

## Potential Essays for Government Semester Exam

(You will answer 2 of the following on your exam.)

**You must pre-write 3 of these (or create a thorough outline of 5 of them) to be turned in at the beginning of class on Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.** (Typed or very neatly written)

1. What were the basic ideas about government that colonists brought to America? What other historical ideas became part of American Government? Make sure to answer both questions and provide **at least three** examples of specific sources of influence.
2. For what reasons were compromises needed in the American Constitution? Provide examples for and explain at least **three** specific compromises made. What were the differences between the Federalists and Anti-Federalists, and *how were those differences resolved*? Make sure to answer each question.
3. How does the Bill of Rights protect the freedom and security of the individual? What are the limits of those freedoms? Make sure to answer both questions and provide **at least three** specific examples.
4. Describe **all** the steps involved in passing a bill to a federal law.
5. Describe **all** the steps involved in passing a Constitutional Amendment.
6. Give three examples of how various amendments to the U.S. Constitution have been a response to historical events. **Explain** how those amendments dealt with each circumstance.
7. What was the theoretical basis for the creation of the Electoral College? What impact has the Electoral College had on political campaigns? What are the arguments both for and against the Electoral College system? Make sure to answer all three questions.
8. In 1851 Ohio passed a new state constitution making it more similar to the U.S. Constitution. Compare and contrast how officials were chosen amongst the three branches of government both in Ohio and at the federal level at that time.