

AP US Government - Running Vocabulary List

- as of July 8, 2013 -

3/5ths clause

501© corporation

527s

ABC agencies

acquisitive bureaucracies

activist court

actuary tables

administrative law

adversarial press

"advice & consent"

advocate

affirmative action

Afghanistan War

age discrimination

agenda

Alexis de Tocqueville

Alien & Sedition Acts

allocation of resources

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

American empire

American Experiment, The

American Exceptionalism

amicus curiae

anarchy / anarchism

anachronistic / anachronism

Annapolis Convention

antebellum

anti-federalist

ant-trust / monopoly

apolitical

appeal / appellate court

apportion/ apportionment

appropriations / appropriate

arbitrary rule

Areopagitica (Milton)

arraignment

Article 1, Section 8

Articles of Confederation

at large

atrophy

Australian ballot

authority

balance of trade

balanced budget

balancing the ticket

bankruptcy

barriers to entry

base, the

battleground states

bicameral legislature

big tent

bilateral

bill of attainder

Bill of Rights

Black Box

bipartisan

block grants

Blue Dogs

Boston Tea Party

Bush Doctrine

bourgeoisie

budget

budget deficit
budget resolution
bundle/ bundling
bureau
bureaucracy / bureaucrat
cabal
Cabinet
campaign
campaign finance reform
capital
capital offence / capital crime
capitalism
capitol
categorical grants
caucus
Caucus, the Iowa
caveat emptur
census
censorship >>censor
Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
centralize / centralization
"cert"
charity
charter
chauvinistic
check & balances
Chief Executive
Christian Coalition
citizenship
civic duty
civil law
civil liberties
civil rights

Civil Rights Acts
civil service
classics / classical
clear & present danger doctrine
client politics
cloture
coalition
coattails
coercion
cognitive dissonance
collective bargaining
collective decisions
Commander in Chief
Commerce clause
commercial speech
commission
committees: standing, select, joint
common law
community standards
competitive federalism
concession
concession speech
concurrent power (s)
concurring opinion
confederation
Conference Committee
congress
Congress
Congressional Budget Office (CBO)
Congressional oversight
Connecticut Compromise
conflict of interest
consensus

conservative / conservatism
consent of the governed
consideration (contract law)
constituency
constituent
constitutional / unconstitutional
constitutional crisis
Consumer Price Index (CPI)
consumerism
contempt of court
context / contextual
Continental Congress
continuing resolution
contract / contract law
convention: constitutional, party convention
convention bump
cooperative federalism
co-option
copyright
corporation / incorporation
cover up
Council of Economic Advisors
court
creative destruction
criminal law
cruel and unusual punishment
Czar
dark horse
de facto
de facto segregation v de jure segregation
de jure
debt / federal debt
debt ceiling

Declaration of Independence
deficit: trade deficit, fiscal deficit, budget deficit
delegate, a (n)
delegate, to (v)
delegated powers
deliberation
deliberative body
demagogue / demagoguery
democratic
democracy / democratic
Democratic Party (big "D")
demographics
department
Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
deregulate
determinism
deterrence
deviance
devolution
diffusion
diplomacy / diplomat
direct democracy
direct primary
direct representation
direct tax
discount rate (Federal Reserve)
discretionary authority (bureaucracies)
discrimination
disenfranchised
disinterested
dispersed inequality
dissent

dissenting opinion
distribution of power
distributive policy
district
District Court
divided government v. unified government
divine right / divine rule
diversity
doctrine
double Jeopardy
dualism
dual federalism
dual sovereignty
dual court system
due process
e pluribus unum
earmark
ecclesiastical
economics
economic theory
economy / economy
efficacy (internal v external efficacy)
egalitarianism
elastic / "elastic clause"
election
Electoral College
electoral mandate
electorate
elites / elitism
eminent domain
Enlightenment
entitlements
entitlement state

entrapment
entrepreneurial politics
enumerate
enumerated powers
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
equal application of the law
equal protection
equal protection clause
Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)
equality
equality of outcomes
equality of condition
equity
establishment clause
euphemism
evangelicals
ex post facto (laws)
exclusionary rule
executive branch
executive order
executive privilege
exit polls
expedient
expressed powers
expropriation
extra-constitutional
faction (s)
Fairness doctrine
family values
favorite son
federal
Federal
federal apparatus

Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
Federal Reserve
federalism
federalist
Federalist Papers
Federalist Party
Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA)
feminism
filibuster
First Lady
fiscal policy / fiscal year
flag burning
flat tax
focus group
food stamps
foreign policy
Founders ("Founding Fathers, "Framers")
franking
franchise
franking
fraud
free speech
free trade
front loading (primaries)
front runner
Full faith & credit
functionary
funded mandates (v unfunded)
Gang of Eight
gay and lesbian
gender
gender gap
General Accounting Office (GOA)

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
(GATT)
genocide
gentrification
gerrymandering
global warming
government
Government Accountability Office (GAO)
Grand Old Party (GOP)
grandfather laws/ clause / "grandfathered"
grants
grants-in-aid
Great Compromise
gridlock
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
Group of 8 (also G8)
Guantanamo (also "Gitmo")
habeas corpus
hard money (v. soft money)
hegemony
hereditary rule
home rule
Homeland Security Department
Horatio Alger story
horse race
Housing and Urban Development
Department (HUD)
human rights
humanism
ideology (-ies)
illegal alien
incentives
infrastructure

interdependent
interventionist
Iowa caucuses
immigration reform
impeachment
implied powers
impugn
Imperial presidency
"In God We Trust"
incentive
income distribution
income tax
incorporation (14th amendment)
incumbency
independence
independent agency
independent counsel
independent voter
indict / indictment
indirect democracy
indirect tax
individualism
inequity
inflation
influence
infomercial
informal power
inherent power
initiative
intellectual property
inter-state commerce (also, v intra-state)
institutional bias
intelligence agency

inter-dependent
interests
interest groups
International Monetary Fund (IMF)
institution
Iraq War
iron triangle
isolationism
issue advocacy
Jean Jacques Rousseau: "Social Contract"
Jim Crow laws
John Locke: "Two Treatises of Government"
Joint Chiefs of Staff
joint committee
judicial activism
judicial branch
judicial restraint
judicial review
Judiciary Committee
jurisdiction
jury nullification
justice
Justice Department
Keynesianism
keynote address
kitchen cabinet
laissez-faire
landslide
labor union
largess
laws of unintended consequences
legal precedent

legislation
legislative branch
legislative veto
legislator
legislature
legitimate / legitimacy
Lemon Test
letter of the law
liability / limited liability
liberal
Liberal
liberalism
Libertarian
liberty
license
limited government
line item veto
linkage institution
liquidity
litigant / litigation
living constitution (also "organic")
litmus test
lobbying/ lobbyist
local government / local rule
lock box
logrolling
Louisiana Purchase
machine politics
Machiavelli
magistrate
Magna Carta (also "Magna Charta")
majority
majority age

Majority Leader
majority opinion
majoritarian politics
"majority rule, minority rights"
mandate
Manifest Destiny
marginal district
market economy
market mechanism
Marshall Court
Maslow's hierarchy of needs
masses, the
mass market
mass media
matching funds / matching grants
Mayflower Compact
McCarthy Era / McCarthyism
means test
media
Medicaid / Medicare
merit / merit system
micro / macro
Middle America
midterm elections
Military-Industrial Complex
militia
minority age
Minority Leader
minority party
Miranda Rights
mitigate
monetary policy
monolithic

monopoly
monopoly of force / monopoly on violence
Monroe Doctrine
Montesquieu, Baron de la Brede
moral hazard
mortgage crisis
motor voter
muckraker
mugwump
nation / nation-states
National Abortion Rights Action League
National Association for the Advancement of
Colored People (NAACP)
national committee
national convention
National Governors Association
National Rifle Association (NRA)
National Security Agency (NSA)
nationalize / nationalization
natural law
natural monopoly
Necessary and Proper clause
New Deal
New Jersey Plan
"New World Order"
networking
No Child Left Behind
"No Hypocrites!"
nomination / nominating convention
non-governmental organization (NGO)
non-profit
norms
North America Free Trade Agreement

(NAFTA)
Nuclear Football
Obamacare
obscenity
Occupational Safety and Health
Administration (OSHA)
"of the people"
Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
omnibus legislation
open primary
opinions (Court)
oral argument
orderly transfer of power
original intent
original jurisdiction
pardon(s)
parliamentary maneuver
parliamentary system
parochial
partisan / partisanship
party realignment
parties: major, minor, independent
party dealignment
party discipline / party loyalty
party machine
"passions attached to opinions"
patents
patrician
patriotic / patriotism
patronage
payroll taxes
penal system
pension

Pentagon Papers
per capita
Persian Gulf
persuasion
perverse incentives
petition
People for the American Way
photo op
planned economy
platform / plank
plea bargain
plebe / plebian
pluralism / pluralistic
pocket veto
polarize / polarization
police power
policy wonk
political
Political Action Committee (PAC)
political appointee
political compromise
political cover
political efficacy
political culture
political economy
political parties
politicize
politics
poll tax
polling
polls (surveys / polling stations)
polyarchy
popular government

popular sovereignty
populist / popularism
pork barrel
positive law
poverty line
POW/MIA
power/ powers
Preamble, the
precedent
preemption
prescient
presidency
president
President of the United States (also POTUS)
President pro tempore
Press, the
press secretary
pressure groups
price supports
price theory
primary elections/ primaries: direct primary,
open primary, closed primary
prior restraint v. prior review
privacy / privacy rights
privilege / privileged / privileges
privileges & immunities
procedural due process
procedural rights
process
profit incentive
progressive / Progressive Era
projection of power
property rights

proportional representation

protectionism

public choice theory

Public Citizen

public interest

public interest group

public opinion

public policy

public-private

public safety

public scrutiny

public weal

pure democracy

quorum

rational-basis review

reactionary

Reagan Democrats

Reaganomics

recall

race

racial discrimination

reconcile

red tape

redistribution

redistricting

referendum

regressive tax

regulation (s)

regulation v. direct control

regulatory agency

regulatory policy

religious right

Reform Party

remedy

rent seeking

repeal

republic

republican (small "r")

Republican (big "R")

Republican in Name Only (RINO)

republican principle

republicanism

representative democracy

reserved powers / Reserved Powers clause

resolutions (v. laws)

reverse discrimination

rhetorical power

riders

right to bear arms

"right to life"

rights

roll-call / roll-call votes

rule of four

rule of law

Rule of Reason

Rules Committee

Rust Belt

"safe seat"

safety net

sampling error

sanction

school prayer

scrutiny: intermediate & strict scrutiny

search and seizure

secession

Second Continental Congress

sectionalism

secular

Security Council

sedition

self-actualization

self-determination

self-government

self-perpetuating

self-rule

Senatorial Courtesy

senior citizens

Separate but Equal

separation of church and state

separation of powers

September 11 (also "911")

Sequester

session of Congress

Shays' Rebellion

show cause

silent majority, the

simple majority

single-member district

situational ethics

"smoke filled rooms"

soccer mom

social choice theory

social construction

social contract

social engineering

social hierarchy

social justice

social mobility

social class

social welfare

socialism

soft money (v. hard money)

Solid South

sound bite

sovereignty

Speaker of the House

speech

split ticket v. straight ticket vote

stakeholder

standards / standardize

standing (courts)

stare decisis

state

state ownership

State Department

State of the Union address

states' rights

statutes

statutory law

statutory

stewardship

straw vote

strict constructionist

strict scrutiny

structure

subpoena

subsidies / subsidize

substantive due process

succession

suffrage

super majority

Supremacy clause

Supreme Court (also SCOTUS)

suspect categories

swing states

swing voters/ votes

symbolic speech

syndicate

takings clause

talking heads

tax rate

tax shelter

taxes

Tea Party

"The" v. "These" United States

Thomas Hobbes ("Leviathan")

think tanks

Third Estate

third party

threshold

ticket

Title Programs: Title I, II, IX, etc.

>>Federal Title Programs

tort

totalitarian

town hall meeting

trial balloon

triangulation

Trickle Down theory

two party system

trust, a (>> see anti-trust)

tyranny of the majority

unalienable / unalienable rights

unanimity

unanimous

undocumented worker

underprivileged

unemployment compensation

unemployment rate

unfunded mandate

unilateral / unilaterally

unintended consequences (moral hazard)

universal suffrage

"Unsafe at Any Speed"

unwritten constitution

urban renewal

utility

veto

vice presidency

Virginia Plan

virtual representation

vote

vote of conscience

voter behavior

voter apathy (>> not defining of non-voting)

voting rights

"wall of separation"

War on Poverty

war powers

watchdog

Watergate

Ways & Means committee

Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)

welfare

Welfare Reform

whip

Whiskey Rebellion

“winner take all”

World Bank

workfare

writ

writ of certiorari

xenophobic

zoning

Addendum

Power/ Powers

concurrent

delegated

enumerated

expressed

implied

informal

inherent

reserved

also: distribution of power

Forms of government

absolute monarchy

aristocracy

authoritarian

colony

constitutional monarchy

constitutional government

constitutional monarchy

council

democracy

dictatorship (modern)

direct democracy

divine rule

dynasty

empire

feudalism

hereditary rule

monarchy

nation

oligarchy

parliamentary

polyarchy

primogeniture

representative democracy

republic

self-government

self-rule

state

theocracy

totalitarian

tyranny (tyrant)

Economics

command economy

comparative advantage

consumerism

developed world

developing world

First World

Free-trade

"Invisiible hand of the market"

Keynesianism

laissez-faire

local v national economy

Locke

market economy

Marxism

opportunity cost

Planned-Economy

political economy

public choice & social choice theories

Reaganomics

scarcity & surplus

staple crop

Supply-Side

Third world

traditional economy

Trickle-Down

utility

Taxes / Taxation

city, state, local taxes

direct v. indirect tax

excise

income bracket

income

Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

loopholes

marginal tax rate

progressive tax

property

regressive tax

sales

shelters

tax authority

withholding

Metacognition

anomaly / anomalous

Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning

context / contextual

learning process

non-linear thought

relevancy

Sociological Terms

norms

"defining deviance down" (Daniel Patrick Moynihan)

deviance

deviance as healthy (Durkheim)

Landmark Supreme Court Cases

Baker v Carr (1962)
Bakke v Regents of the University of California (1978)
Bob Jones University v US (1983)
Boy Scouts of America v Dale (2000)
Brown v Board of Education (1954)
Buckley v Valeo (1976)
Bush v Gore (2000)
Charles River Bridge v Warren Bridge (1837)
Cherokee Nation v Georgia (1831)
Citizens United v Federal Election Commission (2010)
Civil Rights Cases of 1883
Clinton v City of New York (1998)
Clinton v Jones (1997)
Commonwealth v Hunt (1842)
Dartmouth College v Woodward (1819)
District of Columbia v Heller (2008)
Dred Scott v Sandford (1857)
Engel v Vitale (1962)
Escobeda v Illinois (1964)
Ex parte Endo (1944)
Ex parte Milligan (1866)
Fletcher v Peck (1810)
Furman v Georgia (1972)
Gibbons v Ogden (1824)
Gideon v Wainwright (1963)
Gitlow v New York (1925)
Gratz v Bollinger (2003)
Griswald v Connecticut (1965)
Grottner v Bollinger (2003)
Hamdi v Rumsfeld (2004)
Hazelwood v Kuhlmeier (1983)
Heart of Atlanta v US (1964)
Kelo v City of New London (2005)
Korematsu v United States (1944)
Lau v Nichols (1974)
Lawrence v Texas (2003)
Lemon v Kurtzman (1971)
Lochner v New York (1905)
Loving v Virginia >>
Mapp v Ohio (1961)
Marbury v Madison (1803)
McCulloch v Maryland (1819)
Miller v California (1973)
Miranda v Arizona (1966)
Muller v Oregon (1908)

Munn v Illinois (1876)
New Jersey v T.L.O. (1985)
New York Times v Sullivan (1964)
New York Times v U.S. (1971)
Northern Securities Co. v U. S. (1904)
Planned Parenthood v Casey (1992)
Plessy v Ferguson (1896)
Pollock v The Farmers' Loan and Trust Co. (1895)
Regents v Bakke (1978)
Regents of CA v Bakke (1978)
Roe v Wade (1973)
Roper v Simmons (2005)
Schenck v US (1919)
Schechter v U. S. (1936)
Scott v Sanford (1857)
Shaw v Reno (1993)
Shenck v United States (1919) / Clear & Present Danger
Texas v Johnson (1989)
Tinker v Des Moines (1969)
U.S. v American Library Association (2003)
U. S. v E. C. Knight Co. (1895)
U.S. v Nixon (1974)
Van Order v Perry (2005)
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific Railway Co. v Illinois (1886)

Important Laws

(incomplete, names as commonly known, not the actual legislative name)

Aid to Dependent Children
Americans with Disabilities Act (1991)
Brady handgun Violence Protection Act (1993)
Civil Service Reform Act (1978)
Civil Rights Act of 1964
Clean Water Act (1987)
Clean Air Act (1970)
Dodd-Frank (2010)
Endangered Species Act (1973)
Fair Housing Act (1968)
Family Medical Leave Act (1993)
Federal Election Campaign Acts (FECA, 1971)
Freedom of Information Act (FOIA, 1966)
Hatch Act (1939)

Immigration Act of 1991
Judiciary Act (1789)
McCain Feingold (2002)
Motor Voter Act of 1993
National Security Act of 1947
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 1969)
Norris-LaGuardia Act (1932)
Pendleton Act (or "Civil Service Act of 1883")
Simpson-Marzzoli Act (1987)
Taft-Hartley Act (1947)
U.S. Patriot Act of 2001
Voting Rights Act of 1965
Wagner Act (1935)
War Powers Act (1973)