

Required Annotations	Student-Created Annotations	Summary / Questions / Reflection
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Student-created	re- again; dict- speak; ver- truth; circum- around	Required (bold)
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Washington (CNN)A full-strength Supreme Court will take the bench Monday for what could be the most **consequential** term in decades, as the ideologically split justices consider cases as diverse as religious liberty, immigration, cell phone privacy, voting rights and possibly the legality of President Donald Trump's controversial travel ban."There is only one prediction that is entirely safe about the upcoming term, and that is it will be momentous," Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg said at an event at Georgetown Law recently.

The justices spent most of last term with only eight members rendering narrow opinions -- at times -- in an attempt to **ward off** 4-4 splits.

But that's all over now.

Justice Neil Gorsuch has settled into his new role as a staunch conservative, filling the role previously held by the late Justice Antonin Scalia.

That means there are five conservatives and four liberals on the bench, with Justice Anthony Kennedy resuming his post as the swing vote from the conservative-to liberal-leaning side. Sources say he has been seriously considering retiring, and liberals fear that their last remaining chance at a win on issues might rest with him.

Here are the big issues this year:

Travel ban

Leading the **docket**, until recently, was a challenge to Trump's signature policy: the travel ban. The justices were scheduled next week to hear oral arguments and decide whether the President was legally justified when he temporarily blocked travel from several Muslim-majority countries, citing national security concerns.

Challengers argue that the executive order violates the Constitution. They say the President was motivated in part by religious **animus** and point to some of the things Trump said during the campaign calling for a Muslim ban.

"The President has claimed limitless authority to exclude any alien he wishes," Neal Katyal, the lead lawyer for Hawaii, wrote. "This court has the power and the duty to police these excesses."

But the administration says the White House has the authority to act to restrict immigration. "The Constitution and Acts of Congress confer on the President broad authority to suspend or restrict the entry of aliens outside the United States, when he deems it in the Nation's interest," Acting Solicitor General Jeffrey Wall wrote in court papers. [...]

Immigration

The court this week will rehear two immigration-related cases will be watched closely for tea leaves of what justices are thinking on the travel ban, although they don't pertain to it specifically.

Monday, the court will rehear a case concerning mandatory deportation of lawful permanent residents for criminal convictions. The Sessions v. Dimaya case was argued before the court in January, before Gorsuch was nominated and confirmed. At the end of June, the justices signaled they were divided 4-4 on at least some aspects of the case and wanted Gorsuch to weigh in.

Tuesday, justices rehear another immigration related case, Jennings v. Rodriguez. The case was brought by a class of immigrants -- some who sought entrance at the

border, others lawful permanent residents -- who are fighting removal and arguing that they cannot be held in **prolonged** detention. After six months of detention, they seek hearings to prove that they are neither a flight risk nor a danger to society. [...]

Voting rights and gerrymandering

Tuesday, justices will tackle a case that could reshape electoral maps across the country. At issue is partisan gerrymandering -- or the length to which legislators go when they manipulate district lines for partisan advantage. Democratic voters in Wisconsin are challenging maps they say were drawn unconstitutionally to benefit Republicans.

While the Supreme Court has a standard limiting the overreliance on race in map drawing except under the most limited **circumstances**,¹ it has never been successful in developing a test concerning the overreliance on politics.

Wisconsin, in its arguments, says that both the challengers have no power to bring such a claim and that the issue should be decided not by the judiciary but the political branches.

Redistricting is an issue close to former President Barack Obama, who has vowed to dedicate part of his post-presidency to the issue. Prominent Republicans such as Arizona Sen. John McCain and former California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger have filed **briefs** in support of Wisconsin, arguing that the issue does not only adversely impact Democrats. [...]

Cell phone privacy

The court will also hear a major case concerning privacy in the digital age when it determines whether investigators need to obtain a warrant for cell tower data to track and reconstruct location and movements of cell phone users over extended periods of time.

The case was brought by the ACLU on behalf of two men who were arrested after a string of robberies in Michigan and Ohio. At trial, the government's evidence included records from the defendants' phones that **verified** that the men used their phones within a close radius to several robberies.

How the justices decide the issue could provide a framework for other issues such as facial recognition technology and surveillance law.

Most courts have held that there is a diminished privacy interest in this area because the information has already been provided to third parties such as phone companies.

Questions

1. Why will this Supreme Court session be different from last year's?
2. The first paragraph of the section on immigration suggests that two cases will be "watched closely for tea leaves of what justices are thinking on the travel ban." How do you interpret this passage? What do tea leaves have to do with immigration?
3. How does this article define gerrymandering?
4. What word does the article use as a sort of synonym for "gerrymander"?
5. How many headings are there in this article?
6. Review: How do headings help a reader?
7. What words use the "re-" stem in this article?
8. Summarize the following cases mentioned in the article:
 - a) Sessions v. Dimaya
 - b) Jennings v. Rodriguez

¹ I know you know what this word means. However, I want you to examine it in light of what the stem "circum" means. How does it change your understanding of the word?