

Name _____

US History

Constitution Scavenger Hunt

Preamble

The preamble to the Constitution lists 5 things that the People of the United States should do to form a more perfect union. What are they?

Article I: _____ Branch

1. How often are representatives elected and how long is their term of office?

2. What are the 3 requirements listed for House members?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

3. What is the determining basis for how many House members a state receives?

6. The House has the sole power of _____

7. How long is the term for a Senator? _____

8. How were Senators originally chosen? Which amendment changed that?

9. What are the 3 requirements listed for members of the Senate?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

10. Who is the president of the Senate and when may that person vote?

17. Congressmen are protected from arrest while in session, except under what three conditions?

18. In what federal body do all bills concerning taxes/revenue originate?

19. What fraction of both houses must vote to override a veto? _____

21. In Section 8, the Constitution lists or enumerates the powers of Congress. List 8 of them.

22. In Section 8 at end, which clause gives Congress the most general, non-specific powers?

a. Why do you think this been nicknamed the “elastic clause”?

23. In Section 9, clause 2-3, there are three limitations on the power of Congress to deny the people rights. What are those three limitations?

24. When may the writ of habeas corpus be suspended?

a. define Habeas Corpus using your Latin skillz:

25. Name three limits on the powers of the states (section 10)

Article II- _____ Branch

26. How old does someone have to be to be elected President? _____

27. How are the number of electors (electoral votes) each states gets determined?

28. What are the requirements for President and VP?

29. What is the oath that the President must say upon entering the position? –write it all out!

30. Name 3 Powers of the President (section 2)

32. Which body of Congress approves Presidential nominations, in other words “advices and consents”?

33. What must the President do “from time to time”? --what is this called today?

34. What can a President or other officers be impeached for?

Article III - _____ Branch

- 35. What is the term of office for Supreme Court justices? When can they be removed?
- 36. Who gets to decide how many federal courts we have?
- 37. In which cases does the Supreme Court have original jurisdiction?
- 38. What must be necessary to convict someone of treason?

Article IV

- 39. What is the topic of Article IV? _____
- 41. Explain Privileges and Immunities.
- 42. What limitation is put on admitting new states to the Union?

Article V

- 43. What fraction of the houses of Congress is necessary to approve a proposed Amendment?
- 44. What fraction of states must approve a proposed amendment for it to be ratified?
- 45. What fraction of the states can ask for a convention to propose new amendments?
- 46. What is the only limitation in the Constitution as to what can be the basis of an amendment? (last phrase Article V)

Article VI

- 47. What does the Constitution say about which law shall dominate if there in any conflict between laws?
 - 48. What qualification for holding any public office is forbidden?
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Article VII

- 49. How many states had to ratify the Constitution for it to become law?
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Constitutional Amendments (not in order!)

Define the word "amendment":

50. Name the five basic civil liberties guaranteed in the First Amendment.
51. Which amendment extended the vote to 18 year olds?
52. Which amendment outlaws “cruel and unusual punishments?”
53. Which amendment ended slavery?
54. Put the NINTH Amendment in your own words.
55. Put the TENTH Amendment in your own words.
57. Which amendment said that states could not prevent people from voting based on their race?
58. Which amendment said that a person could not be tried twice for the same crime?
59. When can the government take private property and what must government give the owners?
Which Amendment established this?
61. Which amendment defined citizenship?
62. List the rights that the accused has when suspected of a crime.
63. Which amendment prohibited alcohol?
Which amendment repealed its prohibition?
64. Which amendment gave women the right to vote?
65. Which amendment decided that a person could only be president for 2 terms?
66. On what day and time does the 20th Amendment state that a new president shall be inaugurated?
68. Which amendment requires a warrant to search someone’s property?
69. Which amendment gave government the power to impose an income tax?
70. What are the first 10 amendments to the Constitution called?

Name _____ Key _____

US History

Constitution Scavenger Hunt

Preamble

The preamble to the Constitution lists 5 things that the People of the United States should do to form a more perfect union. What are they?

Establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty.

Article I: _____ *Legislative* _____ Branch

1. How often are representatives elected and how long is their term of office?

Elections are every 2 years, 2 year terms of office

2. What are the 3 requirements listed for House members?

1. *25 years old*

2. *7 years a citizen*

3. *Must be an inhabitant of the state they are representing*

3. What is the determining basis for how many House members a state receives?

Population: the number of free persons plus 3/5 of all slaves. _____

6. The House has the sole power of _____ *Impeachment* _____

7. How long is the term for a Senator? _____ *6 years* _____

8. How were Senators originally chosen? Which amendment changed that? *Chosen by state legislatures; 17th amendment changes this (they are now chosen "popularly" or by the people)*

9. What are the 3 requirements listed for members of the Senate?

1. *30 years old*

2. *9 years a citizen*

3. *Must be an inhabitant of the state they are representing*

10. Who is the president of the Senate and when may that person vote?

Vice President; only in the case of a tiebreaker _____

17. Congressmen are protected from arrest while in session, except under what three conditions?

Felony, Treason, Breach of the Peace

18. In what federal body do all bills concerning taxes/revenue originate?

The House of Representatives _____

19. What fraction of both houses must vote to override a veto? *2/3rds*

21. In Section 8, the Constitution lists or enumerates the powers of Congress. List 8 of them.

The Congress shall have power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common defence^[note 1] and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

To establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current coin of the United States;

To establish Post Offices and post Roads;

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offenses against the Law of Nations;

To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;

To provide and maintain a Navy;

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings;—And

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

22. In Section 8 at end, which clause gives Congress the most general, non-specific powers? *The “necessary and proper clause”* _____

a. Why do you think this been nicknamed the “elastic clause”? *who gets to decide what is “necessary and proper”?* *This clause can be stretched to fit anyone’s agenda, thereby earning it the name “ the elastic clause”*

23. In Section 9, clause 2-3, there are three limitations on the power of Congress to deny the people rights. What are those three limitations?

No suspension of habeas corpus, bill of attainder (punishing someone without a trial), no ex post facto laws (laws that change consequences after a crime has been committed. Latin phrase meaning “after the facts”)

24. When may the writ of habeas corpus be suspended? *Only in cases of rebellion or invasion*

a. define Habeas Corpus using your Latin skillz: *“to have the body”*

25. Name three limits on the powers of the states (section 10) *No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.*

No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Imposts or Duties on Imports or Exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing it's inspection Laws: and the net Produce of all Duties and Imposts, laid by any State on Imports or Exports, shall be for the Use of the Treasury of the United States; and all such Laws shall be subject to the Revision and Controul of the Congress.

No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of Peace, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power, or engage in War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.

Article II- _____ Executive _____ Branch

26. How old does someone have to be to be elected President? 35

27. How are the number of electors (electoral votes) each states gets determined? *Members of the House of Representatives + Members of the Senate*

28. What are the requirements for President and VP? *Must be born a natural citizen, 35 years old, and 14 years a resident.*

29. What is the oath that the President must say upon entering the position? –write it all out!
I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of the President of the United States and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States.

30. Name 3 Powers of the President (section 2) *The President shall be commander in chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several states, when called into the actual service of the United States; he may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices, and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.*

He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law: but the Congress may by law vest the appointment of such inferior officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

The President shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their next session.

32. Which body of Congress approves Presidential nominations, in other words “advices and consents”?
Senate

33. What must the President do “from time to time”? --what is this called today?
Information of the state of the union. This is now called the State of the Union address.

34. What can a President or other officers be impeached for?
Treason, Bribery, High Crimes and Misdemeanors.

Article III - _____ Judicial _____ Branch

35. What is the term of office for Supreme Court justices? When can they be removed? *Life; impeachable offenses*

36. Who gets to decide how many federal courts we have? *Congress*

37. In which cases does the Supreme Court have original jurisdiction? *All cases involving ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, and whenever a state is a party (one of the “clients”)*

38. What must be necessary to convict someone of treason? *2 witnesses or a confession*

Article IV

39. What is the topic of Article IV? _____ *Relations between the states* _____

41. Explain Privileges and Immunities. *States must honor the validity of other states' laws and public records and court decisions.*

42. What limitation is put on admitting new states to the Union? *No new states can be created out of current states without their permission.*

Article V

43. What fraction of the houses of Congress is necessary to approve a proposed Amendment? *2/3*

44. What fraction of states must approve a proposed amendment for it to be ratified? *3/4*

45. What fraction of the states can ask for a convention to propose new amendments? *2/3*

46. What is the only limitation in the Constitution as to what can be the basis of an amendment? (last phrase Article V) *No amendment can take away the equal representation in the Senate that a state has.*

Article VI

47. What does the Constitution say about which law shall dominate if there is any conflict between laws? *National (federal) law takes precedence over local (state) law.*

48. What qualification for holding any public office is forbidden? _____ *Religious test for office* _____

Article VII

49. How many states had to ratify the Constitution for it to become law?
_____ *9/13* _____

Constitutional Amendments (not in order!)

Define the word "amendment": *A change*

50. Name the five basic civil liberties guaranteed in the First Amendment.
Religion, Speech, Press, Assembly, Petition

51. Which amendment extended the vote to 18 year olds? *26*

52. Which amendment outlaws "cruel and unusual punishments?" *8*

53. Which amendment ended slavery? *13*

54. Put the NINTH Amendment in your own words. *Rights given to the national government cannot be used to infringe upon the rights of the people.*

55. Put the TENTH Amendment in your own words. *If a power isn't given to the national government in the Constitution, then states have the authority over it (or the people). These are called RESERVED POWERS.*

57. Which amendment said that states could not prevent people from voting based on their race? 15

58. Which amendment said that a person could not be tried twice for the same crime? 5

59. When can the government take private property and what must government give the owners? *Eminent Domain – property taken by the government can only be taken for PUBLIC use.*

Which Amendment established this? *The 5th.*

61. Which amendment defined citizenship? 14

62. List the rights that the accused has when suspected of a crime. *Trial, confront accusers, provide a defense, right to legal counsel (or a lawyer).*

63. Which amendment prohibited alcohol? 18

Which amendment repealed its prohibition? 21

64. Which amendment gave women the right to vote? 19

65. Which amendment decided that a person could only be president for 2 terms? 22

66. On what day and time does the 20th Amendment state that a new president shall be inaugurated? *President: January 20th; Congress: January 3rd*

68. Which amendment requires a warrant to search someone's property? 4

69. Which amendment gave government the power to impose an income tax? 16

70. What are the first 10 amendments to the Constitution called? *Bill of Rights.*