

Name:

**Summer Assignment**  
**Interacting with the Constitution**

**Instructions:**

Complete the attached document by hand – you must print this out and complete it on your own.  
This is individual work.

Use the interactive constitution website: <https://constitutioncenter.org/interactive-constitution#>  
as the resource for finding the below information. Do not randomly google.

1. Read each article of the Constitution. Summarize the general purpose or subject of each article in **ten words or less.**

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Article I   |  |
| Article II  |  |
| Article III |  |
| Article IV  |  |
| Article V   |  |
| Article VI  |  |
| Article VII |  |

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2. Eligibility Requirements:

| Constitutional Office                  | Constitutional Qualifications to Hold this Office |
|--|---|
| Member in the House of Representatives |   |
| Senator                                |   |
| President (and Vice President)         |   |
| Supreme Court Justice                  |   |

3. The powers of the Constitution that are **specifically** granted to the branches of government or to officeholders are called **expressed (enumerated) powers**.

a. Identify two expressed powers of the president.

b. Identify two expressed powers of the vice president.

c. Identify two expressed powers of Congress.

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4. According to the principle of checks and balances, each branch of the government must have control over the other branches. Look at the first three articles of the Constitution and identify one of each type of checks and balances. Indicate where each power is listed in the Constitution.

- a. List a power that the executive branch has over the legislative branch:

This can be found in what article/section of the Constitution:

- b. List a power that the executive branch holds over the judicial branch:

This can be found in what article/section of the Constitution:

- c. List a power that the legislative branch holds over the executive branch:

This can be found in what article/section of the Constitution:

- d. List a power that the legislative branch holds over the executive branch:

This can be found in what article/section of the Constitution:

5. According to Article I of the Constitution, who has the power to declare war?

6. What power does the Constitution give the president in the area of war?

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*The Constitution requires a simple majority for some actions and a supermajority for others. A simple majority means more than half, while supermajority requirements can involve a 2/3 majority or a 3/4 majority. Most elections in the United States require a plurality, or the most votes, but not necessarily a majority.*

7.
  - a. What bodies have the power to override a presidential veto?
  - b. What margin is required to override a presidential veto?
  - c. Where in the Constitution is the veto power described?
8.
  - a. What body has the power to ratify treaties?
  - b. What margin is required to ratify treaties?
  - c. Where in the Constitution is the ratification power described?
9. *To impeach* means to “bring charges against” or “to indict”.
  - a. What body has the power to impeach the president?
  - b. Where in the Constitution is the impeachment power described?
10.
  - a. What body has the power to convict the president of charges brought against him in the impeachment process and thereby remove him from the presidency?

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- b. What margin is required to convict and remove a president?
  - c. Where in the Constitution is the impeachment power described?
11. a. What body has the power to accept or reject a president's nomination to the Supreme Court?
- b. What margins is required to elevate a president's nominee to a seat on the court?
  - c. Where in the Constitution are judicial nominations described?
12. a. If no candidate for the presidency wins a simple majority of the total number of electoral votes, what body has the power to choose the president?
- b. What margin is required to choose the president?
  - c. Where in the Constitution is the Electoral College described? (Hint: there are two parts)
13. The Constitution specifies a three-fourths majority for just one process. What?
14. See Article VI. Explain the "supremacy clause" in your own words.
15. What are two ways that amendments to the Constitution can be proposed?

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16. What are two ways that amendments to the Constitution can be ratified?

17. Outline the general purpose of the Amendments.

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Amendment 1  |  |
| Amendment 2  |  |
| Amendment 3  |  |
| Amendment 4  |  |
| Amendment 5  |  |
| Amendment 6  |  |
| Amendment 7  |  |
| Amendment 8  |  |
| Amendment 9  |  |
| Amendment 10 |  |
| Amendment 11 |  |

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|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Amendment<br>12 |  |
| Amendment<br>13 |  |
| Amendment<br>14 |  |
| Amendment<br>15 |  |
| Amendment<br>16 |  |
| Amendment<br>17 |  |
| Amendment<br>18 |  |
| Amendment<br>19 |  |
| Amendment<br>20 |  |
| Amendment<br>21 |  |
| Amendment<br>22 |  |

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|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Amendment<br>23 |  |
| Amendment<br>24 |  |
| Amendment<br>25 |  |
| Amendment<br>26 |  |
| Amendment<br>27 |  |

18. Which amendment(s) of the Constitution protect the rights of women?

19. Which amendment(s) of the Constitution provides for people to receive “equal protection of the law”?

20. How were US Senators chosen *before* the Seventeenth Amendment?