

# Advanced Placement Comparative Government and Politics Summer Assignment – 2020-21

**Teacher: Mr. Rajeh**

Welcome to AP Comparative Government and Politics. Comparative Government and Politics is the study of the political systems of six countries: Great Britain, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, Iran and China. There are a few brief assignments that I would like you to complete before we start our year together in September. The assignments will be due on google classroom on August 28. Our assignments this summer will get us acquainted with one of the major concepts of this course. Collectively the assignments will be turned as one file and receive a grade.

*Google Classroom Code: gsieoye*

*Textbook: Essentials of Comparative Politics by Patrick O'Neil, Fifth Edition*

Students successfully completing this course will be able to:

- Define and describe major comparative concepts
- Support generalizations with relevant factual information pertaining to the governments and politics of China, Great Britain, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria and Russia
- Analyze typical patterns of political processes and behavior and their consequences
- Compare and contrast political institutions and processes across countries
- Analyze and interpret basic data relevant to comparative government and politics

## SUMMER TASKS

### Part I: Vocabulary

Define Key Terms

1. Authoritarianism
2. Bicameral
3. Bureaucracy
4. Checks and Balances
5. Civil Liberties
6. Civil Rights
7. Civil Society
8. Coup d'état
9. Communism
10. Confederation
11. Democratization
12. Devolution
13. Direct Democracy
14. Executive Branch
15. Fascism
16. Federalism
17. Government
18. Head of Government
19. Head of State
20. Illiberal Democracy
21. Imperialism
22. Indirect Democracy
23. Judiciary
24. Judicial Review
25. Legislative Branch
26. Military Junta
27. Liberalization (economic)
28. Liberal Democracy
29. Nation
30. Nation-state
31. Nationalization
32. Parliamentary System
33. Patron-Client System
32. Political Culture
33. Political Efficacy
34. Politics

35. Power 36. Presidential System 37. Privatization 38. Proportional Representation  
39. Referendum 40. Regime 41. Republic 42. Rule of Law 43. Socialism  
44. Separation of Powers 45. Sovereignty 46. State 47. Theocracy 48. Totalitarianism 49. Unicameral  
50. Unitary System

## **PART II: Democratization Briefing Paper**

Read the Democratization Briefing Paper on the AP Central website. It can be accessed at the following link: This paper will inform you about how AP approaches Comparative Government and it labels the Six Countries into one of the following: Fully Democratized, Partially Democratized, and Non-Democratized

[http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/repository/ap05\\_comp\\_govpol\\_demo\\_42252.pdf](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/repository/ap05_comp_govpol_demo_42252.pdf)

After reading the briefing paper, answer the following questions completely:

1. List the characteristics of substantive and procedural democracies.
2. Explain why a procedural democracy is not necessarily a substantive democracy.
3. Identify the “three waves of democratization.”
4. What is the relationship between level of economic development and the international environment of democracy on the outcome of democratization?
5. Who initiates democratization when it is from above? How does this differ when the democratization comes from below?
6. What is meant by democratic consolidation from transitional democracy?
7. What is missing in an “illiberal” democracy?

## **Part III: News Articles (don't be overwhelmed-work on your own pace)- Will check in with you on July 1 and August 1 for progress through google classroom.**

During the summer collect three news articles per country. The articles should span the duration of the summer, and not only reflect 1-2 weeks prior to the start of school. The articles should provide you with information about the political, economic, and/or foreign policy issues confronting each nation. Articles may come from newspapers, periodicals, magazines, and/or the Internet.

Three articles per nation are the minimum number of articles required.

Write a 1 paragraph summary for each news article. (include the links to the articles)