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S.O.T.U Assignment

Table Part I

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| Foreign | Domestic |
| Terrorist groups (ISIS) | 1.5 trillion for infrastructure |
| Nuclear arms to deter foreign threats | Prison reform |
| Representatives only go to “Friends of America” | Immigration reform* 4 pillars

-path to citizenship-fully secured border-eliminate visa lottery-end chain migration |
| Iran nuclear deal | Drug opioid crisis |
|  | Military fund |

Essay Part II

1. Trump is not the only recent president to have his party lose control of a part of the government and become a “divided government”. However he is the first of the last string of presidents to not make note of it in his state of the union. Trump spent a large amount of time on immigration. He had many examples of the negative effects having ‘open borders’ or less border control showed. He had to pairs of husband and wife, both had lost daughters to immigrants who “slipped through” the borders. Trump phrased it this way because some immigrants use loopholes to gain ‘legal’ access into the country. He also had ICE representatives in the crowd with examples of how they were heros, and the hardships they had to endure and witness due to illegal immigrants. All of these moving illustrations of why we need more border security were to try and persuade the national opinion for his next push for his “great border wall.” Trump did however say something along the lines of “I am ready to make a deal where neither side gets everything they want,” which points to his willingness to compromise with the democrats.
2. In my opinion, Trump sees himself as a very powerful person. In my opinion, i didn't hear a lot of language regarding the checks and balances of the U.S. government. He did tout very highly how much “HE” had accomplished since being elected. Trump stated how he “got right to work,” and talked himself up quite often. He talked about his executive orders and legislation he pushed. He then went on to suggest that the congressional oversight of the democrats sole purpose and want is to stop the progress of America. When in real life, they are just doing their job of keeping the executive branch in check, and the government system balanced.
3. The democratic response was very straightforward, getting right to setting the tone, Georgia's Stacey Abrams, calls Trump’s government shutdown a “reach for political gain, and a disgrace.” She points out 8, (that I could count) issues she has with Trump and his administration. Gun safety, educational funds, npt helping middle/working class, trade war affecting American farmers, workers working without protection, no action on climate change, and the democratic stance that “compassionate treatment at the border does not equal open borders,” are all views that Abrams called Trump out on. In terms of compromise, Abrams stated that she doesn't wish failure on Trump, because that would mean failure for the American people. Other than that statement above, their tone was pretty hostile towards president Trump.

Part III

1. In both my home state of Texas and the SOTUA border safety is a big concern. Considering that Texas is directly on the border, it would make sense that the country in this case reflect the views of states that deal with immigration the most. Also mentioned briefly in the SOTUA was the 2nd amendment, in which Texas cares VERY highly about. Texans, for the most part love their guns, at least from personal experience. Trump briefly mentioned multiple natural disasters and improving the countries ability to combat the the best we can and Texas has recently began looking to fight flooding, a type of natural disaster. Mass shooting and the drug crisis are also topics that appear in both legislative agendas. These similarities are probably attributed to the fact that Texas is a Republican state, and so is the president.