Supreme Court Podcast Assignment #2

Radio Lab Presents: The Political Thicket

*Instructions: Answer the following questions while listening to the episode of the podcast. The podcast is “More Perfect” presented by RadioLab and WNYC studios. The episode can also be found on YouTube at* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hi8NCQbOZvc>

1. Who is retiring after 16 years?

2. What case did the retiring justice think was his most important case?

3. What was Justice Felix Frankfurter like as a person?

4. How was Justice William O. Douglas described by the New York Times?

5. What would Douglas do when Frankfurter was talking?

6. What was at the core of Douglas and Frankfurter’s dislike of one another?

7. Who would Justice Whittaker practice law with as a young man?

8. What did Justice Whittaker lack?

9. What did Justice Whittaker quickly discover about the Supreme Court?

10. What are the physical descriptions of Whittaker in his first year on the Supreme Court?

11. What happened in Whittaker’s third, fourth, and fifth year on the court?

12. On the surface what was *Baker v. Carr* about?

13. What had happened in Tennessee’s population in the 60 years since it had redrawn its district?

14. What was underbelly of the reapportionment discussion?

15. What couldn’t cities get because of this problem?

16. Why did conservatives think the Court could not get involved in this situation?

17. What does the political question doctrine say?

18. What was Tennessee’s argument in the case?

19. What happens when the justices went into conference?

20. What happened after the court heard the case the first time?

21. How many times does Justice Frankfurter talk during the re-hearing of the case? How many times does Whittaker speak?

22. What happens after the court’s winter recess in 1961?

23. What did one of Justice Whittaker’s sons find him going upstairs to get?

24. What was the vote count in Baker v. Carr? Who won?

25. What happened to Justice Frankfurter two week after Baker v. Carr was decided?

26. What case was Justice Frankfurter’s revenge?