

Structure of the Constitution

1. Doc that organizes the government
2. Its origins meet the criteria set out by Locke for the just creation of a government, and the document itself is structured to protect the natural rights of its inhabitants
3. Baron de Montesquieu
4. SOP: Splits the branches and C&B gives powers to check on other branches and balances out the powers
5. Each branch is able to monitor and correct if that branch is abusing its power
6. Judicial: Declare laws unconstitutional. Executive: veto its laws.
7. Legislative: Rejects nominations and overrides the veto (2/3 vote). Judicial: declares acts unconstitutional
8. Executive: nominates federal judges. Legislative: nominates or rejects appointments.

Preamble

9. States the goals and purpose of the government
10. Explain
 - a. Perfect Union- to create a better community
 - b. Est. Justice: To ensure fair rules
 - c. Ensure Domestic Tranquility: promise peace within the country.
 - d. Provide for the common defense: protect ordinary people.
 - e. Promote the general welfare: ensure the nations wellbeing
 - f. Secure blessings: ensuring freedom for them and generations to come.
 - g. Ordain: creates the government for the people
11. Talking about people and the power of the government comes from people. Because it is a social contract and it shows that the power is derived from the people.

Articles I-III

12. Legislative Branch
13. Congress: House of Rep. and the Senate.
14. Write and Pass laws
15. Executive Branch
16. President, Vice President, and Cabinet.
17. Enforce laws
18. Judicial
19. Supreme Court (federal courts)
20. Interpret laws: judicial review (Marbury v Madison)

Articles IV-VII

21. Obligations (duties) that the states have to each other and the federal government has to the states.
22. Proposal by LB 2/3 Vote → Ratification ¾ of State legislatures
 - a. Proposal by 2/3 special national convention → 2/3 state legislature (18 amendment repealed)
23. Makes the constitution the highest law in the land. Keeps the government from violating the social contract.
24. Ratification process of the constitution

Amendments

25. The first 10 amendments to the U.S. constitution. Lays out your natural rights as a U.S. Citizen.
- a. Freedom of Religion: allows everyone to worship as they see fit. Limitations: no harm or law breaking.
 - b. Freedom of Speech: being able to express your thoughts and opinions. Limitations: no threatening or violence
 - c. Freedom of the Press: allows the press to report what they want. Limitations: no national secrets, cannot be libel or slander, no obscenity, no false information that can harm someone.
 - d. Freedom to assemble: to peaceably gather or get together in one place. Limitations: time, place, and manner, no law breaking.
 - e. Freedom to Petition: formal request demanding a specific action from the government. Limitations: cannot be unlawful or unreasonable, must be professional, and no threats.
26. You have the right to own weapons.
27. Housing soldiers (quartering)
28. Cops cannot search you or your property without probable cause or a warrant.
29. Explain
- a. Double Jeopardy: cannot be tried twice for the same crime
 - b. The right to remain silent: The right to not speak so you do not incriminate yourself (plead the 5th)
 - c. Eminent Domain: government cannot take your property without paying for it. (must be the value)
30. Speedy trial, jury of your peers, right to a lawyer, and confront witnesses.
31. For cases under the value of \$20. For liability and civil lawsuits. An agreement or settlement is the outcome.
32. The punishment and fines must fit the crime. No hanging for stealing.
33. This amendment means that nothing written in the Constitution can be used to cancel amendments to it.
34. Any rights not declared to the government go to the states and the people. Ex: Regulate trade with other states, conduct elections, establish local governments, regulate marriages, and regulate education.

Federalism

35. Division of power and responsibilities between the National and State government.
36. Federal, State, and Local
37. Expressed, Enumerated, or Delegated Powers given to the federal government: coin money and maintain an army and navy.
38. Reserved Powers set aside for the States: conduct elections, est. local governments, protect public welfare and safety.
39. Concurrent Powers are shared between the federal and state government: est courts, provide for general welfare, borrow money, enforce laws.

Additional Amendments

40. Slavery
41. Citizenship
42. African American Males
43. All Women

44. Poll Taxes and more people can vote

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