

AP Comparative Government Summer Assignment

DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS

Reading Materials:

Patrick H O'Neil Essentials of Comparative Politics with Cases

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/essentials-of-comparative-politics-with-cases-patrick-h-oneil/1124301872?ean=9780393265262>

**Part 1- Read Chapter one and answer all learning objectives.**

**Part 2 – Country Profiles**

For this portion of the assignment, you will become familiar with some of the basics about each of the core countries that we will be studying, focusing on key characteristics of their political, social, and economic systems.

China, Great Britain, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, and United States

Directions: Using the country profile feature of the BBC News website and the CIA World Factbook Online (see links below), complete the following chart for each core country. Refer to the rubric on the instructions page.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country\\_profiles/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country_profiles/default.stm)

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>

**1. Country Name:**

Continent/Region:

Bordering nations:

Main bodies of water:

Climate and key geographic features:

Top natural resources:

Capital City:

**2. System of Government**

Political classification (more democratic or more authoritarian?):

Head of State:

Current Ruling Party:

Head of government:

### **3. Population**

Dominant National/ Ethnic Groups Main Languages Spoken:

Top religions:

Life Expectancy:

GDP (official exchange rate and PPP):

Per Capita GDP:

Poverty Rate:

Unemployment Rate:

Key economic characteristics (important sectors, economic systems, etc.):

Literacy Rate:

### **PART 3: Vocabulary**

Directions: Using the websites that are listed below, please define each of the following terms. Each of these terms are central to AP Comparative Government & Politics and will be referenced frequently throughout the course. Your definitions **MUST** be hand-written and in pen. Please be neat! I recommend using 3x5 note cards.

1. Bicameral Legislature/bicameralism
2. Bureaucracy
3. Confederation
4. Devolution
5. Executive
6. Federalism
7. Interest Groups
8. Judicial Review
9. Judiciary
10. Legislature
11. Legitimacy
12. Liberal Democracy

13. Nation
14. Nationalization
15. Nation-state
16. Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)
17. Parliamentary System
18. Political Culture
19. Political Socialization
20. Presidential System
21. Proportional Representation
22. Referendum
23. Regime
24. Republic
25. Rule of Law
26. Separation of Powers
27. Sovereignty
28. State
29. Theocracy
30. Unicameral Legislation
31. Unitary State