

Graded Discussion Questions to Prepare For

*My advice to you: write your responses to these questions on a separate sheet of paper and include **EVIDENCE** from your notes.*

1. Can you identify any correlations between life expectancy, average salary, poverty rate, GDP and the type of government a country has?
2. Is there a superior type of government in your opinion?
3. If you could choose, which type of government would you opt to live under?
4. Are any of Locke's ideas underlying in any of the governments that were presented?
5. What are your opinions on Locke's philosophy of Natural Laws and the Social Contract?
6. What portions of life should a government be able to control, if any?
7. What is the proper balance between individual liberties and public safety?
8. Where do assumptions and opinions about governments other than our own come from?
9. Does our freedom of speech "cloak" racism or protect those who are racist?
10. How can or should the government limit or control what is said and done on social media?
11. How do governments affect their citizen's everyday lives?
12. How does Mr. Obama view the role of democracy in citizen's lives?
13. In your opinion, what are the threats to our democracy? Do you agree or disagree with Obama's?
14. Is our government still a democracy if only 60% of it's citizens voted in the most recent presidential election and less than 55% in 2012?
15. What parts of Obama's speech demonstrate his personal opinion about the function of the constitution or our government as a whole?
16. What does Obama mean when he states: "It falls to each of us to be those anxious, jealous guardians of our democracy"?
17. According to Mr. Obama, what are the key elements of democracy?
18. In an ideal democracy, how do you think its citizens be involved?

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