

Cambridge AICE U.S. History AS Level:
Summer Assignment 2024-2025
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You can also find this assignment on our “Summer Google Classroom” page : Sign up for our Summer Google Classroom by to the google class room link

<https://classroom.google.com/c/NTUzODA2MzQyMzUw?cjc=xzg3w66>

and adding this as a new class and use this code **xzg3w66**

1. Use the Google Doc that I have attached to the Summer Assignment within Google Classroom
2. Type your name in the upper right hand corner of the page and save and title this assignment as “**AICE US History Summer Assignment**”
3. Type the **QUESTIONS** & your responses (complete sentences) and submit it to our Assignment in Google Classroom before the first day of school which is **August 12th**. Remember that this is a college level course , so I expect this assignment and all assignments to be filled with a ***plethora of detail.***
4. This should be your own work – not that of your friends and/or classmates.
5. Be prepared to discuss these questions and also turn in your work when you return to school in the fall.

Part I – Read the US Constitution, and answer the following questions. The text of Constitution can be found here: <http://constitutionus.com/>

Preamble:

1. According to the preamble to the US Constitution, who established the US Government?

Article I:

Section 1

2. What branch of government is this?
3. What powers do they have? What does this mean that they do?
4. What are the two major parts of this branch?

Section 2

5. How often are representatives elected? How old do they have to be?
6. How many representatives does each state get?
7. In the formula for determining representation, section 2.3 refers to “...three-fifths of all other persons.” Who is this talking about? Why was this included? You might need a little internet searching.

Section 3

8. How many senators does each state get? How often do they get elected?
9. How old do senators have to be?

Section 8

10. These are the powers of Congress. Does anything surprise you here?

Section 9

- 11. These are the things Congress can NOT do. Does anything surprise you here?

- 12. Read Section 9.1. Who is this talking about? What does this mean?

Article II:

Section 1

- 13. What branch of government is this? Who is this?
How often do they get elected?
- 14. Section 1.5 lists the three qualifications for this position. What are they?
i. _____ ii. _____ iii. _____
- 15. Section 2 – These are the powers of the president. Does anything surprise you here?

- 16. In section 4 – How and for what reasons may this person be removed from office?

Article III

- 17. What branch of government is this? Who is this?
- 18. How are these people chosen (look back up in Article II section 2)?
- 19. How long do they keep their jobs?

Article IV

- 20. Read Article IV section 2.3. Who is this talking about? What does this mean?

Article VI

- 21. Article VI.2 is called the Supremacy Clause. If there is a conflict between the US Constitution or law and a state constitution or law, who wins?

Amendments

22. What are the five freedoms identified in the 1st Amendment?

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____

23. What is the 2nd Amendment about?

24. In very general terms, Amendment 4-8 are designed to protect what people?

25. What did the 13th Amendment do?

26. The 14th Amendment is pretty complicated. Read section 1 and describe what you think it does.

27. What did the 15th Amendment do?

28. What did the 16th Amendment allow?

29. How did the 17th Amendment change how we senators are elected (Look back up in Article I section 3 if needed)?

30. What did the 18th Amendment do?

31. What did the 19th Amendment do?

Part II - US History Basic Review – Use any books or online resources to answer these questions. Be sure to identify where you found your info (the web address will do for online resources). **Remember that this should be your own work – not that of your friends and/or classmates.** I can find out if you did...so please don't attempt to plagiarize!!

1. The United States has had two different types of government in its history as an independent nation, each with a different structure.
 - a. What was the first government of the independent United States (1781-1789)? What type of government structure was this? Explain.
 - b. What is the second government of the United States (1789 to the present)? What type of government structure does it have? Explain.
 - c. Compare & contrast the two governments of the United States. In what ways are they similar? In what ways are they different?
2. What was the Missouri Compromise of 1820? Why was it so controversial?
3. What new territories did the US gain in the Mexican-American War 1846-1848?

Part III - Read Ch. 3 of *The Impending Crisis* by David M. Potter – This can also be found on our SUMMER Google Class: Feel free to print off a copy so that you can annotate the text, as needed. **Please remember that this should be your own work – not that of your friends and/or classmates.**

4. Identify several issues that had divided the North & the South and led to increasing sectionalism ever since the founding of the United States.
5. How did the government structure of the United States contribute to this sectionalism, especially on the issue of slavery?
6. Identify the four basic positions on slavery or “formulas” that the author says emerged as a way of dealing with the issue of slavery in the newly acquired western territories of the US.
 - a. Give a basic description of each position or formula.
 - b. Compare and contrast the four positions or formulas.
 - i. In what ways were they similar?
 - ii. In what ways were they different?
 - iii. If you had to categorize or group the four positions/formulas, how would you do it? Which ones are most similar? Which ones are most different? Explain why you grouped them like you did?
 - iv. Which position/formula seems to you the best way to deal with the issue of slavery in the western territories? Explain your response.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me at michael.hammett@palmbeachschools.org or austin.struckmeyer@palmbeachschools.org

Hope you have a great summer!