

Name _____ Pd. _____

Advanced Placement U.S. Comparative Government Extra Credit Assignment

Directions: Read the U.S. Constitution (available at many websites including <http://www.usconstitution.net>) and complete the following outline and questions on this handout, using black or blue pen. This must be your own individual work entirely. **Students are not permitted to collaborate on this assignment.** The fully completed assignment is due on the first day of class. A late penalty will be assessed daily if not turned in at the first meeting.

Part I – Outline of the U.S. Constitution

Preamble - List the 6 goals set out in the Preamble

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Article 1: the Legislative Branch/Congress

➤ Section 1: Structure of Congress - "...shall consist of..."

➤ Section 2: House of Representatives

Requirements: _____

#: _____ Term: _____

The House of Representatives shall ... have the sole Power of

➤ Section 3: Senate

#: _____ Term: _____

Requirements: _____

Trying impeachments: _____

Who is the President of the Senate? _____

When is that person permitted to vote? _____

➤ Section 7: Describe how a bill becomes a law:

Presentment Clause: "... shall be presented to the president..."

List **ALL** of the president's options after a bill is presented to him:

Article I - Section 8: POWERS GRANTED TO CONGRESS

(these are called *delegated powers or enumerated*)

1. _____
2. _____
3. **Commerce Clause**: _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
- **18. Elastic Clause** _____

SECTION 9: Powers denied to Congress

List:

SECTION 10: Powers forbidden to the states

List:

Article II: the Executive branch and the President

- Section 1: Term _____
- Qualifications: _____
- Section 2: Powers (list)

- Section 3: Presidents powers over Congress-
- Section 4: Impeachment – What can the President, VP, and all civil Officers be removed for?

Article III: the Judicial Branch

- Section 1: Federal Court structure - explain
- Term _____
Compensation shall not _____
- Section 3: Treason
Definition: _____
Evidence needed: _____
Body that declares punishment: _____

Article IV: relations among the states and Federalism

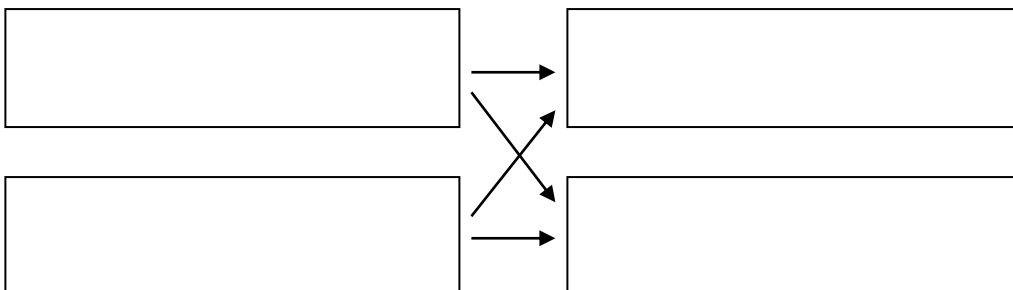
- Section 1: **Full Faith and Credit Clause** – (quote)
- Section 2: **Privileges and Immunities Clause** – (quote)

Extradition is the return of an accused person to the state in which the alleged offense took place for trial. When must a state extradite someone?

Article V: the process for amending the Constitution-make sure you put % of votes needed for each proposal and ratification method

Methods of Proposal

Methods of Ratification



Article VI: National Supremacy over states

Section 2: **Supremacy Clause** – (write out – what is the supreme law of the land?)

Article VII: Ratification process for the Constitution.

_____ States needed to ratify.

BILL OF RIGHTS: Amendments 1 – 10

1. _____

Establishment Clause: _____

Free Exercise Clause: _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. (section 1 only) _____

Due Process Clause: _____

Equal Protection Clause: _____

15. (Section 1 only) _____

16. _____

17. (Section 1 only) _____

18. (Section 1 only) _____

19. (Section 1 only) _____

20. _____
21. (Section 1 only) _____
22. (Section 1 only) _____
23. _____
24. (Section 1 only) _____
25. (Section 1 & 2) _____
26. (Section 1 only) _____
27. _____

Part II – Majority and Supermajority

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 2/3 majority or 3/4 majority. Most elections in the United States require a **plurality**, or the most votes, but not necessarily a majority.

1. Override
 - a. What bodies have the power to override a presidential veto? _____
 - b. What margin is required to override a presidential veto? _____
2. Treaty ratification
 - a. What body has the power to ratify treaties? _____
 - b. What margin is required to ratify a treaty? _____
3. Presidential appointments
 - a. What body has the power to accept or reject a president's nominee _____
 - b. What margin is required to accept a nominee _____
4. Presidential elections (ELECTORAL COLLEGE)
 - a. If no candidate for the presidency wins a simple majority of the total number of electoral votes (currently = 270), 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?
Article _____ Section _____ & Amendment _____
5. Describe the process of impeachment (charge & Trial)

This work is entirely my own original work – I have not collaborated with anyone else.