

AP Government and Politics Summer Test Assignment

Due Date: 09/04/2025

Purpose: Supreme Court cases are necessary for students to understand significant legal precedents and may serve as the focus of AP Exam questions. The following list represents College Board's required Supreme Court cases in the content outline.

Directions:

1. Research the following cases and complete the graphic organizer. Make sure to fill out each section completely. This assignment will be used throughout the school year. I would recommend using this [website](#).
2. After you have completed the chart below, you will write a 3-5 page paper answering the following question: *Do Supreme Court rulings infringe on American rights or provide more freedoms?* Be sure to reference at least 2 supreme court cases below and 2 of your own supreme court cases through outside research. You will use them to corroborate your response. It will be turned in through turnitin.com on the first day of school. Please see the rubric below for more details. MLA format must be used.
3. We will turn it in using [turnitin.com](#) on the first few days of the school.

Court Case	Plaintiff	Defendant	Issue	Decision	Lasting Impact
<i>McCulloch v Maryland (1819)</i>					
<i>United States v Lopez (1995)</i>					
<i>Engle v Vitale (1962)</i>					
<i>Wisconsin v Yoder (1972)</i>					
<i>Tinker v Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969)</i>					
<i>New York Times Co. v United States (1971)</i>					
<i>Schenck V United States (1919)</i>					
<i>Gideon v Wainwright (1963)</i>					
<i>McDonald v Chicago (2010)</i>					
<i>Brown v Board of Education (1954)</i>					

<i>Citizens United v Federal Election Commission (2010)</i>					
<i>Baker v Carr (1961)</i>					
<i>Shaw v Reno (1993)</i>					
<i>Marbury v Madison (1803)</i>					

Rubric:

Category	Points	Description
Content	___ out of 40	
- Thesis Statement	___/10	Clear and concise thesis statement that presents a focused argument or research question
- Research Depth	___/10	Sufficient and relevant evidence that demonstrates extensive research on the topic. Works cited page.
- Organization	___/10	Logical and coherent structure that flows smoothly from introduction to conclusion
- Supporting Arguments	___/10	Well-developed arguments supported by credible sources and evidence
Writing Style and Clarity	___ out of 30	
- Clarity and Coherence	___/10	Writing is clear, concise, and effectively conveys the intended message
- Grammar and Mechanics	___/10	Correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation throughout the paper
- Vocabulary and Language	___/10	Appropriate and varied vocabulary used to enhance the quality of writing
Critical Thinking and Analysis	___ out of 10	
- Analysis	___/10	Demonstrates critical thinking skills by analyzing and interpreting information effectively
Graphic Organizer	___ out of 20	
- Analysis	___/20	Demonstrates critical thinking skills by analyzing the supreme court cases to determine their information effectively and the lasting impact they had on American rights