Honors Government Week Five

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<th>ESSENTIAL QUESTION:</th>
<th>How has reapportionment and Gerrymandering impacted individuals, local communities and legislative bodies?</th>
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| PROCEDURES:         | Day 1: Revist gerrymandering and reapportionment, by analyzing background information and reading two articles.  
                      | Day 2: Political Cartoon: “Incumbent and Redistricting”  
                      | Day 3: Constructed Response Question |
| WORK TO BE RETURNED:| Assignment 1: Using the articles, knowledge from class, and the map, answer the comprehensive questions below. Please use COMPLETE SENTENCES.  
                      | Assignment 2: Analyze the political cartoon above, then answer the questions below in complete sentences.  
                      | Assignment 3: Using the articles, images, and your own prior knowledge, answer the constructed response question below regarding gerrymandering. The response should be at least a paragraph (8 sentences). |
| RESOURCES:          | http://caglecartoons.com/sku/80265/  
                      | https://www.commoncause.org/maryland/our-work/gerrymandering-representation/tame-the-gerrymander/  

**Background Info:**
- **Apportionment** - The distribution of seats in the House, based on population of the state  
- Each Representative represents a certain district of equal or near equal size as all the others  
- **Every 10 years districts are “Reapportioned” according to the Census**  

**Redistricting** - when the district lines in each state are redrawn after reapportionment to keep population the same (Baker v. Carr)  

**Gerrymandering** - Redraw or manipulate the district lines in order to favor one party.

### Article One
In a democracy, we are supposed to choose our elected representatives. However, in some instances, through sophisticated partisan gerrymandering tactics, our representatives are really choosing their voters. Election Day is when we get to have our say, and we need to reform the rules so every vote matters.

Every 10 years, in the year following the Census, state legislatures rearrange the boundaries of Congressional and legislative districts. To reduce political influence over those lines, a growing number of states are taking up bipartisan reforms such as Independent Redistricting Commissions to ensure that districts follow voters, not politicians. Maryland, as one of the most gerrymandered states in the nation, must join this movement.

Redistricting is supposed to reflect changes in population and ensure that everyone is fairly represented. But by manipulating the lines, moving friendly voters into pockets of strength and breaking up areas where they and their allies typically run weakest, members of the majority party — Democrat or Republican — can have a big impact on who'll represent you in the statehouse and in Congress.

Common Cause Maryland is working to implement an Independent Redistricting Commission to ensure that the lines are drawn fairly and districts represent the communities they serve.

**Article Two**

“Hogan on high court ruling: ‘Gerrymandering is wrong, and both parties are guilty’

Jenna Portnoy

June 27, 2019

Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan vowed Thursday to keep pushing for an independent redistricting overhaul in the state, putting him at odds with the Democrats who control the legislature, after the Supreme Court declined to throw out Maryland’s congressional map.

Hogan (R) said he will reintroduce a bill calling for the state to place the drawing of congressional districts in the hands of a nonpartisan commission, instead of the General Assembly, where Democrats hold veto-proof majorities in both chambers.

The high court reversed a 2018 order directing Maryland to redraw the 6th District, which stretches from conservative Western Maryland to liberal Montgomery County, before the 2020 election. Residents of the district had sued the state, arguing that the boundaries were unfairly refashioned after the 2010 Census to move Republican voters out and shift Democratic voters in.
Assignment 1

Directions: Using the articles, knowledge from class, and the map, answer the comprehensive questions below. Please use COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. What is Reapportionment? What is used to determine Reapportionment?

2. What is Gerrymandering?

3. If you look at the Map of the Maryland Districts, where is gerrymandering taking place? Explain why you think gerrymandering is taking place in this particular spot in Maryland.

4. How does Gerrymandering impact elections?

5. Explain Governor Larry Hogan's opinion on Gerrymandering. How does he plan to fix the issues of Gerrymandering?
Assignment 2

Directions: Analyze the political cartoon above, then answer the questions below in complete sentences.

1. What type of document is the political cartoon? (Primary or Secondary) Please explain your answer.

2. Is the political cartoon relevant? Explain.
Assignment 3

Directions: Using the articles, images, and your own prior knowledge, answer the constructed response question below regarding gerrymandering. The response should be at least a paragraph (8 sentences).

Question: How does Gerrymandering impact individuals, local communities and legislative bodies?
  ● Based on what you know about gerrymandering, do you believe the use of Gerrymandering is constitutional? Explain
  ● Include details and examples to support your answer.