

# AP US Government Summer Reading

For this course, it's important that you understand the basics of our government. Who better to learn the basics from than the men who wrote and argued in favor of the federal constitution proposed at the conclusion of the Constitutional Convention? Each of the Federalist Papers were meant to be persuasive essays in support of the new constitution. Print and read each document from the websites below. **Answer the questions below AND highlight the portion of the text** that answers each question. It is also suggested that you number the highlighted portion so you know which answer the text relates to.

## Primary Sources:

Federalist 10: <http://www.let.rug.nl/usa/documents/1786-1800/the-federalist-papers/the-federalist-10.php>

Federalist 51: <http://www.let.rug.nl/usa/documents/1786-1800/the-federalist-papers/the-federalist-51.php>

Federalist 78: <http://www.let.rug.nl/usa/documents/1786-1800/the-federalist-papers/the-federalist-78.php>

## Questions on Federalist Number 10:

1. What are factions, according to Madison and where does he write of them?
2. What are the causes of faction, according to Madison?
3. What is the most common and durable source of faction, according to Madison?
4. How could we cure the "mischiefs of faction," according to Madison? Why are these remedies worse than the disease, according to Madison?
5. What is Madison's solution for controlling the effects of factions?
6. What is a republic, what is a pure democracy, and how do they differ?
7. How does a republic inhibit the effects of factions, according to Madison?

## Questions on Federalist Number 51:

1. Which branch of government did Madison think would be the weakest?
2. Which methods does Madison suggest to check the powers of government?
3. How is the separation of powers between the three branches assured?
4. Which branch appears as an exception to the separation of powers norm? Why is this exception not dangerous?
5. What are the two great advantages of federalism, according to Madison?
6. What is the "end" (supreme goal) of government, according to Madison?
7. What is Madison's view of human nature and how does it affect his prescriptions for the republic?

## Questions on Federalist Number 78:

1. What is important about the new role of the federal judiciary?
2. Why does the judiciary need to be independent in a republic, according to Hamilton?
3. Why do judges need life appointments, according to Hamilton? Do you agree?
4. According to the author, why are the courts vital to a limited constitution?
5. Why does the author believe that judges have permanent tenure?
6. What is the author's attitude toward the proposed Supreme Court of the United States?

<b>Total: 40 points Correct Response:</b> 1 point for each correct response	20 Questions	20 Points
<b>Highlighted Text:</b> 1 point for the highlighted text where the correct response can be found	20 Questions	20 Points