

## Unit 3--Test Prep

# The Constitution

### Chapters 8-10



1. What was our first plan of government? Who or what held the most power under this plan? Why did Americans fear a strong national government?
2. Which had the most power under the Articles of Confederation, the state governments or the national government? What was wrong with the Articles of Confederation? Was the union between the states very strong under the Articles? What important powers did the national government lack under the Articles? Under the Articles, Congress had no power to tax. How did this weaken the national government?
3. What law divided the Northwest Territory—newly acquired from our victory in the Revolutionary War—into townships and set aside space for public schools? What law established rights for settlers of the Northwest Territory, banned slavery, and established a system under which a territory could become a state?
4. What was the uprising of Massachusetts farmers who, unable to pay off their debts, found their land and livestock being sold at court-ordered auctions? Why is it remembered today?
5. What issues and events led to the Constitutional Convention of 1787?
6. What was the proposed plan at the Constitutional Convention in which congressional representation would be based on population? What was the New Jersey Plan? On which plan did the smaller states want to base the national government? What plan provided the basic framework for the national government under the Constitution?
7. What was the Great Compromise? What was it primarily related to?
8. What two groups make up the Congress of the United States? Who is our Representative in the House of Representatives? Who are our two US Senators?
9. What was the agreement that said a portion of the total number of slaves in each state would be counted both for representation and for taxes?
10. What term describes the division of our government into three branches? What are the three branches of our federal government and what function does each perform?
11. What system did the framers of the Constitution establish to ensure that the three branches of the federal government are equal and to prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful?
12. Who is known as the “Father of the Constitution?” Why?
13. To whom did the Constitutional Convention give the job of choosing a chief executive?
14. Northern states favored granting Congress new power to regulate trade between states and other countries. Southern slave states feared this? Why? What three things did the Constitutional Convention do to address such trade and the issue of slave trade?
15. What roles do political parties play in the election of candidates to political office? How is the President elected? How long is a presidential term? How many terms can he/she serve? How many years can he/she serve?

16. How can Congress remove a President from office?
17. What do we call formal approval of the Constitution? How many states were required to approve our new Constitution?
18. What were supporters of the new Constitution known as? Why did they support it? Which group opposed the ratification of the Constitution? What concerns did they have?
19. What were the series of influential articles written in support of the Constitution? Who were their authors?
20. What do we call the introduction of the Constitution? What does it talk about?
21. What is the idea that the authority of government comes from the people?
22. Which is the only house of the Legislature that can propose new taxes?
23. What steps are necessary for a bill to become law?
24. What is the Supreme Court's power to declare law known as?
25. What power(s) does the "elastic clause" give to Congress?
26. What are changes to the Constitution called? How do they come about?
27. What is the system of shared power that assigns some powers to the central (or national) government and other powers to the state governments?
28. Where in the Constitution is the Bill of Rights located? Why did the new government add the Bill of Rights to the Constitution? Who is the person most responsible for writing the Bill of Rights?
29. What five basic freedoms or rights does the First Amendment protect?
30. The Second Amendment protects the right of American citizens to own what?
31. The Fourth Amendment protects people and their property from what?
32. What is "double jeopardy?" What is self-incrimination? What group decides whether the government's evidence against an accused individual justifies a trial?
33. The "Miranda warning" reminds people who are arrested for a crime that they have what right?
34. What does a person accused of a crime do if he/she cannot afford an attorney?
35. The Eighth Amendment forbids a judge from demanding what?
36. The Ninth Amendment says what about rights not listed in the Constitution?
37. To whom or what do powers not given to the national government belong?
38. Know thoroughly the handout, "Chart of the Three Branches of Government."