

**SENIOR SUMMER ASSIGNMENT  
FOR GOVERNMENT AND ECONOMICS COURSES**

***Objective:*** To become familiar with current events issues related to the government and economics courses.

***Task:*** You will keep a journal over the summer covering topics discussed in the economics and government courses. Select **5** articles ; one for **each** of the topics listed below. The articles should be from the New York Times ,the Wall Street Journal or another major newspaper such as the Boston Globe, Los Angeles Times, Washington Post or the Miami Herald, news or business magazines such as Time, Newsweek, Fortune, or a news or business news internet site such as CNN.

***Topics:***

--analysis of the current US economy: for example issues relating to the Federal Reserve Bank, the financial markets, statistics or conditions related to the economy, the federal deficit/debt or college financial issues/student loans.

--analysis of a foreign policy issue facing the U.S. This changes over time but possibly about Iran, North Korea, Afghanistan, United Nations actions, human rights, China, Syria, Turkey, Brazil, Africa.

--international: trade, value of the dollar, economic conditions in other countries including the European Union.

--select **one** of the major Supreme Court decisions announced the last week of June , 2013 (affirmative action, DOMA, gay marriage, the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965)

--For **each** of the 5 articles write a summary (8-10 sentences) including identifying and describing the issue/problem the article is discussing. Include the headline for each article, the reporter's name, the source of the article (NY Times etc.) and the date of the article. List any questions you have about the topic and any vocabulary/terms you researched.

**Discussion questions for each specific article:**

1-What is the importance of the issues/problems discussed? Does the issue/problem relate to any of the other 5 articles, and if so, how?

2-How does the issue/problem discussed impact the United States or certain groups within this country? Use evidence from the articles to support your answer.

3-Does the issue discussed in question 2 also impact other countries? Explain, again using supporting evidence.

4-How does the issue/problem discussed in the article impact your family?

**ALL PAPERS MUST BE TYPED USING NEW ROMAN 12 POINT FONT. THE ORIGINAL ARTICLES DO NOT HAVE TO BE HANDED IN BUT SHOULD BE AVAILABLE IF QUESTIONS ARISE. THE ASSIGNMENT SHOULD BE PRINTED AND STAPLED.**

**DUE DATE: September 9, 2013.**

**Grading:**

--Quality of the articles you have selected

--Completeness of your summary of each article: writing the summary in your own words (not copying information from the article), selecting the main ideas and clearly explaining these ideas.

--Discussion questions: level of analysis and supporting examples.