

CHAPTER

3

PREREADING AND VOCABULARY

The Constitution

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A. Compound Words

Directions: A compound is a word with two or more parts. Use a dictionary to look up each part of the compound words below and write their definitions in the spaces provided. If there is more than one definition, find the one that relates to government. Then write your best guess as to the meanings of the compound words on a separate sheet of paper.

1. popular _____
sovereignty _____
popular sovereignty
2. electoral _____
college _____
electoral college
3. judicial _____
review _____
judicial review
4. executive _____
agreement _____
executive agreement

B. Matching

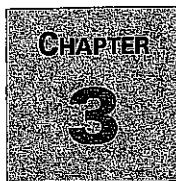
Directions: Match the description in Column I with the term in Column II.

Column I

- _____ 5. divides power between federal and state governments
- _____ 6. against the principles of the Constitution
- _____ 7. group of advisors to the President
- _____ 8. a change to the Constitution
- _____ 9. to take back

Column II

- a. amendment
- b. Cabinet
- c. federalism
- d. repeal
- e. unconstitutional

**CHAPTER OUTLINE****The Constitution****2**

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

I. Section 1: Basic Principles**A. The Outline of the Constitution**

1. Basic _____, or laws, are outlined in the Constitution.
2. Soon after the Constitution became effective, _____ amendments were added to it. It now has _____ amendments.
3. Article _____ says the Constitution is the law of the land.

B. Popular Sovereignty

The idea that the federal government gets its power from _____ is called popular sovereignty.

C. Limited Government

1. Limited government means that the government is never _____ the law.
2. Government must follow the principles authorized by the people. This is the _____ of _____.

D. Separation of Powers

1. The division of government into three _____ is called the separation of powers.
2. The Constitution states that only _____ can make laws.

E. Checks and Balances

1. The President cannot make laws, but must _____ all laws passed by Congress.
2. Congress can _____ the President's veto.

CHAPTER OUTLINE (continued)

The Constitution

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F. Judicial Review

Courts can decide whether or not actions of the government are _____. This power is called judicial review.

G. Federalism

Federalism is a system of government in which power is divided between a _____ and _____ governments.

II. Section 2: Formal Amendment

A. The Formal Amendment Process

One way to make a change to the Constitution is for two-thirds of the members of _____ to approve an amendment. Because we have a federal system, three-fourths of the _____ must then ratify the amendment for it to become part of the Constitution.

B. The 27 Amendments

1. The first _____ amendments to the Constitution are known as the Bill of Rights.
2. The _____ Amendment limited a President to two full terms in office.
3. The 27th Amendment was first proposed in _____ but was not ratified until _____.

III. Section 3: Change by Other Means

A. Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Influence

1. _____ passed by Congress have helped shape the basic framework of the Constitution.
2. Presidents have brought about constitutional change by making _____ agreements with leaders of foreign countries.

CHAPTER OUTLINE (continued)

The Constitution

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3. The Supreme Court _____ the Constitution as it hears and decides cases.

B. Party Practices

1. Many of the Framers disliked the idea of political parties. Despite this fact, much of American government today is conducted on the basis of _____.
2. One way parties have brought about constitutional change is by taking over the selection of candidates for the _____ and _____.

C. Custom

1. The Constitution does not mention the President's _____, his group of advisors. Instead, it came about through tradition and custom.
2. Some customs were followed for years before being written into the Constitution, such as the _____ - _____ - _____ tradition.

CHAPTER
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SECTION 1

READING COMPREHENSION

Basic Principles

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1. Use your knowledge of the outline of the Constitution to answer the questions below.
 - A. Which articles establish the basic structure of the National Government?

 - B. Which section would you consult to find out how to amend the Constitution?

 - C. Which section deals with the relationship of State government to the Federal Government?

 - D. Which section explains the purpose of the Constitution?

 - E. Which section establishes that the Constitution takes priority whenever a State or federal law conflicts with the Constitution?

2. Complete the chart below by explaining the meaning of each principle and then answering the questions.

<p>Popular Sovereignty</p> <p>Meaning:</p>	<p>How does the government exercise popular sovereignty?</p>
<p>Limited Government</p> <p>Meaning:</p>	<p>What are two other terms used to express the concept of limited government?</p>

READING COMPREHENSION (continued)**Basic Principles****3**

Separation of Powers Meaning:	How does separation of powers contribute to limited government?
Checks and Balances Meaning:	Why does the President tend to select judges that most senators favor?
Judicial Review Meaning:	When a court declares a law unconstitutional, what does this mean?
Federalism Meaning:	In what way did federalism represent a compromise made by the Framers?

3. The Preamble to the Constitution has often been quoted for its eloquence and for its significance to American government and history. Memorize these lines and practice them with a partner.

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SECTION 1

READING COMPREHENSION

Basic Principles

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Directions: Write your answer to each question. Use complete sentences.

1. The Constitution begins with a Preamble followed by seven articles.

a. Which articles outline the three branches of the federal government?

b. Which article would you look at to find out how to amend the Constitution?

c. Which article deals with the relationships among state governments?

d. Which section is the introduction to the Constitution?

2. Complete the chart below by explaining the meaning of each principle and then answering the questions.

Popular Sovereignty Meaning:	What is the main way that the people influence government in the United States?
Limited Government Meaning:	What is another way to describe the idea of limited government?

READING COMPREHENSION (continued)**Basic Principles****2**

Separation of Powers Meaning:	Which branch decides what the laws mean?
Checks and Balances Meaning:	Give one example of how the system of checks and balances works.
Judicial Review Meaning:	Which court case established the power of judicial review?
Federalism Meaning:	What problem did federalism solve when the Constitution was being written?

3. The Preamble to the Constitution reads "We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." Memorize these lines and practice them with a partner. Write down the definitions for any words in the Preamble that you do not understand.

CHAPTER
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SECTION 1
CORE WORKSHEET**Basic Principles****3**

Constitution Scavenger Hunt

The Framers of the Constitution based their government on the six basic principles listed in this chart. First, write a definition of each principle. Next, read the Preamble and Articles I–VII of the Constitution. As you find statements that reflect each principle, record the number of the article, section, and clause. Then describe how the statement relates to the basic principle.

Popular Sovereignty			
Definition:			
Article	Section	Clause	Description

Limited Government			
Definition:			
Article	Section	Clause	Description

Separation of Powers			
Definition:			
Article	Section	Clause	Description

CORE WORKSHEET (continued)**Basic Principles****3****Checks and Balances****Definition:**

Article	Section	Clause	Description

Federalism**Definition:**

Article	Section	Clause	Description

Judicial Review**Definition:**

This principle was intended by the Framers, based on Federalist writings, but it was not specifically stated in the Constitution.

Judicial Review was established later in:

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SECTION 1

EXTEND WORKSHEET

Basic Principles

3, 4

The excerpts below are from *The Federalist*, which was written by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay to encourage ratification of the Constitution. Read the excerpts and decide which basic principles are the subject of each excerpt. Then use a separate sheet of paper to answer the Critical Thinking questions that follow.

Excerpt 1

"... we may define a republic to be, or at least may bestow that name on, a government which derives all its powers directly or indirectly from the great body of the people. ... It is **ESSENTIAL** to such a government that it be derived from the great body of the society, not from an inconsiderable proportion, or a favored class of it. ..."

— *The Federalist* No. 39

Basic Principle(s): _____

Excerpt 2

"The idea of a national government involves in it, not only an authority over the individual citizens, but an indefinite supremacy over all persons and things. ... In this relation, then, the proposed government cannot be deemed a **NATIONAL** one; since its jurisdiction extends to certain enumerated objects only, and leaves to the several States a residuary and inviolable sovereignty over all other objects."

— *The Federalist* No. 39

Basic Principle(s): _____

Excerpt 3

"**TO WHAT** expedient, then, shall we finally resort, for maintaining in practice the necessary partition of power among the several departments, as laid down in the Constitution? ... the great security against a gradual concentration of the several powers in the same department, consists in giving to those who administer each department the necessary constitutional means and personal motives to resist encroachments of the others."

— *The Federalist* No. 51

Basic Principle(s): _____

EXTEND WORKSHEET (continued)

Basic Principles

3, 4

Excerpt 4

"In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: you must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place oblige it to control itself."

— *The Federalist* No. 51

Basic Principle(s): _____

Excerpt 5

"In the compound republic of America, the power surrendered by the people is first divided between two distinct governments, and then the portion allotted to each subdivided among distinct and separate departments. Hence a double security arises to the rights of the people. The different governments will control each other, at the same time that each will be controlled by itself."

— *The Federalist* No. 51

Basic Principle(s): _____

Excerpt 6

"... where the will of the legislature, declared in its statutes, stands in opposition to that of the people, declared in the Constitution, the judges ought to be governed by the latter rather than the former. They ought to regulate their decisions by the fundamental laws, rather than by those which are not fundamental."

— *The Federalist* No. 78

Basic Principle(s): _____

Critical Thinking

1. According to Excerpt 1, what is the definition of a republic?
2. According to Excerpt 2, why is the government outlined in the Constitution not merely a national government?
3. According to Excerpt 4, the government must control the governed but also control itself. Based on the other excerpts, briefly explain how the Constitution provides for the government to control itself.