



Quiz 1 – Introduction to the Constitution Middle School/6th – 8th Graders/12-14 year olds

- 1) Why is the Constitution important?
- 2) How many articles are there in the Constitution?
- 3) Which branch of government does Article I address and what is the name of the entity it discusses?
- 4) Which branch of government does Article II address and what is the name of the position it discusses?
- 5) Which branch of government does Article III address and what is the name of the entity it discusses?
- 6) Which topic does Article IV address?
- 7) Which topic does Article V address and what is that topic's definition?
- 8) Which topic does Article VI address?
- 9) Which topic does Article VII address and what is that topic's definition?
- 10) How do you identify a clause in the Constitution?
- 11) Name the 5 Clauses Everyone Should Know
- 12) What is the Constitutional reference of the Supremacy Clause?
- 13) What is the Constitutional reference of the General Welfare Clause?
- 14) What is the Constitutional reference of the Necessary and Proper Clause?
- 15) What is the Constitutional reference of the Interstate Commerce Clause?
- 16) What is the Constitutional reference of the Treaty Law Clause?

***make sure to study the Bonus Questions pdf as well for additional questions on this topic.**

1) because it makes the rules that protect we, the people, from the government or any other person taking our freedom from us 2) 7 3) Legislative (Congress) 4) Executive (President) 5) Judicial (Supreme Court 6) States 7) Amendments (Rules to change the Constitution) 8) Supremacy 9) Ratification (Voting to Adopt the Constitution) 10) new paragraph, indentation 11) Supremacy, General Welfare, Necessary and Proper, Interstate Commerce, Treaty Law 12) Article VI, Clause 2 13) Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 14) Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 15) Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 16) Article VI, Clause 2



Quiz 2 – The Supremacy Clause

Middle School/6th – 8th Graders/12-14 year olds

- 1) Define the term “Supreme”:
- 2) Define the term “Pursue”:
- 3) If a car owner and a mechanic shop owner have a disagreement over the price of the service offered, who wins?
- 4) What does this car analogy teach us about the supremacy clause?
- 5) The supremacy clause says what 2 things are supreme?
- 6) a) Are all laws of the United States the supreme law of the land? b) Explain which are and which are not
- 7) The laws of the United States are also known as:
- 8) What words from the Supremacy Clause state the condition that federal laws must meet in order to become the supreme law of the land?
- 9) a) If a skinny boy wants to become a buff man what condition must he meet? b) If a federal law wants to become the supreme law of the land, what condition must it meet? c) How can you know if it meets the condition?
- 10) Write from memory the words of the Supremacy Clause

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1) The highest level of power or authority 2) to follow 3) it is “what” wins that matters. The contract they both agreed to wins 4) it is not the mechanic shop (the federal government) nor the car owner (the people or the states) who are in charge (supreme). What is in charge is the contract (the Constitution) made between them 5) The Constitution and the Laws of the United States that pursue the Constitution 6) a) No b) Only those laws that are made in pursuance of the Constitution are supreme. If a federal law violates or contradicts the Constitution it is not the supreme law of the land 7) federal laws 8) “Which shall be made in pursuance thereof” 9) a) He must lift weights b) it must be made in pursuance of the Constitution c) You can point to the specific words in the Constitution that grant the power to make that law 10) This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof, shall be the supreme law of the land.



Quiz 3 – General Welfare Clause Middle School/6th – 8th Graders/12-14 year olds

- 1) a) If a car owner authorizes a mechanic shop to make repairs and to service his car does that mean the mechanic can do whatever repairs and services he wants? b) Why or why not?
- 2) What does this car analogy teach us about the general welfare clause?
- 3) If a mechanic takes the initiative to turn your old car into a nice new Ferrari there are at least two things that are wrong with doing so. Name the two.
- 4) a) Which repairs and services are listed on a contract?: 1) those the mechanic is authorized to do, or 2) those he is not authorized to do? b) If a repair isn't listed on the contract, what can the mechanic assume about that repair?
- 5) The General Welfare Clause is based on this idea: "If it's not _____, you _____ do it"
- 6) The general welfare powers are listed in which article, section and clauses?
- 7) The common defense powers are listed in which article, section and clauses?
- 8) The 10th amendment says, "The _____ not _____ to the United _____ by the _____... are reserved to the _____ respectively, or to the _____"
- 9) Which interpretation of the general welfare clause supports the principle of self-government? a) Government decides for the people what is good for them b) People decide for themselves what is right
- 10) Write from memory the words of the General Welfare clause

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1) a) No. b) The mechanic can only make the repairs and perform the services specifically listed on the contract 2) The car owner (the people or the states) only authorized the mechanic shop (the federal government or the Congress) to do those repairs and services (to make laws) listed in the contract (the Constitution) not just whatever repairs and services seem to be generally good to the shop 3) You can't afford it and you didn't authorize it 4) a) 1- Those the mechanic is authorized to do b) he is not authorized to do it 5) listed; can't 6) Article I, Section 8, Clauses 2-9 and 17 7) Article I, Section 8, Clauses 10-16 8) powers; delegated; states; Constitution; states, people 9) b 10) The Congress shall have power to provide for the common defense and general welfare



Quiz 4 – The Necessary and Proper Clause Middle School/6th – 8th Graders/12-14 year olds

- 1) a) If you authorize your mechanic shop to change out your brake pads – and to only do that one thing – is it all right for him to also take off your wheel? b) Explain
- 2) How does this analogy apply to the necessary and proper clause?
- 3) If your mechanic claims that in order for you to be happy it is necessary and proper that he cut a sunroof in your car and that you authorized it, how would you respond?
- 4) What is the rule that should be used to determine whether a law is necessary and proper?
- 5) The words from the necessary and proper clause, “for carrying into execution the foregoing powers” are referring to what powers?
- 6) Why is the phrase “for carrying into execution the foregoing powers” so critical to the principle of self- government?
- 7) a) Is an implied power: i) directly given and listed, or ii) indirectly suggested. b) Are there any powers granted to Congress that aren’t specifically listed in Article I, Section 8? c) Explain.
- 8) Explain how the federal government is justified in building a mint when the power to do so was not specifically given in Article I, Section 8?
- 9) a) Why is the necessary and proper clause often referred to as the elastic clause? b) What is the danger in such a nickname?
- 10) Write from memory the words of the Necessary and Proper clause

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1) a) Yes b) In order to change your brake pads (which you have authorized him to do in the contract) it is necessary and proper to take off your wheel 2) The mechanic shop (the federal government or the Congress) can only do those things (make laws) which are necessary and proper in order to carry out the specific thing (the power) listed in the contract (the Constitution) that the car owner (the people or the states) have authorized to be done 3) I only authorized you to do those things which were necessary and proper in order to make the repairs listed on the contract which was to change out my brake pads and putting a sunroof in my car has nothing to do with changing out my brake pads 4) A law is necessary and proper only if it is needed in order to carry out a specific power given to the federal government as listed in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution. 5) Article I, Section 8, Clauses 2-17 6) Because it limits Congress to only do those things that can be directly tied to Article I, Section 8 powers which we, the people, specifically authorized them to do. We authorize the government to act for us. They don't authorize themselves to decide what they will do for us. 7) a) ii) indirectly suggested b) Yes c) There are powers Congress has that aren't found in the list but those unlisted powers have to be necessary and proper in order to carry out the specifically listed powers 8) Although building a mint isn't a directly listed power, coining money is (Art. I, Sec. 8, Cl. 5) so when the people directly authorized Congress to coin money they indirectly authorized Congress to build a mint. 9) a) It can be stretched to give powers not specifically listed in the Constitution b) sometimes the stretching of meaning gives powers not related to those powers listed in the Constitution 10) The Congress shall have power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers.



Quiz 5 – Interstate Commerce Clause

Middle School/6th – 8th Graders/12-14 year olds

- 1) a) Interstate means: _____ states. Intrastate means _____ of a state. Interpersonal means: _____ people. Intrapersonal means: _____ of a person. b) Explain why understanding what “interstate” means is so important to understanding the “interstate” commerce clause.
- 2) If you would like to sell your car but the buyer and you can’t come to agreement on how well it runs:
a) To whom can you take the car b) What can they do?
- 3) What does this car analogy teach us about the interstate commerce clause?
- 4) Choose the correct definition for “Regulate”: a) to make all decisions about b) to set a standard for.
- 5) a) Can states set standards over each other? b) Does the interstate commerce clause give Congress power to regulate – or to set a standard – over the states? c) If so, what is that power? If not, why not?
- 6) a) (True or False) Before the interstate commerce clause, states could choose to put any amount of fees on other states. b) Why did the states need a third party to help in this situation?
- 7) Fill in the blanks from a quote by James Monroe regarding the interstate commerce clause: “A power . . . to _____ any [_____] on the trade _____ the States was the _____ power granted.”
- 8) Fill in the blank in the modernized wording of Article I, Section 9, Clause 6: “No trucks or ships that are going to or from a _____ can be _____ to pay _____ just for being in that _____.”
- 9) Choose the correct definition for “among the several states”: a) between the states b) between the states, inside each state, between the people and with each person.
- 10) Write from memory the words of the Interstate Commerce clause

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1) a) between (across); inside; between (across); inside b) the interstate commerce clause only applies to buying and selling that crosses state lines. It doesn't apply to buying and selling inside of a state, between people or with a person 2) a) A mechanic shop b) run a standardized test on the car 3) The mechanic shop (the federal government or the Congress) can run the standardized test (to regulate or to set a standard) but they can't control the buyer or the seller (the states) in decisions about the buying and selling of the car (commerce) 4) b 5) a) No b) Yes c) Congress can prevent states from putting fees on each other 6) a) True b) since states couldn't control each other they needed to agree to a third party, the federal government, to have power to prevent each of them from putting fees on each other so they could buy and sell more regularly again. 7) prevent; fees; between; only 8) state; forced; fees; state 9) a) 10) The Congress shall have power to regulate commerce among the several states.



Quiz 6 – Treaty Law Clause

Middle School/6th – 8th Graders/12-14 year olds

- 1) Define the term “Treaty”
- 2) If your mechanic shop says they have to charge you for an engine overhaul every time you come in because of an agreement they signed with other mechanic shops, how would you respond?
- 3) What does this car shop analogy teach us about the treaty law clause?
- 4) a) If a skinny boy wants to become a buff man what condition must he meet? b) If a treaty wants to become the supreme law of the land what condition must it meet?
- 5) a) Are all treaties the supreme law of the land? b) Is a treaty supreme over the Constitution? c) Explain.
- 6) (Circle one) a) Treaties deal with (international/national) issues b) Laws deal with (internal/external) affairs
- 7) Suppose a gun control treaty were agreed upon by the United States and the United Nations. Would such a treaty: a) be the supreme law of the land? b) Why or why not?
- 8) a) Can a treaty between the United States and the United Nations commit us to declaring war? b) Why or why not?
- 9) a) Can a treaty between the United States and Mexico to protect their shared border against invasion be the supreme law of the land? b) Why or why not?
- 10) Write from memory the words of the Treaty Law clause

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1) a formal agreement between two or more nations 2) What you do with my car is controlled by the contract you and I make not by an agreement you make with other mechanic shops 3) Other mechanic shops (other nations) and their agreements (treaties) cannot control a car owner's (the people or the states) contract (the Constitution) with his own mechanic shop (the federal government) 4) a) He must lift weights b) it has to be made under the authority of the United States 5) a) No b) No c) If a treaty and the Constitution conflict, the Constitution wins since treaties have to be made under the authority of the United States and the Constitution tells us what powers are under the authority of the United States 6) a) international b) internal 7) a) no b) it violates the 2nd amendment in the Constitution 8) a) No b) Article I, Section 8, Clause 11 says only Congress can declare war. Treaties don't declare war. 9) a) Yes b) Article IV, Section 4, Clause 1 gives power to the United States to protect against invasion so a treaty to protect against invasion is under the authority of the United States 10) All treaties made or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land



Bonus Questions Middle School/6th – 8th Graders/12-14 year olds

Part 1 – Introduction

- 1.1) Name the 5 Clauses Everyone Should Know (in order of their acronym) along with the Constitutional reference for each
- 1.2) “The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States” is the actual text from which article in the Constitution?
- 1.3) “In all the other cases before mentioned, the supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction” is the actual text from which article in the Constitution?”
- 1.4) “[Amendments] shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution” is actual text from which article in the Constitution?
- 1.5) The ratification of the conventions of nine states, shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution between the states so ratifying the same” is the actual text from which article in the Constitution?

Part 2 – Supremacy Clause

- 2.1) Define the term “Condition”:
- 2.2) a) Can a federal law call for the formation of a Navy? b) Explain
- 2.3) a) If a mechanic shop wants to charge \$3000 and a car owner only wants to pay \$1000 why not just split the difference at \$2000? b) What should the price be?
- 2.4) Federal law is always supreme over state law. a) True or False b) Explain
- 2.5) a) Can a federal law tell state patrolmen what type of vehicle they will drive? b) Who is that decision reserved to? c) How do we know that?
- 2.6) Explain why the placing of a condition on the words, “the laws of the United States”, is so critical to understanding the supremacy clause?
- 2.7) How would you respond to someone who claims a federal law is supreme regardless of its Constitutionality?
- 2.8) Define the a) Misinterpretation b) Correct Interpretation, and c) Justification behind understanding the Supremacy Clause

Part 3 – General Welfare Clause

3.1) How does the principle of self-government apply to the General Welfare clause?

3.2) Fill in the blanks of Thomas Jefferson’s quote regarding general welfare: “_____ has not _____ powers to _____ for the general welfare, but only those _____.”

3.3) Complete Daniel Webster’s quote: “The _____ was made to _____ the _____ against the dangers of _____.”

3.4) a) When Johnny’s mom says he can go outside to play as long as he doesn’t leave the yard, why is his excuse of her never having specifically said he couldn’t cross the street to play on the swings unjustified? b) Apply this analogy to the General Welfare clause

3.5) Define the a) Misinterpretation b) Correct Interpretation, and c) Justification behind understanding the General Welfare Clause

Part 4 – Necessary and Proper Clause

4.1) If it’s necessary to have money set aside for retirement and it’s proper that people have insurance: a) Why *shouldn’t* the government do so? b) Why *can’t* the government do so?

4.2) Article I, Section 8 can be viewed as a sandwich. a) Identify the name and reference of the clauses of the top and bottom pieces of bread b) Identify the reference of the clauses of the meat. c) Explain what the meat is.

4.3) How would you respond to someone who says a federal law is supreme because it is, “necessary and proper”?

4.4) Define the a) Misinterpretation b) Correct Interpretation, and c) Justification behind understanding the Necessary and Proper Clause

Part 5 – Interstate Commerce Clause

5.1) The expanded version of the Interstate Commerce clause – Congress has power to control all buying and selling that happens inside the state – is, a) justified or not justified in the Constitution? b) Explain c) What effect does the expanded version have on states?

5.2) a) What principle is being broken when a bureaucrat in Washington D.C. tells a farmer in Wyoming what he can and cannot do on his farm? b) Explain

5.3) Define the a) Misinterpretation b) Correct Interpretation, and c) Justification behind understanding the Interstate Commerce Clause

Part 6 – Treaty Law Clause

6.1) Break down the phrase “under the authority of the United States” by defining the underlined terms

6.2) Explain why understanding the condition attached to treaties is essential to understanding the treaty law clause.

6.3) What does Jefferson mean by the quote, "In questions of power, then, let no more be heard of confidence in man, but bind him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution."

6.4) Define the a) Misinterpretation b) Correct Interpretation, and c) Justification behind understanding the Treaty Law Clause

1.1) Supremacy Clause (Article VI, Clause 2), Treaty Law Clause (Article VI, Clause 2), Interstate Commerce Clause (Article I, Section 8, Clause 3), Necessary and Proper Clause (Article I, Section 8, Clause 18), General Welfare Clause (Article I, Section 8, Clause 1) 1.2) Article II 1.3) Article III 1.4) Article V 1.5) Article VII 2.1) a requirement that must be met first 2.2) a) yes b) because the power to do so can be found in Article I, Section 8, Clause 13 of the Constitution 2.3) a) because neither party will be happy b) The price on the contract 2.4) a) false b) Neither federal law nor state law is always supreme. The Constitution is supreme and it defines which entity is given which powers 2.5) a) no b) the states c) The 10th amendment says that the powers not specifically given to the federal government are reserved to the states 2.6) Without this condition, federal laws would not be restrained by anything. But with this condition, federal laws are restrained and put under submission to the Constitution and its rule of law 2.7) The Supremacy Clause states that federal laws (the laws of the United States) must be made in pursuance of the Constitution in order to become the supreme law of the land. If a federal law doesn't pursue, or follow, the Constitution, but instead violates it then it is simply not constitutional. The way to know if the law follows the Constitution is by finding the words in the Constitution itself that authorize the power to enact that law. If authorization is found, then the law is constitutional and supreme - not because it is federal, but because it follows the Constitution. 2.8) a) Federal law trumps state law b) Neither federal nor state law is supreme. The Constitution is supreme. It defines which powers are delegated to which entity be it federal, state, or a power which is reserved to the people. c) “This Constitution, and the laws of the United States *which shall be made in pursuance thereof* shall be the supreme law of the land.” (Article VI, Clause 2) 3.1) Self-government claims the people create government and authorize them to do certain things for them. If government gets to decide what general welfare means, then they govern over people and self-government is destroyed 3.2) Congress, unlimited; provide, specifically enumerated 3.3) Constitution; guard; people; good intentions 3.4) a) because when she said to not leave the yard that included the restriction to not cross the street and play on the swings b) the Constitution defines what the federal government can do but it does not list everything that can't be done just like Johnny's mom listed what he could do (stay in the yard) without having to list everything he couldn't do (cross the street to play on swings) 3.5) a) Congress decides what is good for the people b) The standard is not whether something is good for the people but rather whether it is right - as authorized by the people. The list of those authorized general welfare powers is found in Article I, Section 8, Clauses 2-9, 17. c) “The Congress shall have power to . . . provide for the common defense and *general welfare* . . .” (Article I, Section 1, Clause 1) and “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.” (10th Amendment)

4.1) a) The only way for government to provide insurance and retirement for people is to forcefully take money from some (through taxes) and give it to others. b) The power to provide insurance and retirement are not listed in the Constitution as powers the people/states gave to the federal government

4.2) a) top – general welfare clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Cl 1); bottom – necessary and proper clause (Art I, Sec 8, Cl 18) b) meant – Art. 1 Sec 8, Clauses 2-17 c) The specific powers that both the general welfare clause and the necessary and proper clause refer to

4.3) Congress does have power to make all laws that are "necessary and proper" but what is necessary and proper isn't left up to Congress to decide. The actual words from the clause state, "Congress shall have power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers". The underlined words say that laws have to be necessary and proper to carry out specific powers that were listed previously. These powers are found in the preceding 17 clauses and the laws Congress wants to make have to be truly necessary in order to bring about those specifically listed powers.

a) Congress determines what is necessary and proper b) Implied powers – those powers which are not listed in the Constitution but which are required in order to carry out those specifically listed powers – are indirectly granted to the Congress in the Constitution c) "The Congress shall have power . . . to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper *for carrying into execution the foregoing powers.*" (Article I, Section 8, Clause 18)

5.1) a) not justified b) Such power was never given by the states to the federal government c) It destroys the states sovereignty – or power over its own affairs

5.2) a) self-government b) the interstate commerce clause gave power to the federal government to prevent states from putting fees on each other. It didn't give power to the federal government to decide anything in relation to an individual such as a farmer a) Federal law can regulate all commerce b) Congress was granted the power to prohibit the states from collecting fees as a condition of doing business within their state. This was a power granted over interstate commerce – not over the states and not between individuals. c) "The Congress shall have power . . . to *regulate* commerce . . . *among the several states.*" (Article I, Section 8, Clause 3) (see also Article I, Section 10, Clause 2; Article I, Section 9, Clause 6)

6.1) under – within the limits of; authority – power given to do certain things; the United States – the federal government

6.2) The condition "under the authority of the United States" restrains treaties from doing things that are outside the powers given the federal government by the people as specified in the Constitution.

6.3) Jefferson is saying that we shouldn't just trust men or women in government to make the right decisions about governing our country. We should expect them to follow the Constitution and only do those things that are authorized by it. The "chains of the Constitution" limit government powers so that government stays focused on its proper role and doesn't become too big and too powerful.

6.4) a) All treaties are the supreme law of the land b) Only those treaties which comply with the Constitution are supreme. Unlawful treaties grant powers to government that are either forbidden or not granted by the Constitution. c) "All treaties made, or which shall be made, *under the authority of the United States*, shall be the supreme law of the land." (Article VI, Clause 2)