Ch. 3 Sec. 1 Notes

The Constitution: Six Basic Principles

An outline of the Constitution

* The Constitution was written in \_\_\_\_\_\_and took effect in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The Constitution is this nation’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It is in its own terms, “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” – the highest form of law in the United States.
* The Constitution sets out the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ upon which government in the United States was built.
* It a fairly brief document, 7,000 words and can be read in half an hour.
* The Constitution’s greatest strength is that its words deal largely with matters of basic principle.
* The Constitution is organized into eight sections: the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ -introduction and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ articles – or sections. The original document is followed by 27 amendments.
  + The first three articles deal with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the National Government. They outline their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of each branch and how they are chosen.
  + Article IV deals with the place of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the American Union and their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the National Government and one another.
  + Article V explains how \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ may be added.
  + Article VI declares the Constitution as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Article VII states the requirements for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The Basic Principles

1. The principle of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ asserts that the people are the source of any and all government power, and government can exist only with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
   1. The people have given their government the power that it has through the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. The principle of limited government holds that no government is all-powerful, that a government may do only those things that the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have given it the power to do. The government must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
   1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – that government must be conducted according to constitutional principles.
   2. The concept of limited government is also described as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which holds that government and its officers are always subject to the law.
   3. This is set out in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which begins with the words: “Congress shall make no law . . .”
3. In a presidential system, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the basic powers are distributed among three distinct and independent \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of government.
   1. The Constitution distributes the powers of the National Government among the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
   2. Article I, II and III finds the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ being divided.
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – means that each branch is subject to a number of constitutional restraints by the other branches. Each branch has powers to check the operations of the other two.
   * 1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ can make law.
     2. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ may veto or reject, any act of Congress
     3. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ branch can rule acts unconstitutional.
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the power of courts to determine whether what government does is in accord with what the Constitution provides.
   1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – to declare illegal, null and void, of no force and effect – a governmental actions found to violate some provision in the Constitution.
   2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1803 established the power of judicial review.
6. The powers held by government are distributed on a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ basis. The National Government holds some of those powers, and others belong to the 50 States.
   1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – the division of power among a central government and several regional governments – came to the Constitution out of both experience and necessity.
   2. The colonist had rebelled against the harsh rule of a powerful and distant \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.