

A Look at the Constitution

Directions Fill in the outline below. Filling in the blanks will help you as you read and study Chapter 3.

I. Lesson 1: Preamble and First Four Articles (pp. 46–48)

A. The Preamble

1. The Preamble begins with the words, _____.
2. The Preamble explains the _____ and _____ of the Constitution.

B. Article I (One): The Legislative Powers

1. Congress is made of two houses called the _____ and the _____.
2. Congress has the power to _____.

C. Article II (Two): The Executive Branch

1. The executive of the nation is called the _____.
2. The executive has the following powers: _____, _____, _____, and _____.

D. Article III (Three): The Judicial Branch

1. The judicial power is held by the _____.
2. The judicial branch has the following powers: _____ and _____.

E. Article IV (Four): The States and the Federal Government

1. _____ also have the same rights in all states.
2. Each state must have a _____ form of government.

A Look at the Constitution, continued

II. Lesson 2: Articles V (Five) Through VII (Seven) (pp. 49–50)

A. Article V (Five): Amending the Constitution

1. A change to the Constitution requires a _____ majority vote of both houses of Congress.
2. Either _____ of the state legislatures or state _____ must approve the change.
3. The Constitution has been amended _____ times.

B. Article VI (Six): Law of the Land

1. Article VI states that the Constitution is the _____.
2. _____ swear under oath to support the Constitution.

C. Article VII (Seven): Ratifying the Constitution

1. _____ of the 13 states had to ratify the Constitution for it to be adopted.

III. Lesson 3: The Bill of Rights: First Amendment (pp. 51–54)

A. The First Amendment

1. The First Amendment grants the freedoms of _____, _____, _____, and _____.
2. It also gives citizens the right to _____ the government.

IV. Lesson 4: Amendments Two Through Ten (pp. 55–58)

A. The Second, Third, and Fourth Amendments

1. The Second Amendment gives citizens the right to _____.
2. The Third Amendment states that citizens do not have to _____.
3. The Fourth Amendment does not allow _____ without a warrant.

B. The Fifth Through Eighth Amendments

1. These four amendments deal with _____.

A Look at the Constitution, continued

C. The Ninth and Tenth Amendments

1. These two amendments protect _____
and _____ rights.

V. Lesson 5: Amendments Eleven Through Fifteen (pp. 59–61)

A. The Eleventh and Twelfth Amendments

1. The Eleventh Amendment states that federal courts cannot _____.
2. There must be _____ candidates for president and vice president.

B. The Thirteenth–Fifteenth Amendments

1. These three amendments deal with _____.

VI. Lesson 6: Amendments Sixteen Through Twenty-Seven (pp. 62–64)

A. Amendments That Failed to Pass

1. The Equal Rights Amendment would have given equal rights to _____.
2. The flag-burning amendment was ruled _____ because it was a form of free speech.

B. Voting Rights Amendments

1. The _____ Amendment gave women the vote.
2. The Twenty-Sixth Amendment set the _____ at 18.

Rights and Restrictions

Part A Directions Decide whether each of the following is a power of the legislative, executive, or judicial branch.
Write *legislative*, *executive*, or *judicial* on the line.

1. This branch of the government can declare war. _____
2. This branch of the government leads the armed forces. _____
3. This branch of the government collects taxes. _____
4. This branch of the government interprets the Constitution. _____
5. This branch of the government appoints high public officials. _____

Part B Directions Choose the word from the Word Bank that best completes each sentence.

Word Bank

article

Congress

Preamble

ambassadors

legislative

6. Each section, or _____, of the Constitution describes the structure and powers of the government.
7. Article I of the Constitution lists the powers of the _____ branch.
8. The _____ to the Constitution starts with the famous phrase "We the people."
9. The executive branch can appoint _____ who will represent the United States in foreign countries.
10. The Constitution clearly states that only _____ has the power to declare war.



Which Article?

Part A Directions Decide which article—V, VI, or VII—each statement relates to. Write the correct article number on the line. You will use some of the numbers more than once.

- _____ **1.** Two-thirds of Senators and Representatives must vote “yes” for a Constitutional amendment to pass.
- _____ **2.** Nine of the original 13 states had to ratify the Constitution for it to become law.
- _____ **3.** All high government officials must swear an oath to preserve and defend the Constitution.
- _____ **4.** Three-fourths of state legislatures must approve any Constitutional amendment.
- _____ **5.** The Constitution must be obeyed by all citizens, including high government officials.

Part B Directions Match each term in Column 1 with its definition in Column 2. Write the correct letter on each line.

Column 1

- _____ **6.** amendment
- _____ **7.** convention
- _____ **8.** supreme
- _____ **9.** majority
- _____ **10.** Prohibition

Column 2

- A** ultimate, absolute
- B** made selling or manufacturing alcoholic beverages illegal
- C** a formal meeting called for a special purpose
- D** more than half of the total
- E** a change or correction made by a certain process

What Does It Mean?

Directions Read the First Amendment below. Then write a word, a phrase, or a brief explanation that can mean the same thing as each boldfaced word in the amendment. Remember that some words, like *exercise*, have several meanings. Explain each word as it is used in the amendment.

Congress shall make no law **respecting** an **establishment** of religion, or **prohibiting** the free **exercise** thereof; or **abridging** the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people **peaceably** to **assemble**, and to **petition** the government for a **redress** of **grievances**.

1. respecting _____
2. establishment _____
3. prohibiting _____
4. exercise _____
5. abridging _____
6. peaceably _____
7. assemble _____
8. petition _____
9. redress _____
10. grievances _____

Amendments Two Through Ten

Directions Write the answers to the following questions.
Use complete sentences.

1. Why did the people want an amendment that allowed them to keep and bear arms?

2. What is the purpose of the National Guard?

3. Why did the citizens think the Third Amendment was important?

4. What protection does the Fourth Amendment provide?

5. What Fourth Amendment decision did the Supreme Court make in 1967?

6. What does the Fifth Amendment say authorities must do before they charge a person with a crime?

7. Name three rights the Sixth Amendment guarantees a person accused of a crime.

8. What is the purpose of bail?

9. Name one right a person enjoys that is not directly listed in the Constitution.

10. What does the Tenth Amendment require states to do?

Amendments Eleven Through Fifteen

Directions The facts below are about Amendments 11–15. Write the letter of each fact on the line under the correct amendment.

- A** Georgia refused to pay
- B** ratification in 1865
- C** All people born in the United States are citizens.
- D** result of lawsuit by citizens of South Carolina
- E** end of slavery in all states
- F** Supreme Court denied rulings in state affairs
- G** African-American men had the right to vote.
- H** ended one cause of trouble between the North and the South
- I** majority of Southern states would not obey this amendment
- J** last amendment passed soon after the Civil War
- K** separate candidates for the office of president and vice president
- L** house of Representatives chooses the winner
- M** foreign-born persons can become citizens
- N** States must give citizens “equal protection.”
- O** election ended in a tie

Eleventh Amendment

Twelfth Amendment

Thirteenth Amendment

Fourteenth Amendment

Fifteenth Amendment

Choose the Right Answer

Directions Circle the letter of the answer that correctly completes each sentence.

- The only Constitutional amendment that has been repealed is the amendment _____.
A banning the making and selling of alcohol
B ending the poll tax in federal elections
C setting the voting age at 18
D limiting the president to two terms in office
- The Seventeenth Amendment affected the rules for electing U.S. senators by _____.
A lowering the voting age from 21 to 18
B allowing direct election of the senators by the people of their states
C limiting senators to two elected terms
D allowing citizens of Washington, D.C., to vote for senators
- The _____ Amendment gave citizens in Washington, D.C., the right to vote for a president.
A Sixteenth **C** Twenty-Third
B Eighteenth **D** Twenty-Sixth
- The amendment that _____ has failed to pass. It is protected by the First Amendment rights to free speech.
A does not allow discrimination on the basis of a person's sex
B regulates congressional pay raises
C makes it illegal to burn the American flag
D allows each state to decide the legal voting age
- The Sixteenth Amendment made income tax legal during the _____.
A 1890s **C** 1910s
B 1900s **D** 1920s
- The Equal Rights Amendment _____.
A was not ratified by the states
B failed to pass Congress
C gave the same rights to citizens and non-citizens
D guaranteed equal rights to women and children
- The Twenty-Fourth Amendment ended the poll tax, which is a tax _____.
A paid to vote
B to buy goods from other countries
C paid to send mail
D on a person's income
- The Twenty-Second Amendment _____.
A abolished slavery in the United States
B gave citizens the right to own weapons
C set January 20 as the new date for Congress to begin
D limited the president to two terms in office