

**SURVEYING THE U.S. CONSTITUTION:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PERIOD: \_\_\_\_\_

Starting at p. 47 in your textbook, use the American Constitution to answer the following questions.

- 1) How does the opening of the Preamble (pg. 47) express popular sovereignty (power)?
  
- 2) List the six (6) goals stated in the Preamble.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  - d.
  - e.
  - f.

ARTICLE ONE:

- 1) Which Branch is described in Article One? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) What did section 1 of Article one provide for?
  
- 3) Who are “the electors” of the members of the House of Representatives?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) What are the three requirements for being in the House of Representatives?
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  
- 5) What is the term of office for a member of the House of Representatives?
  
- 5) In clause 3, how was the provision for direct taxes changed?
  
- 6) What eliminated the 3/5ths Compromise? (Clause 3)
  
- 7) What is the basis for the number of Representatives?
  
- 8) What is the limit placed on the number of Representatives today? (Since 1911)
  
- 9) What is the sole position in the House that is mentioned in the Constitution?
  
- 10) Which House has the power of impeachment?
  
- 11) How many Senators are there from each state? \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) How long is the term of office for a Senator? \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) Who chose the Senators in the original Constitution? \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 14) How did the “classes” of Senators bring about a staggered system of election? (Section 3, Clause 2)

- 15) List the qualifications for being a Senator.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  
- 16) In clause 4, who is President of the Senate? \_\_\_\_\_
- 17) When does he get to vote? \_\_\_\_\_
- 18) What is the substitute position for when the President of the Senate is absent?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 19) What power does the Senate have in impeachments?
  
- 20) Who presides if it is the President who is being tried for impeachment?
  
- 21) What percentage of vote is needed to find someone guilty of impeachment?
  
- 22) In clause 6, what is the penalty for conviction for impeachment?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 23) What two things does impeachment NOT prevent?
  - a.
  - b.
  
- 24) What level of government authority controls the election process or manner in which members of Congress are elected? Is their authority absolute?
  
- 25) Under Section 5, how were the rules of the House and Senate determined?
  
- 26) Define Quorum
  
- 27) What is the ultimate punishment of a member of either House, and how many members must agree to this punishment for it to be enacted?
  
  
- 28) What percentage of members of each House can request that a vote in their house be officially recorded (as Yeas and Nays)?
  
  
- 29) What is the rule for adjournment that both Houses must share?
  
  
- 30) Section 6, what two immunities are granted members of Congress? (Be Specific)
  - a.
  - b.
  
- 31) What are the two main restrictions in Sec. 6, Clause 2?
  - c.
  - d.
  
- 32) Where must all revenue bills originate (section 7, clause 1)?

- 33) What can the Senate do to revenue bills?
- 34) How can a Bill become law if the President vetoes it?
- 35) What percentage of both Houses of Congress must agree to override a veto? \_\_\_%
- 36) When can a bill become a law without the President's signature?
- 37) What happens after ten days if the President doesn't sign a bill?
- 38) What other Congressional require Presidential signature?
- 39) Which exception does your book provide to requiring a Presidential signature?
- 40) List the *expressed* powers of Congress listed in Section 8, Clause 1
- |    |    |
|----|----|
| a. | b. |
| c. | d. |
| e. | f. |
| g. | h. |
| i. | j. |
| k. | l. |
| m. | n. |
| o. | p. |
| q. | r. |
- 41) What did Clause 2 establish?
- \*42) What is the purpose of the "elastic clause" (clause 3), and what power does it provide?
- \*43) There are 12 denied powers of Congress listed in 8 clauses. List what they are (I will define some of them for you later)
- |    |
|----|
| a. |
| b. |
| c. |
| d. |
| e. |
| f. |
| g. |
| h. |
- 44) How is the list of powers in section 9 different from those listed in section 8?
- 44) From Section 10, Clause 1, list the eight powers denied to the states.
- |    |    |
|----|----|
| a) | b) |
| c) | d) |
| e) | f) |
| g) | h) |

45) What power is denied to the states under most circumstances in Clause 2?

46) What happens to any money raised through duties (taxes) on imports or exports by the states?

47) What six powers are denied to the states in Clause 3? What is the exception?

ARTICLE TWO:

- 1) Which Branch does Article Two describe? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Who is the head of the Executive Branch? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) What is the term of office for the President? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) How is the number of Electors to the Electoral College determined (clause 2), and how are they appointed?
  
- 5) Who specifically cannot serve as an Elector?
  
- 6) Clause 3 was altered by the 12<sup>th</sup> Amendment. Refer to the 12<sup>th</sup> Amendment and clause 3 to answer these questions.
  - Where are electoral votes counted?
  - What must a person receive to become the President?
  - Who decides who is President if no one has a majority or if there is a tie?
  - What role does the Senate play?
  
- 7) Who has the power to decide what day the Electors meet to cast their vote?
  
- 8) \*What is the formula that determines the day of the Presidential election in any given election year?
  
- 9) What are the qualifications for President as provided in Clause 5?
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  
- 10) The 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment modified Clause 6. Under the new guidelines, who become President if the President can no longer fulfill that duty? How is this different from the original system found in clause 6?
  
- 11) If the President is replaced by the Vice President during his term, how is a new Vice President chosen? (This was provided by the 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment, but is also in blue in your book)

- 12) What cannot happen to the President's pay scale during his/her term? Why?
- 13) What 2 things does the President swear to in his/her oath of office?
  - a.
  - b.
- 14) In Section 2, Clause 1, what power is provided to the President regarding the military?
- 15) How did Section 2, Clause 1 lead to the formation of today's Presidential Cabinet?
- 16) What can a President NOT pardon or reprieve someone convicted of a federal crime?
- 17) With whom does the President share appointment and treaty powers?
- 19) What percentage of Senators must agree with the President in making appointments or treaties with foreign nations?
- 20) What level of officials do NOT require Senate approval (VERY important today)?
- 21) \*What is meant by a "recess" appointment, and why might it be used?
- 22) List the ten major powers and duties of the President found in Section 2 and 3.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  - d.
  - e.
  - f.
  - g.
  - h.
  - i.
  - j.
- 23) What yearly speech is referred to in Section 3 of Article II?
- 24) What are the offenses for which government officials can be impeached?
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
- 25) In comparing the powers of the President with the powers of the Congress, what difference(s) do you note?

ARTICLE THREE:

- 1) Which Branch does Article Three describe? \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Which is the only court mentioned in Section 1? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) What is its function?

- 4) What are inferior courts? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Who creates them and how?
- 6) What is the term of office for a federal court judge? \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) \*Why can salaries for federal judges NOT be reduced by Congress?
- 8) List the ten types of cases which are always tried in a **federal** court.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  - d.
  - e.
  - f.
  - g.
  - h.
  - i.
  - j.
- 9) In what three types does the Supreme Court have original jurisdiction? (Section 2)
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
- 10) \* What is appellate jurisdiction, which accounts for the rest of the Court's power?
- 11) What are the requirements of federal trials with regards to
  - a. judgement
  - b. location
- 12) How did the Congress of Vienna in 1815 change the Supreme Court's jurisdiction?
- 13) What is the only crime defined in the Constitution? (Article 3, Section 3)
- 14) How does the Constitution define treason?
- 15) What is required in order for someone to be convicted for treason?
  - a.
  - b.
- 16) In Section 3, clause 2, what does it mean that punishment for this crime cannot work "corruption of blood?" (check the explanation of the crime)



ARTICLE SIX:

- 1) What is Article Six called? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) In Clause 1, when were the public debts incurred that the new government said they would pay?
- 3) What does Clause 2 say is the supreme law of the U.S.?
- 4) What is the name by which this provision is known?
- 5) In Clause 3, what does it mean by stating that officials can take either an oath or an affirmation?
- 6) What concern is expressed in clause 3 when it states there can be no religious test for any public office?
- 7) What principle of our system of government is the idea expressed in question 6.

ARTICLE SEVEN:

- 1) What is the seventh and last Article about? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) How many states were needed to adopt the new constitution? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) How many of the people attending the Constitutional Convention signed the Constitution? \_\_\_\_\_.

BILL OF RIGHTS:

- 1) Which level of government is the Bill of Rights limiting?
- 2) What 2 things does the First Amendment say about religion?
  - a.
  - b.
- 3) What basic protection are we guaranteed in the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment?
- 4) What are the five rights provided in the 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment?
- 5) What are the six rights provided for us in the 6<sup>th</sup> Amendment?

- 6) What two rights are provided to us in the 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment?
  
- 7) Which 4 Amendments (in the Bill of Rights) limit or define procedures in criminal cases?
  
- 8) According to Amendments 9 and 10, who gets the rights not mentioned in the Constitution?
  
- 9) What does the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment say about State laws or actions being fair?
  
  
- 10) Since the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, what has been the most common subject or topic of later Amendments? (about 6 in all)