

## **Chapter 8 / Section 1: Goals & Principles of the Constitution**

The goals and principles of the **Constitution** have guided the United States for more than 223 years.

What are the **three main parts** of the Constitution?

### **Preamble, Articles, and Amendments**

The **Preamble** (the opening statement of the Constitution) introduces **six goals** of the Constitution:

- 1. To form a more perfect Union**
- 2. To establish justice**
- 3. To insure domestic tranquility**
- 4. To provide for the common defense**
- 5. To promote the general welfare**
- 6. To secure the blessings of liberty**

The main body of the Constitution is made up of **Articles**, which establish the framework for our government. They are:

- I. Establishes the powers of and limits on Congress (**Legislative Branch**)
- II. Establishes the powers of and limits on the President (**Executive Branch**)
- III. Establishes the powers of and limits on the courts (**Judicial Branch**)
- IV. **Relations between the states**
- V. **Amending (changing) the Constitution**
- VI. **Constitution is the “supreme law of the land”**
- VII. **Ratification of the Constitution**

5. How many **amendments** (total) have been added to the Constitution in 226 years? **27**

6. The Constitution of the United States rests on **Seven Basic Principles** that ensure that the citizens of the United States enjoy a careful balance of **power** and **freedom**—list and define each below:

Principle #1: Popular Sovereignty:

**All government power belongs to the people.**

Principle #2: Limited Government:

**Government can do only what the people say it can do.**

Principle #3: Separation of Powers:

**Power is separated among three branches of the national government.**

Principle #4: Checks and Balances:

**Each branch of government is able to check the other branches.**

Principle #5: Federalism:

**Power is divided between the national government and the states.**

Principle #6: Republicanism:

**Citizens elect representatives to carry out the will of the people.**

Principle #7: Individual Rights:

**Individual rights are protected.**

# The Bill of Rights

## The First Ten Amendments to the Constitution

### Amendment 1

Freedoms of Religion, Speech, and Press;  
Rights to Assemble and to Petition the Government

### Amendment 2

The Right to Keep and Bear Arms

### Amendment 3

Limits on Housing Soldiers in Private Homes

### Amendment 4

Limiting Searches, Seizures, and Warrants

### Amendment 5

Clarifying Rights of the Accused

### Amendment 6

Clarifying Rights in Criminal Cases

### Amendment 7

Clarifying Rights in Civil Cases

### Amendment 8

Limiting Bails, Fines, and Punishments

### Amendment 9

Clarifying the Rights of the People

### Amendment 10

Clarifying States' Rights

## Significant Amendments to the Constitution

### Amendment 12 (Ratified 1804)

Election of the President and Vice President

### ★ Amendment 13 (Ratified 1865)

Abolition of Slavery

### ★ Amendment 14 (Ratified 1868)

Expanding Rights and Protections of Citizens; Due Process of Law

### ★ Amendment 15 (Ratified 1870)

Legalizing African American Suffrage (Right to Vote)

[★: Amendments 13, 14, & 15 are known collectively as the "Civil War Amendments"]

### Amendment 19 (Ratified 1920)

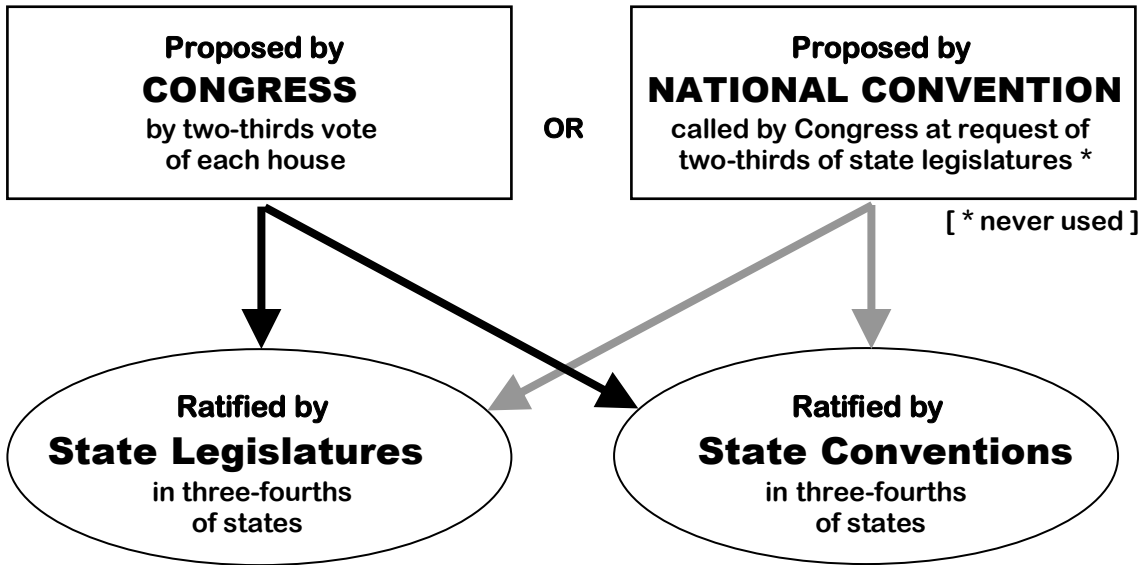
Legalizing Women's Suffrage (Right to Vote)

### Amendment 26 (Ratified 1971)

Suffrage for Citizens 18 Years of Age or Older (Right to Vote)

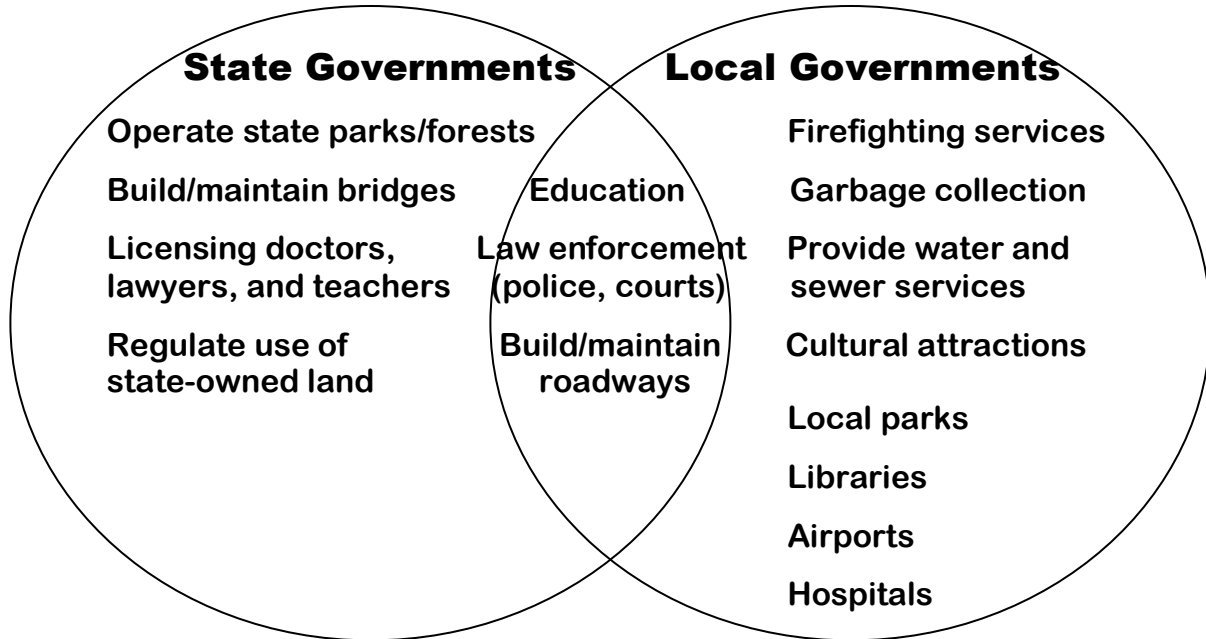
**Chapter 8 / Section 3: Changing the Constitution** (pp. 259-261)

Methods of Amending the Constitution (See diagram, p. 260)



**Chapter 8 / Section 4: State and Local Governments** (pp. 262-264)

Pictured below are the key services provided by state and local governments with shared services in the overlapping section of the Venn diagram.



**Chapter 8 / Section 5: Rights/Responsibilities of Citizens** (pp. 265-268)

A. A person must fulfill **one** of these three requirements for being a citizen of the United States:

1. You were born in the United States (or one parent is a U.S. citizen)
2. You are naturalized, completing the legal process to become a citizen
3. You were 18 or younger when your parents were naturalized

B. What are the six responsibilities of a United States citizen? (pp. 267-268)

- |                     |                         |                             |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Voting           | 3. Defending the nation | 5. Serving the community    |
| 2. Obeying the laws | 4. Serving on a jury    | 6. Being informed (to vote) |

# **Chapter 8/Section 1: Goals & Principles of the Constitution**

1. What are the **three main parts** of the Constitution?

**Preamble, Articles, and Amendments**

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2. What is the **purpose** of the Preamble?

**To define the goals of the Constitution**

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3. List the **six goals** of the Preamble as written in the Constitution:

1. **To form a more perfect Union**
  2. **To establish justice**
  3. **To insure domestic tranquility**
  4. **To provide for the common defense**
  5. **To promote the general welfare**
  6. **To secure the blessings of liberty**
- 

4. Briefly describe each of the seven **Articles** of the Constitution:

- I. **Establishes the powers of and limits on Congress (Legislative Branch)**
  - II. **Establishes the powers of and limits on the President (Executive Branch)**
  - III. **Establishes the powers of and limits on the courts (Judicial Branch)**
  - IV. **Relations between the states**
  - V. **Amending (changing) the Constitution**
  - VI. **Constitution is the “supreme law of the land”**
  - VII. **Ratification of the Constitution**
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5. How many **amendments** (total) have been added to the Constitution in 226 years? **27**

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6. The Constitution of the United States rests on **Seven Basic Principles**—list and define each below:

- Principle #1: **Popular Sovereignty:**  
**All government power belongs to the people.**
- Principle #2: **Limited Government:**  
**Government can do only what the people say it can do.**
- Principle #3: **Separation of Powers:**  
**Power is divided among three branches of the national government.**
- Principle #4: **Checks and Balances:**  
**Each branch of government is able to check the other branches.**
- Principle #5: **Federalism:**  
**Power is divided between the national government and the states.**
- Principle #6: **Republicanism:**  
**Citizens elect representatives to carry out the will of the people.**
- Principle #7: **Individual Rights:**  
**Individual rights are protected.**
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Refer to the Chart on p. 250, *The System of Checks and Balances*, to answer the following questions:

7. What do you think is the most important check Congress has on the President? **Why?**

**Opinions will vary**

**(Possible response: Can impeach and remove the President)**

8. What do you think is the most important check the President has on Congress? **Why?**

**Opinions will vary**

**(Possible response: Can veto laws)**

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# Chapter 8/Section 2: How the Federal Government Works (pp. 252-257)

1. Which article of the Constitution is the longest? **Article I**

2. What is the purpose of Article I? **Sets up the Congress (Legislative Branch) to make the laws**

3. What are the two bodies of the Congress? **House of Representatives & Senate**

4. Copy the portion of the Chart from page 253 below for the **House of Representatives**:

Office	Number	Term	Selection	Requirements
<i>Representative</i>	At least one per state; based on population (435 members)	2 years	Elected by voters of congressional district	Age 25 or over Citizen for 7 years Resident of state in which elected

5. Who is the leader of the House? **Speaker of the House**

6. Copy the portion of the Chart from page 253 below for the **Senate**:

Office	Number	Term	Selection	Requirements
<i>Senator</i>	2 per state (100 members)	6 years	Original Constitution—elected by state legislature; Amendment 17—elected by voters	Age 30 or over Citizen for 9 years Resident of state in which elected

7. How were senators originally chosen? **By state legislatures**

8. Which amendment changed the selection process for the Senate? **Amendment 17**

9. Who is the leader (also known as “president”) of the Senate? **Vice President of the United States**

10. When does this person cast a vote? **Casts a vote when there is a tie**

11. What is the most important power of Congress? **To make the nation’s laws**

12. What is Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution known as?

**The elastic clause—it states that Congress can “make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper” for carrying out its specific duties.**

13. What is the purpose of Article II?

**Sets up the Executive Branch to carry out the nation’s laws and run the national government**

14. Who is the head of this branch? **President of the United States**

15. Which two elected officials are the only ones who represent all Americans? **President and Vice President**

16. What is the President’s main duty? **To carry out the nation’s laws**

17. List three (3) other powers of the President:

- + **Commander in Chief of the armed forces**
- + **Chief legislator—suggests new laws & works to pass them**
- + **Makes appointments (personnel and federal judges)**
- + **Grants pardons**
- + **Negotiates foreign treaties**
- + **Calls special sessions of Congress**

19. What does the Twenty-second Amendment (1951) say about electing a President?

**No President may be elected to more than two complete terms**

20. Which group actually “elects” the President? **The Electoral College**

21. What is the nation’s highest court? **Supreme Court**      Article III established the **Judicial** Branch.

22. What is the greatest power of the Supreme Court?

**To decide what the Constitution means (judicial review)**

23. How did the framers prevent the branches from abusing their powers?

**By setting up a system of checks and balances**

# **The Bill of Rights**

## **The First Ten Amendments to the Constitution**

**Directions:** Please provide the following items for each Amendment Box: (1) Summary and (3) Illustration. Use your Notes (p. 17) or textbook (pp. 237-245) to complete this activity. (Each box = 10 points / 80 points total)

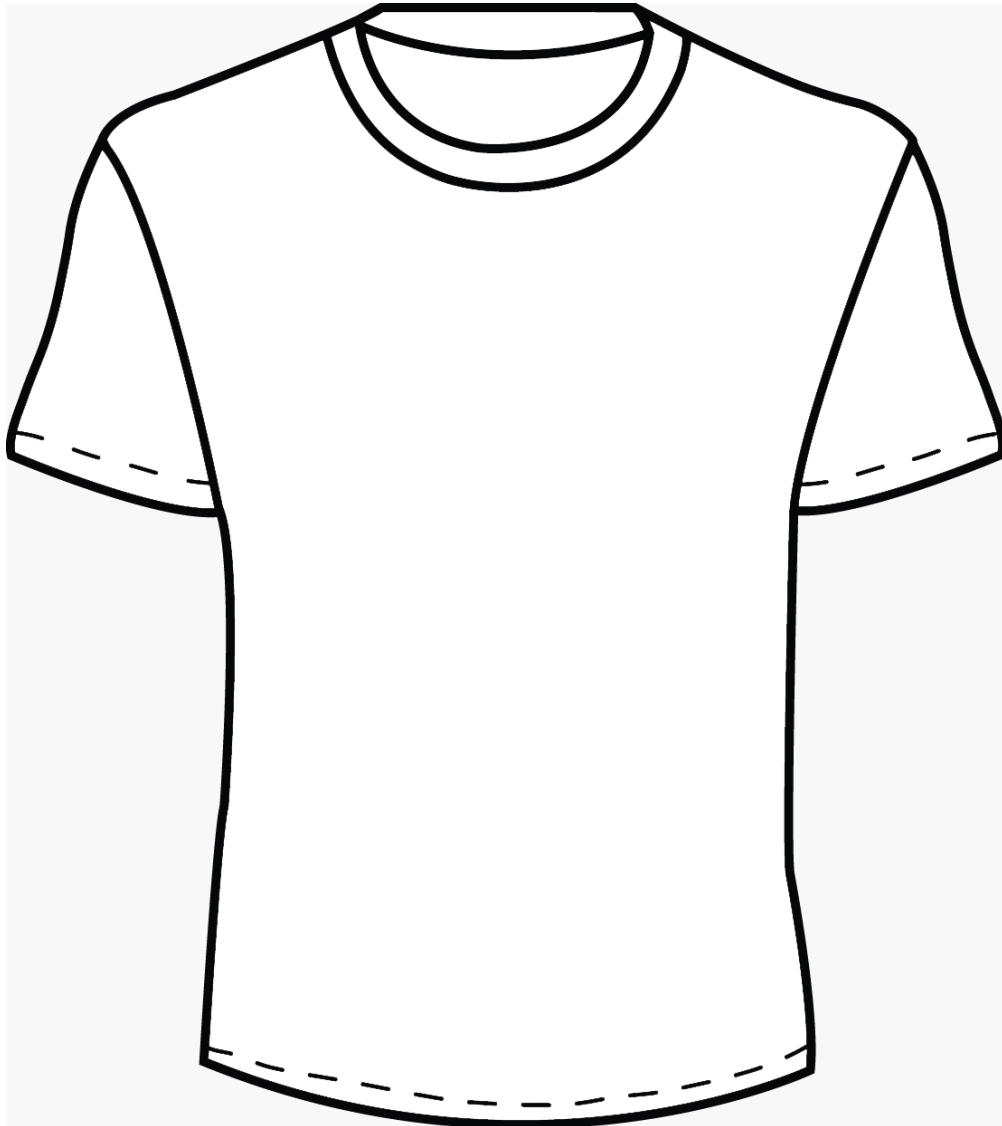
<b>Amendment 1</b>	<b>Amendment 2</b>
Summary:	Summary:
Illustration:	Illustration:
<b>Amendment 3</b>	<b>Amendment 4</b>
Summary:	Summary:
Illustration:	Illustration:
<b>Amendment 5</b>	<b>Amendment 6</b>
Summary:	Summary:
Illustration:	Illustration:

Amendment 7	Amendment 8
Summary:	Summary:
Illustration:	Illustration:

### **My Favorite Amendment to the Constitution**

Please illustrate your favorite amendment from the Constitution on the t-shirt below—you have 27 to choose from!

(20 points)



Amendment # \_\_\_\_ | Summary: \_\_\_\_\_