**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Reading Guide – AP US Government**

**Chapter 12 – The Courts – Pages 354 – 383**

**3/30/16**

 **Value: 30 points**

**Terms:** Judiciary Act of 1789 district courts **appellate jurisdiction original** **jurisdiction**

**constitutional interpretation statutory interpretation** plaintiff defendant plea bargain

class-action lawsuit common law **precedent (stare decisis)** standing jurisdiction

appeals courts senatorial courtesy **writ of certiorari** **mootness ripeness cert pool**

solicitor general **amicus curiae** oral arguments **strict construction living Constitution**

**judicial restraint** **judicial activism (terms in bold are absolutely essential)**

**Concepts:**

**Introduction:**

1) What do the cases on health care and immigration say about the way the Supreme Court operates? (355-356)

**The Development of an Independent and Powerful Federal Judiciary 357-361**

2) What were the major issues with the judicial branch at the writing of the Constitution? (357-358)

3) What does the Judiciary Act of 1789 create? (358)

4) The section on judicial review and the role of Marbury v. Madison is essential. Summarize. (358-359)

5) How does judicial review work in practice? What are some of the issues with this? (360-361)

**The American Legal and Judicial System 361-372**

6) What is the relationship between the District Courts, the Appeals Courts and the Supreme Court? What are the roles of each? (364-366)

7) What are the issues of selecting judges at the state level? (366)

**Access to The Supreme Court 372- 376**

8) Briefly describe each of the (4) paths that a case may take in being considered by the Supreme Court.

(372-373)

9) This is important. Describe the criteria a case must meet in order to be considered by the Supreme Court? What other factors play into this issue? (374-375)

**Hearing Cases Before the Supreme Court (376-378)**

10) Describe the timeline for the Supreme Court’s work. Describe each of the steps in the Court’s process.

The Types of Supreme Court Decisions on 378 is important.(376-378)

**Supreme Court Decision Making 378-383**

11) Explain the Legal Factors in the decision making of the court. (379)

12) Explain the Political Factors in the decision making of the court. Pay particular attention to the contrast of judicial restraint and judicial activism. (379-380)

13) Discuss the two mechanisms through which interest groups and public opinion can influence the Court’s decision making? What doe you think about this? (381-382)