triangle?