

## CONSTITUTION EXERCISE

This is not a homework assignment to be collected or checked, but the material on here, as well as a whole lot more, is important to know.

1. What are some key differences between the structure of the House and Senate? How old does one have to be to serve in the House? In the Senate? How often does a Representative have to come up for re-election? How often does a Senator have to come up for re-election? How were Senators originally chosen?
2. Why does Article I, Section 8, list specific powers of Congress?
3. Throughout the Constitution, what do the words “such persons” and “other person” mean?
4. How does a bill become a law? What happens if the president vetoes it? What happens if the president ignores it?
5. How does the process of impeachment work? What special procedure goes into effect if the president is the one being impeached?
6. Article I, Section 10, lists the powers that states do not have. Why is there no section listing the powers that states *do* have?
7. What method of election for president does the Constitution provide? How did it change in the 12<sup>th</sup> Amendment?
8. What does the Constitution say about political parties?

9. When the president signs a treaty with another country, what has to happen before the treaty becomes law?

10. When the president appoints a federal judge or an executive department head, what has to happen before that appointee can take office?

11. What aspects of the federal judiciary did the Constitution create, and what aspects did it leave to Congress to fill in?

12. What obligations do the states have to each other?

13. By what procedures are amendments added to the Constitution?

14. As you study the first ten amendments, the Bill of Rights, be aware that they were originally intended to restrict the power of the federal government, to keep the federal government from infringing on individual liberties and rights. As you study the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup> Amendments, what had changed by this time? What later amendments further expanded individual rights, and the role of the federal government in safeguarding them?

15. What change in the structure of government came about in the 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment, and what ways of thinking were likely behind this?

16. According to the 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment, what is the other way, besides impeachment, that the president can be removed from office? Can you see any possibility of that provision ever being applied to the man currently holding the office?