



Environmental Policy

Unit I Study Guides – Principles of American Government

Name:

Section:

Directions: Use the following guiding question to help you prepare for the upcoming test in the foundations of American government and the principles of democratic government.

Section 1: The Six Big Ideas

Be able to explain the following ideas as they relate to the Constitution

1. Popular Sovereignty
2. Federalism
3. Checks and Balances
4. Limited Power
5. Separation of Power
6. Republicanism

Section 2: Creating a Government

1. What were the articles of Confederation?
2. Why did they fail?
3. Be able to identify arguments for (Federalists), or against (Anti-Federalists) a new constitution.
4. What is a constitution and why is it important to have?
5. Be able to write a definition for government.

Section 3: Core American Values

1. In your own words be able to describe the importance of the core American Values
 - a. Individualism
 - b. Achievement and Success
 - c. Activity and Work
 - d. Efficiency and Practicality
 - e. Science and Technology
 - f. Progress
 - g. Material Comfort
 - h. Humanitarianism
 - i. Freedom
 - j. Democracy
 - k. Equality
 - l. Racism and Group Superiority

Section 4: Checks and Balance

Be able to explain the following

7. At least one check the Legislative Branch has on the Executive Branch
8. At least one check the Legislative Branch has on the Judicial Branch.
9. At least one Check the Executive Branch has on the Judicial Branch
10. At least one check the Executive Branch has on the Legislative Branch
11. At least one check the Judicial Branch has on the Legislative Branch.
12. At least one check the Judicial Branch has on the Executive Branch.

Section 5: Citizenship, Popular Sovereignty

1. What are advantages of being a citizen of a country?
2. Explain the ideas of Popular Sovereignty and how it is connected to the ideas of Republicanism.
3. Explain three ways that citizens are able to exercise their control over the government.

Section 6: Workings of the government

1. Be able to explain the composition, function, and purpose of each of the branches of government.
2. What is the difference between trusteeship and the delegate model of representation.
3. What special powers does the majority party have within the legislative branch? What methods can the minority party use as well?
4. How does the bill of rights connect to the ideas of limited government? Be able to explain the different bills that were discussed in class and how they're able to protect certain rights of the people.