U.S. History

The Constitution



1 **Fill in the gaps with the words from the box:**

balances	**branches**	**federal**	**government**
laws	**power**	**rights**	**signed**

The Constitution of the United States established America's national _____ and fundamental _____, and guaranteed certain basic _____ for its citizens.

It was _____ on September 17, 1787, by delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia. At the convention, delegates devised a plan for a stronger _____ government with three _____ —executive, legislative and judicial—along with a system of checks and _____ to ensure no single branch would have too much _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 **Fill in the gaps with ONE suitable word:**

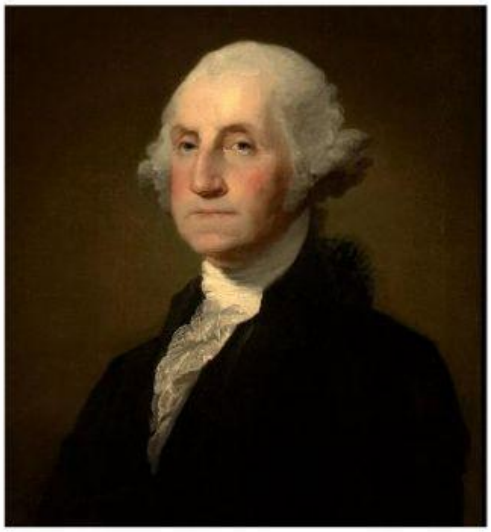
The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution

"We the People of the United States, _____ Order to form a _____ perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide _____ the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty _____ ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish _____ Constitution for the United States of America."

3 **Fill in the gaps with the suitable forms of the word in brackets:**

Forming a More Perfect Union

On May 25, 1787, the Constitutional Convention opened in Philadelphia at the Pennsylvania State House, now known as _____ (independent) Hall, where the _____ (declare) of Independence had been _____ (adopt) 11 years earlier. There were 55 delegates in _____ (attend), representing all 13 states except Rhode Island, which refused to send _____ (represent) because it did not want a _____ (power) central government _____ (interfere) in its economic business. George Washington, who'd become a _____ (nation) hero after leading the Continental Army to victory during the American Revolution, was selected as president of the convention by unanimous vote.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

4 **Match the numbers with the text:**

10 **12** **19** **25** **27**

The Bill of Rights

The ***Bill of Rights*** were _____ amendments guaranteeing basic individual protections, such as freedom of speech and religion, that became part of the Constitution in 1791. To date, there are ____ constitutional amendments.



In 1789, Madison, then a member of the newly established U.S. House of Representatives, introduced _____ amendments to the Constitution. On September ___, 1789, Congress adopted _____ of the amendments and sent them to the states for ratification. Ten of these amendments, known collectively as the Bill of Rights, were ratified and became part of the Constitution on December 10, 1791.

5 **Fill in the gaps with ONE suitable word:**

The Bill of Rights guarantees individuals certain basic protections _____ citizens, including freedom of speech, religion and the press; the right to _____ and keep arms; the right to peaceably assemble; protection _____ unreasonable search and seizure; and the right to a speedy and public trial _____ an impartial jury. For his contributions _____ the drafting of the Constitution, as well as _____ ratification, Madison became _____ as "Father of the Constitution."

To date, there have been thousands of proposed amendments to the Constitution. However, _____ 17 amendments have been ratified in addition to the Bill of Rights because the process is _____ easy–after a proposed amendment makes it _____ Congress, it must be ratified by three-fourths of the states. The _____ recent amendment to the Constitution, Article XXVII, which deals _____ congressional pay raises, was proposed in 1789 and ratified in 1992.

Source: https://www.history.com/topics/united-states-constitution/constitution

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