

Studying the Constitution using Primary Sources

Worksheet1: Outlining the Text

Count the words in each article and calculate the percentage of the whole it represents to determine how much of the text was dedicated to each structure or power.

Section of the Constitution	Number of Words	Percentage (of 4379 words)	Main Subject, Structure, or Power Addressed in the Article
Preamble			
Article I			
Article II			
Article III			
Article IV			
Article V			
Article VI			
Article VII			

Mapping the Constitution

Represent the percentages from the table above in a visual form. Using different colors for each of the Articles and the Preamble, color in the squares to represent the percentage of the whole Constitution that is dedicated to each article. Each square represents 1% of the document (round up or down as necessary).

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
31.	32.	33.	34.	35.	36.	37.	38.	39.	40.
41.	42.	43.	44.	45.	46.	47.	48.	49.	50.
51.	52.	53.	54.	55.	56.	57.	58.	59.	60.
61.	62.	63.	64.	65.	66.	67.	68.	69.	70.
71.	72.	73.	74.	75.	76.	77.	78.	79.	80.
81.	82.	83.	84.	85.	86.	87.	88.	89.	90.
91.	92.	93.	94.	95.	96.	97.	98.	99.	100.

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Worksheet 2: Studying the Preamble

Complete the following table to study the goals expressed in the Preamble to the Constitution. Consider how the federal government acts today to achieve these goals, and how those actions impact you.

What it says	What it means	What it means to YOU or How does this government power affect you?
We the People of the United States		
in Order to form a more perfect Union		
establish Justice		
insure domestic Tranquility		
provide for the common defence		
promote the general Welfare		
secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity		
do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America		

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Worksheet 3: Exploring the Constitution through Primary Sources

Document Title and author (s):

Type of document:

Article, Section, and Clause of the Constitution it illustrates:

Does this document demonstrate separation of powers or checks and balances?

If the document demonstrates separation of power or checks and balances, how does it do so?

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Worksheet 4: Exploring the Constitution through Primary Sources

Document Title and Author (s)	Type of Document	Article, Section, and Clause of the Constitution it Reflects	Power, Check, or Balance it Demonstrates