

USA Studies Weekly—Ancient America to Reconstruction

Teacher Supplement

Name _____

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Date _____

3rd Quarter, Week 17

Read each question and the answer choices carefully. Then fill in the circle next to the best answer.

1. What was the original purpose of the Constitutional Convention?
 - Ⓐ to create a bill of rights
 - Ⓑ to make changes to the Articles of Confederation
 - Ⓒ to declare independence from Great Britain
 - Ⓓ to create an entirely new governing document for the new nation
2. Which of the following is NOT one of the principles included in the Constitution?
 - Ⓐ popular sovereignty
 - Ⓑ rule of law
 - Ⓒ equality of the races
 - Ⓓ separation of powers
3. Why did some of the delegates refuse to sign the Constitution?
 - Ⓐ because it didn't include a bill of rights
 - Ⓑ because it didn't give women the right to vote
 - Ⓒ because it gave too much power to the states
 - Ⓓ because it didn't include the idea of checks and balances
4. The first 10 amendments to the Constitution are known as _____.
 - Ⓐ the Preamble
 - Ⓑ the Articles of Confederation
 - Ⓒ the Declaration of Independence
 - Ⓓ the Bill of Rights
5. Roger Sherman's compromise settled the differences between the large and small states by _____.
 - Ⓐ giving slaves the right to vote
 - Ⓑ dividing the Congress into two separate houses
 - Ⓒ charging larger states higher taxes than smaller states
 - Ⓓ allowing the small states to control the courts
6. Which of the following is NOT included in the Bill of Rights?
 - Ⓐ freedom of speech
 - Ⓑ freedom of religion
 - Ⓒ right to an education
 - Ⓓ right to a trial by jury
7. What improvements did the spinning jenny make to lives of the average citizen of the United States?
 - Ⓐ It created more jobs and made quality cloth more economical to buy.
 - Ⓑ It made it easier for farmers to harvest their crops.
 - Ⓒ It helped transport people from place to place.
 - Ⓓ It opened the way for exploration of the new frontier.

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8. How many times has the Constitution been amended since it was first ratified?

- Ⓐ 21
- Ⓑ 10
- Ⓒ 75
- Ⓓ 27

9. The fact that each branch of government must be separate from the others and function on its own is known as the principle of _____.

- Ⓐ popular sovereignty
- Ⓑ separation of powers
- Ⓒ rule of law
- Ⓓ checks and balances

10. What did the delegates to the Constitutional Convention do to make sure their meetings were held in private?

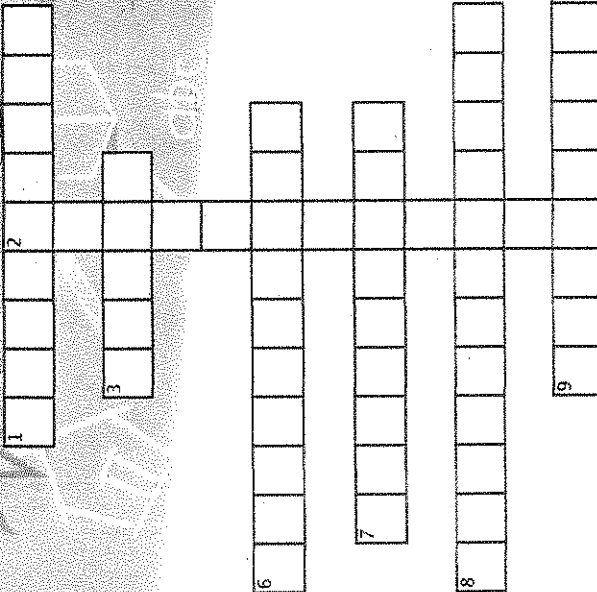
- Ⓐ nailed the windows shut
- Ⓑ pulled the curtains
- Ⓒ posted guards at the doors
- Ⓓ all of the above

11. What is a system of checks and balances? How does it protect the people of this country?

12. What is meant by the “rule of law”?

Vocabulary & Word Games

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ACROSS

1. basic truth
3. to change
5. to suggest
6. to give up something in order to come to an agreement
7. another word for slavery
8. the first 10 amendments to the Constitution
9. invention that sped up the process of spinning yarn and thread

DOWN

2. written plan of government
4. representative
5. an introduction, or an explanation about what will follow

Activity Primary Source: The Preamble

A preamble is an introduction to something. The Preamble was written to clearly outline the goals of the Constitution. Read the copy of the Preamble below.

When you have finished, look for any words that are unfamiliar. Underline these words in the paragraph and write them under "Unfamiliar Words." Look up these words in the dictionary and write the definition under "Definitions." (Use a separate piece of paper if you need more room.) Then rewrite the Preamble using words that are familiar to you, but that still have the same meaning as the paragraph. When you are finished, trade your paragraph with a friend.

Unfamiliar Words

Definitions
