

# *The Constitution for Kids - Notes & Questions*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Hour \_\_\_\_\_

**Part I - Preamble to the Constitution** - The Constitution is the rulebook for the United States. Each of the 50 states has its own government and rules, just like families have rules at home. To keep order in the whole country, the Constitution was written. It begins with “We the people of the United States” and promises justice, peace, defense, welfare, and liberty for all people, including future generations. The word posterity means children or future generations.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ What document describes how the government is organized in each state?  
a) The Declaration of Independence      b) The Constitution  
c) The Bill of Rights      d) The Federalist Papers
2. \_\_\_\_\_ What does the word “posterity” mean in the Constitution?  
a) Government officials      b) Current citizens  
c) Future generations      d) The Founding Fathers
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Why is the Constitution important for freedom?  
a) It provides rules for sports      b) It governs the Union and ensures order  
c) It is just a history document      d) It is fun to read

**Part II - Who Makes the Rules?** - The Constitution has a preamble, seven articles, and 27 amendments. Congress makes the laws for the country. Congress has two parts: the Senate and the House of Representatives. Senators must be at least 30 years old, and Representatives must be at least 25.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Who makes the rules for America?  
a) The President      b) The Supreme Court  
c) Congress      d) The citizens
2. \_\_\_\_\_ What are the two groups in Congress?  
a) The Senate and the House of Lords      b) The Senate and the House of Representatives  
c) The House of Commons and the Senate      d) The Senate and the Judiciary
3. \_\_\_\_\_ How many amendments does the Constitution have?  
a) 10   b) 27   c) 15   d) 20

**Part III - Legislative Branch (Article 1)** - In this lesson, students learn about Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution, which focuses on Congress. The video explains that Article 1 consists of 10 sections detailing the structure and functions of Congress, including the requirements for members, their election process, and their powers. Congress is divided into two houses: the Senate, with 100 members (two from each state), and the House of Representatives, which has 435 members serving two-year terms.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ What is Article I about?  
a) The Supreme Court      b) Congress  
c) The Bill of Rights      d) State governments

2. \_\_\_\_ How many members are in the House of Representatives?  
a) 100              b) 435              c) 50              d) 200
3. \_\_\_\_ How long is a Representative's term?  
a) 4 years              b) 6 years              c) 2 years              d) 8 years

**Part IV - Executive Branch (Article 2)** - In this lesson, Dan introduces Article 2 of the U.S. Constitution, which focuses on the roles and responsibilities of the President and Vice President. Students are encouraged to engage with their pocket Constitution by coloring the section to highlight its importance. Article 2 consists of four sections detailing the election process, qualifications, and duties of the President, including the execution of laws. Dan highlights the significance of amendments, noting that certain paragraphs have been revised over time. The lesson emphasizes the oath of office that the President must take, promising to uphold the Constitution.

1. \_\_\_\_ What is Article II about?  
a) The judicial branch              b) The President and Vice President  
c) The legislative branch              d) The amendments
2. \_\_\_\_ What is the President's main job?  
a) Write laws              b) Enforce laws              c) Appoint judges              d) Lead the military
3. \_\_\_\_ Before starting work, what must the President do?  
a) Take a vacation              b) Take an oath of office  
c) Write a speech              d) Hold a press conference

**Part V - Judicial Branch (Article 3)** - In this lesson, the focus is on Article 3 of the U.S. Constitution, which discusses the role of the Supreme Court. Article 3 consists of three sections and outlines the importance of courts in maintaining law and order, as Congress creates laws that must be obeyed for public safety. The Supreme Court's primary function is to hear national cases involving those accused of breaking these laws. Judges are nominated by the president and confirmed by the Senate, serving for life unless they misbehave. The video emphasizes that trials are conducted by juries made up of American citizens, ensuring fair treatment and protection against wrongful accusations.

1. \_\_\_\_ What is Article III about?  
a) The President              b) The Supreme Court              c) Senate              d) House of Representatives
2. \_\_\_\_ What is the main job of the Supreme Court?  
a) Make laws              b) Hear national cases              c) Enforce laws              d) Appoint judges
3. \_\_\_\_ What is a jury?  
a) Judges              b) Citizens              c) Lawyers              d) Lawmakers

**Part VI - Articles 4, 5, & 6** - Article 4 discusses the relationships between states, emphasizing the importance of unity and friendship among the original 13 states, which has since expanded to 50. Article 5 outlines the amendment process, explaining how future generations can improve the Constitution as society evolves. Article 6 highlights the responsibilities of the new government, including the commitment to pay debts and the requirement for public officials to uphold the Constitution. Finally, Article 7 marks the year the Constitution was agreed upon, 1787, and invites viewers to symbolically sign the document, reinforcing their role as modern citizens upholding its values.

1. \_\_\_\_ What is Article IV about?
  - a) Amending the Constitution
  - b) How states work together
  - c) Responsibilities of officials
  - d) History of the Constitution
  
2. \_\_\_\_ What is it called when the Constitution is changed?
  - a) Ratification
  - b) Amendment
  - c) Declaration
  - d) Revision
  
3. \_\_\_\_ What promise do officials make in Article VI?
  - a) Serve for life
  - b) Obey the Constitution
  - c) Create new laws
  - d) Represent their states only

**Part VII - Bill of Rights** - In this part, students learn about the amendments to the U.S. Constitution, which were established in the late 1700s, with the first ten, known as the Bill of Rights, ratified in 1791. The Bill of Rights is presented as a safeguard against government overreach, ensuring happiness and freedom for citizens.

1. \_\_\_\_ What are the first 10 amendments called?
  - a) Bill of Rights
  - b) Constitution
  - c) Declaration of Independence
  - d) Federalist Papers
  
2. \_\_\_\_ Why was the Bill of Rights written?
  - a) To set up the government
  - b) To protect freedoms
  - c) To create new laws
  - d) To protect the king
  
3. \_\_\_\_ How many articles and amendments are in the Constitution?
  - a) 7 articles, 20 amendments
  - b) 7 articles, 27 amendments
  - c) 5 articles, 25 amendments
  - d) 10 articles, 30 amendments

**Part VIII - Amendments 12-27** - The video discusses amendments 12 through 27 of the United States Constitution, which includes a total of 27 amendments across seven articles. It emphasizes the historical context, noting that the first eleven amendments were drafted in the late 1700s and are known as the Bill of Rights, while amendments 12 to 15 were created in the 1800s and 16 to 27 in the 1900s. The amendments reflect significant developments in American history.

1. \_\_\_\_ In what century were the first 11 amendments written?
  - a) 1600s
  - b) 1700s
  - c) 1800s
  - d) 1900s
  
2. \_\_\_\_ Why are amendments added?
  - a) To fix spelling mistakes
  - b) To adapt to changing needs
  - c) To replace the Declaration of Independence
  - d) To give the President more power

**Part IX - Constitution Summary** - The U.S. Constitution is the highest law in our country. It was written in 1787 to create a strong but fair government after the American Revolution. The Constitution explains how the government is set up, what powers it has, and what rights the people have. It begins with the Preamble, which is like an introduction. It says the government's job is to keep peace, protect people, and make life better for everyone. The main part of the Constitution is divided into seven Articles:

- Article I sets up Congress (the Senate and House of Representatives) to make laws.
- Article II sets up the President to enforce laws.
- Article III sets up the Supreme Court and other courts to explain and apply laws.
- The other Articles deal with rules for the states, changing the Constitution, and how it all works.

The Constitution also has Amendments, which are changes or additions. The first 10 amendments are called the Bill of Rights, and they protect freedoms like speech, religion, and fair trials. Today there are 27 amendments total. The big idea of the Constitution is checks and balances. That means no one branch of government (Congress, President, or Courts) has all the power—they share it and can limit each other. In short, the Constitution is the rulebook for the U.S. government, and it makes sure that power comes from the people and that citizens' rights are protected.

**Part X - Declaration of Independence** - The U.S. Constitution is the rulebook for our country's government. It was written in 1787 and explains how the government works. It divides the government into three branches: Congress makes the laws, the President carries out the laws, and the Courts make sure the laws are fair. It also includes the Bill of Rights, which are the first 10 amendments that protect people's freedoms, like free speech and religion. The Constitution can be changed with new amendments, and today there are 27 in total. The most important idea is that the power comes from the people, and no branch of government is allowed to get too powerful.

1. \_\_\_\_ What is the main purpose of the Constitution?
  - a) List all U.S. laws
  - b) Explain how government works & protect rights
  - c) Tell history of the Revolution
  - d) Make rules for the President only
2. \_\_\_\_ Which of the following is not a branch of government?
  - a) Congress
  - b) The President
  - c) The Courts
  - d) The States
3. \_\_\_\_ What are the first 10 amendments called?
  - a) The Preamble
  - b) The Bill of Rights
  - c) The Articles of Confederation
  - d) The Declaration of Independence

