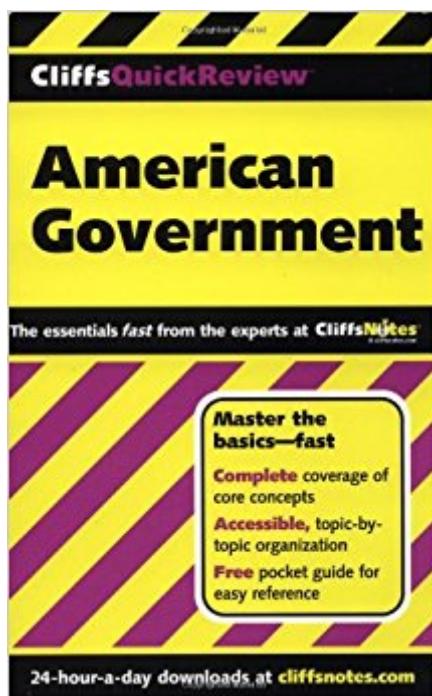


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# CliffsQuickReview American Government



## Synopsis

CliffsQuickReview course guides cover the essentials of your toughest classes. Get a firm grip on core concepts and key material, and test your newfound knowledge with review questions. Whether you are a student under pressure, an interested citizen trying to brush up, or a recent arrival trying to understand this new land in which you find yourself, CliffsQuickReview American Government can help. This guide introduces each topic, defines key terms, and carefully walks you through each sample problem step-by-step. In no time, you'll be ready to tackle the key concepts in this book such as The Declaration of Independence, The Constitution and Bill of Rights, Congress, the President, and the Judiciary. Political parties, Voting and elections, Civil Liberties, Economic and foreign policy. CliffsQuickReview American Government provides an overview of the history, institutions, practices, and policies of the American government with plain words and useful formats, so that you can use your time efficiently. Use this reference in any way that fits your personal style for study and review – you decide what works best with your needs. Here are just a few ways you can search for topics: Use the free Pocket Guide full of essential information. Get a glimpse of what you'll gain from a chapter by reading through the Chapter Check-In at the beginning of each chapter. Use the Chapter Checkout at the end of each chapter to gauge your grasp of the important information you need to know. Test your knowledge more completely in the CQR Review and look for additional sources of information in the CQR Resource Center. Use the glossary to find key terms fast. With titles available for all the most popular high school and college courses, CliffsQuickReview guides are a comprehensive resource that can help you get the best possible grades.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

We take great notes and make learning a snap. When it comes to pinpointing the stuff you really need to know, nobody does it better than CliffsNotes. This fast, effective tutorial helps you master core American government concepts from the First Continental Congress and the Bill of Rights to modern political parties and economic policy and get the best possible grade. At CliffsNotes, we're dedicated to helping you do your best, no matter how challenging the subject. Our authors are veteran teachers and talented writers who know how to cut to the chase and zero in on the essential information you need to succeed. Study smarter @ [cliffsnotes.com](http://cliffsnotes.com) Free CliffsNote-A-Day tips Free test-taking tips and tricks Free test samples and schedules Free info on other test resources Plus hundreds of downloadable Cliffs titles 24 hours a day Make the grade with CliffsQuickReviews CliffsQuickReviews are available for more than 30 introductory level courses. See inside for a complete listing of these and other bestselling Cliffs titles.

D. STEPHEN VOSS, a specialist in voting behavior, is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Kentucky. He received his doctorate from Harvard University. ABRAHAM HOFFMAN has taught AP U.S. History since 1982 in the Los Angeles Unified School District and has served countless terms as an AP reader for the U.S. History exam. PAUL SOIFER, Ph.D., is chair of the History Department at Yeshiva University High School in Los Angeles, where he teaches both AP U.S. History and AP U.S. Government.

Over the course of 3 weeks I read this book twice, watched all the HippoCampus American Government videos, and took the official practice test as well as the one on [free-clep-prep.com](http://free-clep-prep.com). In the end I got a 64/80 on the CLEP exam, taking about 45 minutes to do it. This book was definitely my best resource and there was little on the test that was not covered by this book. Highly recommended! P.S. I only had a few questions on amendments and court cases, so do not worry about memorizing those too much.

I used this to study for the American Government CLEP test. I took the test in August of 2014. I passed with a 63. This book was my main study source, but I had others. If I could do it over again

(thank the multiverse I don't have to) I'd study this book, focusing on memorizing court cases, the constitution (not word for word, you can use the simplified version in this book) and its amendments, and all the various bolded terms in the book, as well as the italicized key words. I didn't study any of the final chapter about foreign policy. I think there might have been one question about the Monroe doctrine or some such thing. But I'm glad I didn't waste my time with that chapter. I would also go to a library, get a book on American government (one of the ones recommended by the CLEP website to study for the test) and go through all their key terms. Just look it up in the back of the book. There will be a lot of overlap between that textbook and this CliffsNotes book, but the terms that are new to you will be invaluable. There were quite a few terms I didn't know.

Out of the seven study books that I bought, I really only needed this one. Oh well... Gives you everything you need to know and leaves nothing important out. One of the other reviewers recommended using index cards for the bold words as you go along, and I completely agree! If you want practice questions or tests, the larger study version is a great addition, but definitely buy this first.

This handy book is just what the subtitle says it is: a quick review. I studied this book in the days before the Advanced Placement examination and passed easily. Several times I answered questions correctly with knowledge that I had picked up from this short volume. It is written in clear and sufficiently detailed prose, and takes the form of an outline of the subject. Hence it is a very handy tool for reviewing before the AP test, the CLEP test (as the other reviews here posit), as well as for reviewing before an in-class test (that is, if you are taking a class on US government and politics in high school or even college). It covers all the big topics like constitutional history, congress, and the federal bureaucracy. If you are looking for a narrative textbook-style study aid with a bit more beef I also recommend CliffsNotes' CliffsNotes AP U.S. Government and Politics, with CD-ROM (Cliffs AP), which is also by the same author (Paul Soifer). And keep in mind that you need not throw down ten dollars for this outline, it is available online at the Cliffs Notes website for free (but don't tell anyone).

This is the only book that you'll need to pass the American Government CLEP! I agree that you should do what it says in the other reviews and they're all good reviews but I would like to add a new slant. After you buy this book go and buy some page flags and mark every single page in the book that has words in **BOLD** format. Make your very best effort to read this book from cover to

cover at least 2 weeks before you take the American Government CLEP. Then use the next 2 weeks before the test date to review all of the items in the book that are in **BOLD** which are easy to locate because of the page flags. Of course do what it says in the other reviews such as try know and have a good understanding of every Amendment and Supreme Court Case in the book. After you pass the American Government CLEP give this book with the page flags still in it to somebody else because you won't need it anymore!

I used this booklet as my primary study guide for this test. It is short enough that you can read it cover to cover and comprehensive enough that it covers 90-95% of what is on the test. I studied for about 12 hours all in all. About 8 hours reading the book and another taking practice tests and scored a 60 on it today. Make no mistake, unless you are really a student of this type of thing, you will need to study. This is considered to be one of the more difficult of all of the CLEP tests that you can take. In your studies focus on the Constitution (Bill of Rights), the judiciary and its roles, spend some time on checks and balances, etc. Believe me, it can be pretty dry but it's a great feeling to pass this one. This guide will definitely help you maximize your efforts. Good luck!

I read this book for only two weeks, then used the CLEP Official Study Guide practice exam for review and reinforcement of the information. I passed the Am Govt CLEP exam today with a score of 65, using just 60 out of the allowed 90 minutes. Some reviewers of the Am Govt exam state how difficult is it; but for me, it was the easiest of the five exams I've taken. I have a Cliffs American Govt AP Test study guide, which was helpful because it included practice tests. But in retrospect, I am convinced I would have passed without using the AP guide. If you're planning to take the Am Govt CLEP exam, buy the CQR book and the Official CLEP Study guide. To gauge your preparedness for the CLEP Am Govt exam, take the practice test a few times. When you can correctly answer around 45 of the 60 questions within 35 minutes or so, you are probably ready for the actual CLEP exam.

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