

Name: _____ Hour: _____

The U.S. Constitution Graphic Organizer *[Use plain, simple English to complete this organizer. Don't write something down here without having any idea what it means. Put it in your own words, then add it to this organizer. Otherwise, what's the point?]*

The Preamble (Introduction and Purpose / Goals) - PUT THESE IN PLAIN, SIMPLE ENGLISH!:	
1. _____	4. _____
2. _____	5. _____
3. _____	6. _____

**Article I:
The Legislature**

Section 1. Congress (What Is It? What's Its Primary Job?)

Section 2. The House of Representatives

How are representatives chosen?

How long is their term?

Primary responsibilities:



Section 3. The Senate

How are senators chosen?

How long is their term?

Primary responsibilities:

Section 4. Congressional Elections (How do they work? Who makes the rules and runs congressional elections?)

Section 5. Rules / Procedures (who makes the rules for how Congress is run?)

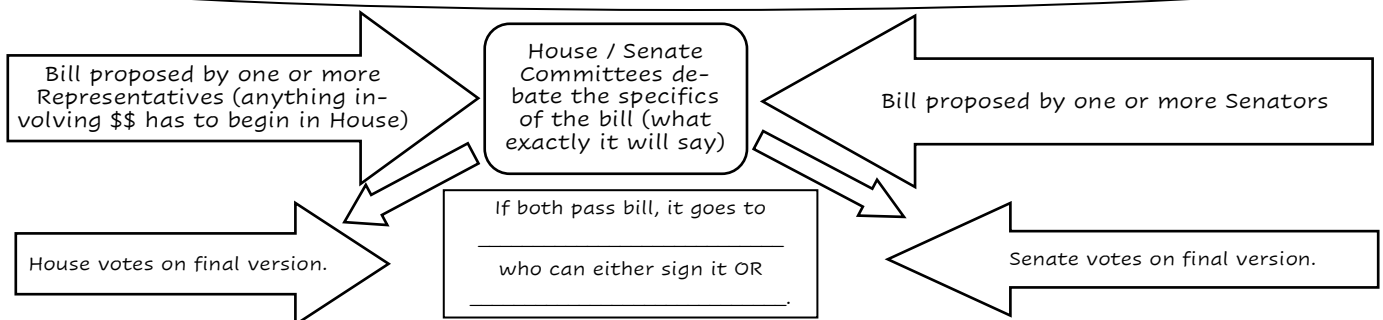


Section 6. Payment & Limitations

Congressmen are paid from the federal treasury. They cannot be arrested while performing their duties unless it's something very serious.



Article I, Section 7. How A Bill Becomes A Law



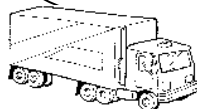
Section 8. Powers Granted To Congress

1. Collect taxes and pay for stuff
2. _____
3. **Regulate** _____ **between the states and with other countries.**
4. Manage immigration and how people can become a citizen & establish rules for handling bankruptcies.
5. _____
6. Punish _____
7. Establish _____ and _____.
8. Copyrights & Patents
9. Set up the rest of the _____ Branch.
10. Punish Piracies and Felonies on the high Seas.
11. Declare _____ (and some related stuff).
12. _____
13. _____
14. Make rules for how #12 & #13 will be run.
15. Support the President when he calls up troops in emergency situations inside the U.S.
16. Make rules for #15.
17. Make laws for the District of Columbia (Washington, D.C.—which isn't a state so it doesn't have its own legislature to handle state-level stuff.)
18. _____



NOTE: There were no personal income taxes yet—these were taxes on various sorts of transactions.

NOTE: The power to “regulate commerce” is a biggie. What doesn't involve interstate commerce in some way? (Not much!)



NOTE: Because the Constitution gives Congress specific control of things like currency and immigration, states **CANNOT** make their own rules about such things.



The “Necessary & Proper” Clause (Article I, Section 8, Clause 18) is sometimes called the “Elastic Clause”. Why?

Article I, Section 9, Clause 1 is either crossed out or missing (depending on the version you're looking at) because it involved regulating and taxing the slave trade (which was made unconstitutional by the 13th Amendment).

The rest of Article I, Section 9, is a list of...?

What are THREE examples (from Article I, Section 9)?

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

Define “Federalism”:






Article Section 10: Stuff the States Can't Do:

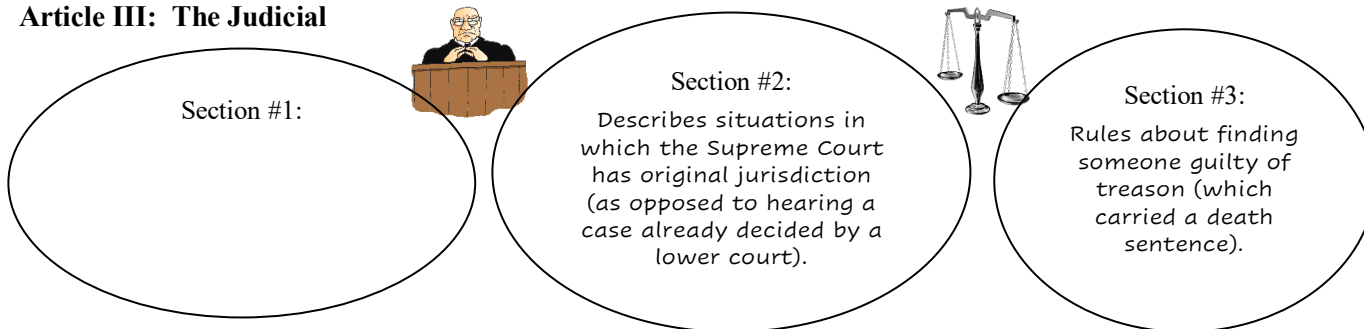
- ◆ Make treaties or alliances with anyone else
- ◆ Hire their own pirates or anyone else to go to war with other countries in their name
- ◆ _____
- ◆ Appoint anyone _____ or give any other sorts of royal titles
- ◆ Interfere with legitimate contracts
- ◆ Tax _____ or _____ into or out of the state or the country

NOTICE that Article I, describing the Legislative Branch, is the longest part of the U.S. Constitution. This suggests that the Framers were more comfortable with this branch and how it should work than they were with the other two. It also included the only federal body directly elected by the people—the House of Representatives. It MIGHT also suggest they had less agreement about what, exactly, they expected from the Executive and Judicial Branches.

Article II: The Executive

Section 1. Elections, Qualifications, Etc.	Section 2. Powers of the President	Sections 3 & 4. Duties / Impeachment
		

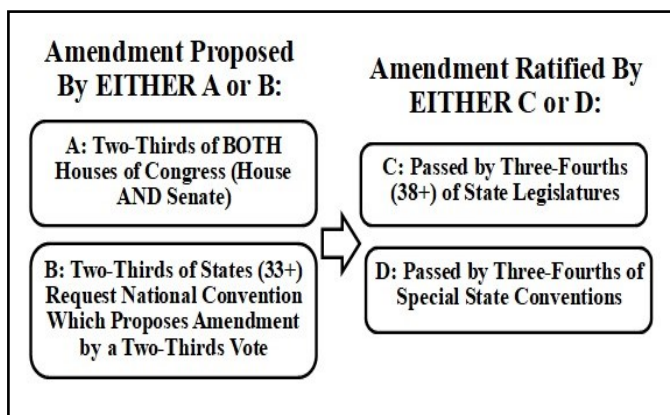
Article III: The Judicial



Article IV: Relations Among The States

Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4
States will respect the laws and contracts of other states. (If you have an Indiana Driver's License, you can drive in Ohio even if their requirements are different, etc.)		Only Congress can admit new states into the Union. No state can split into two or more states or join with another state to make one bigger state, etc.	


Article V: Amending the Constitution





(A) + (D) has happened ONCE so far.

(A) + (C) has happened 26 times so far.

Article VI ("Miscellaneous")

Section #1: 

Section #2: 

Section #3: 

Article VII: Ratification

