**Blog Post – Writing Assignment (up to 60 points)**

**(counts much more than homework)**

**Supreme Court and Federalism**

# *Court cases:* McCulloch v. Maryland, Gibbons v. Ogden, Wabash Case - Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific Railway Company v. Illinois, United States v. Lopez (1995)

**Due by 4th period on January 11 (Fri.):** Select two court cases related to federalism. (1) For EACH case, briefly summarize the major issue related to federalism (2 – 3 complete sentence) and write the Supreme Court’s decision (2 – 3 complete sentences) (5 points each; 10 points total) (2) the compare/ contrast the Supreme Court ruling on TWO cases, (5 for comparison; 5 points for contrast; total 10 points) and (3) decide whether or not you agree or disagree with the Supreme Court’s ruling. Your agreement or disagreement should be based on your understanding of federalism and the role of the Court (e.g. powers granted by the Constitution and judicial review). Make sure you are specific, clear and to the point. (10 points)

Total possible points: 30 points

**Due by 4th period on January 15 (Tues):** Respond to two peer’s posts with either (1) I agree with your position on the Court’s ruling because…. (2 – 3 specific reasons) OR (2) I disagree with your position on the Court’s ruling because… (2 – 3 specific reasons).

Total possible points: 20 points (10 points each)

**Due by 4th period on January 17 (Thurs):** Respond to my comment to your initial post. Do at least one of the following (1) ask me a question about my response, (2) add additional ideas/information to support your post, or (3) something else I should know about your response.

Total possible points: 10 point