

AP U.S. History
Unit 3: The Critical Period
Constitution Worksheet

PREAMBLE: *

1. What are the purposes of the new government?
 - **form a more perfect union**
 - **establish justice**
 - **insure domestic tranquility**
 - **provide for the common defense**
 - **promote the general welfare**
 - **secure the blessings of liberty**

ARTICLE I: The Legislative Branch:

1. Name the two branches of the legislature. What are they jointly called? What qualifications to be a member of each?
 - **House of Representatives & Senate**
 - **Congress of the United States**
 - **HoR: 25 years old, 7 years a citizen, inhabitant of the State elected from**
 - **Senate: 30 years old, 9 years a citizen, inhabitant of the State elected from**
2. Who is the chief officer of the House of Representatives? Of the Senate?
 - **HoR: the Speaker, as chosen by the Representatives**
 - **Senate: the Vice President (doesn't vote unless evenly divided); backup, President *pro tempore***
3. Describe the impeachment process.
 - **Impeachment is the action of charging with an offense (treason, bribery, high crimes & misdemeanors)**
 - **The House brings the charges**
 - **The Senate conducts the trial**
 - **The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court presides over the trial**
 - **2/3 majority needs to convict of crimes**
4. How often must Congress meet? Why?
 - **At least once every year**
 - **New members are elected and must be seated**
5. What is a quorum? What are the Rules of Proceedings? The Journal of Proceedings?
 - **Minimum number of people needed to conduct business; simple majority constitutes**
 - **Determine how business is to be conducted**
 - **Says what they do; can include voting record on bills**
6. What is a revenue bill? What is different about this bill?
 - **Bill requiring taxation, tariffs**
 - **Must originate in the HoR; Senate can amend revenue bills**
7. Describe the skeletal outline of passing a bill into law?
 - **Can come from House or Senate; must be approved by majority of both; goes to the President for approval**
 - **If President doesn't approve, he sends back to Congress with objections**
 - **In order to get around President's disapproval, law/bill must be passed, again, by 2/3 majority of b**
 - **both House & Senate**
8. What are the two kinds of vetoes?
 - **Sending unsigned bill back to Congress with reasons for disapproving**
 - **Pocket veto: the President fails to sign a bill within the ten-day time period before Congress adjourns; President isn't compelled to give reason for not signing**
9. What were some of the powers exclusively held by Congress?
 - **Lay and collect taxes, etc. for the common defense and general welfare**
 - **Borrow \$ on behalf of U.S.**
 - **Regulate commerce with foreign nations**
 - **Regulate commerce amongst the states**
 - **Laws re. naturalization**
 - **Coin & regulate \$**
 - **Post office; routes**
 - **Patents**
 - **Define and punish piracies**
 - **Declare war**