Dear ___________________________________________ 1st Period_______________

Hello AP 2016-2017 Government and Politics Students!  

(I apologize if you are getting this and you are not intending to take the class. If you signed up for AP Government as an alternative for the 2012-2013 school year, you may end up in this class if other classes are removed from East’s program of study.)

Congratulations! You have just signed up for a fantastic class (in my opinion). Over summer break, please read The Empty Polling Booth, by Arthur T. Hadley. If you run across unfamiliar vocabulary, highlight the word and look it up!!!! Write a definition in the margin of the book. You will find words that are unfamiliar on these pages… 17, 23 (2 words), 24, 30, 34, 45, 47, 49, 53, 55, 56 (2 words), 58, 60, 61 (2 words), 73, 74, 76, 80, 84, 86, 91, 108, 121, 124 (2 words).

While thinking about these questions…

What is a REFRAINER?  
How did the Magna Carta foster democracy?  
Is there a voting problem in the U.S.?  
Why is this a citizen dilemma?  
What would happen in the U.S. if more voters voted at the polls?  
What are the 6 categories of refrainers? (Be able to explain their characteristics.)  
Why did polling start on the night of November 2?  
Who is allowed to vote?  
Who among those allowed fail to exercise their right and why?

… take some notes in the margins to answer these questions.

You will be able to use your book on the test over this reading the first week of school. We will take some “in class” notes to help you prepare. Here are some helpful tips for getting you through this book.

TIP 1: Highlight the vocabulary on the pages mentioned above & write a definition in the margin on the page on which it is located.

TIP 2: Once you are done reading a chapter, write a brief description of what is in the chapter in the book somewhere.

TIP 3: Place a sticky note on the pages where you can find the 6 categories of refrainers.

TIP 4: Place a sticky note on the pages that start each new chapter.

TIP 5: Highlight any and all politicians’ names within the book.

Have a wonderful summer and enjoy the book!  
Sincerely, Dr. Menchhofer –Grote (MENCH)

Summer Reading  

Abstract: 179 pages, non-fiction; a look at 70 million non-voters in the U.S. and what might happen if they voted.
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