

PREAMBLE:

1. What are the purposes of the new government?

ARTICLE I: The Legislative Branch:

1. Name the two branches of the legislature. What are they jointly called? What qualifications to be a member of each?
2. Who is the chief officer of the House of Representatives? Of the Senate?
3. Describe the impeachment process.
4. How often must Congress meet? Why?
5. What is a quorum? What are the Rules of Proceedings? The Journal of Proceedings?
6. What is a revenue bill? What is different about this bill?
7. Describe the skeletal outline of passing a bill into law?
8. What are the two kinds of vetoes?
9. What were some of the powers exclusively held by Congress?
10. Pay special attention to the last clause of Section 8 (clause 18)—the elastic clause. How does this function?
11. Section 9 includes some of the basic civil liberty protections in the Constitution. What are they?
12. Why are titles of nobility prohibited?
13. How do the election procedures differ for the House and the Senate?

ARTICLE II: The Executive Branch:

1. Know the term of office for President and the qualifications for the office.
2. How is the President elected?
3. How can a President be removed from office? List the reasons.
4. What are the Constitutional duties of the President?
5. What power does the President share with the Senate?

ARTICLE III: The Judicial Branch:

1. How is the judicial power distributed?
2. How long do federal judges serve? Why?
3. What are the exclusive powers (original jurisdiction) of the Supreme Court?
4. What are the appellate powers of the Supreme Court?
5. What is treason?

ARTICLE IV:

1. What are the guarantees to citizens of every state?
2. How are new states to be admitted?
3. What is a republican form of government?

ARTICLE V: The Amending Process:

1. Describe in detail methods by which the Constitution can be amended. How do these illustrate the principle of federalism?

ARTICLE VI:

1. What is the supreme law of the land?
2. Do you see cause for state-central government conflict in this article? How?

Primary Documents
The Bill of Rights- 1791

Original Document

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II

A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III

No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Rephrased Document

Amendment 1 (Religious Freedom)

Congress cannot pass laws that make an official national religion. It cannot pass laws to stop people from following their own religion or have no religion at all. Congress cannot pass laws that stop people from speaking and writing what they wish. Congress cannot pass laws that stop people from meeting peaceably (non-violently), so that they may ask Congress to correct a wrong.

Amendment 2 (Right to Bear Arms)

Congress cannot stop people from keeping guns, for people have the right to protect themselves by serving as an armed citizen (militia).

Amendment 3 (Quartering of Soldiers)

In peacetime, a person cannot be forced to let a soldier eat or sleep in their home.

Amendment 4 (Search and Seizure)

A person's home cannot be searched and his/her property or papers taken unless there is a search warrant. A warrant can only be issued when a judge knows why, where exactly the search will be made, and who or what is to be taken.

Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Amendment 5 (Life, Liberty, and Property)

- For a serious crime, a suspect must go before a grand jury first. There the suspect is formally accused of the crime. This is called an *indictment*.
- Once found not guilty of a particular crime, a person cannot be tried again for it. This is called *double jeopardy*.
- No one can be forced to say anything in court that would make him/her a convicted criminal. This is called a *forced confession*.
- The government cannot take your life, freedom, or property without following the specific steps of the law. This is called *due process*.
- The government cannot take a person's property without paying a fair price for it. It can only take a person's property and use it to benefit all the people. This is called *eminent domain*.

Amendment 6 (Rights of the Accused)

- A suspect must be given a prompt trial.
- Guilt or innocence must be decided by a jury chosen from the state or district where the crime was committed.
- The accused must be told what he/she is being
- The accused must be present when witnesses speak for or against him/her in court.
- The accused can have a lawyer to defend him/her.

Amendment VII

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

Amendment 7 (Right to a Jury Trial)

In a dispute over property with more than \$20, either side can insist on having a jury trial. Or, both can agree to have a trial by a judge only (no jury). Any appeal must follow the rules of law.

Amendment 8 (Bail and Punishment)

the Courts are forbidden to ask for unusually high bail (money). Courts cannot fine a person too much money for a crime, or punish a convict in a cruel or unusual way.

Amendment 9 (All Other Rights)

The mention of certain rights in the constitution does not mean that these are the only rights that people have or does not make other rights less important.

Amendment 10 (Rights of States and People)

The states or the people have all powers that have not been specifically given to the federal (national) government or prohibited to the states.