



George Washington Carver
Engineering and Science High School
2019 Summer Enrichment

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Due Wednesday, September 11th

Declaration of Independence and Constitution of the United States

All work should be word processed in 12 font and double-spaced. Title page must contain your name, advisory number, the date and your teacher's name.

Part 1

1. Describe three of the arguments that are found in the Declaration of Independence justifying the separation of the colonies from Great Britain.
2. According to Thomas Jefferson, when do the people of a nation have the right to change their government by abandoning a system they do not like?
3. From where do governments derive their power to make laws that govern people?
4. Do you agree with Jefferson's statement that all men are created equal? Develop an explanatory paragraph of your thoughts with justification for your answer.
5. Benjamin Franklin remarked at the signing of the Declaration that "...we must indeed all hang together, or assuredly, we shall all hang separately." What did Franklin mean by this statement?
6. The name John Hancock is the first to appear among the signers of the Declaration of Independence. His name has become so famous as a result that it is often used synonymously with the term signature. Research the circumstances surrounding Hancock's bold signature and tell how the word signature is associated with the name.

Part 2

1. What is the purpose of the Constitution?
2. The Constitution is divided into sections called Articles. How many are there?
3. Article One deals with the _____ branch. Article Two deals with the _____ branch. Article Three deals with the _____ branch.
4. Article One is divided into how many sections?
5. How many sub-sections (or sub-paragraphs) does Article One, Section 2 have?
6. What part of Congress does section 3 deal with?
7. The entire Constitution starts with the Preamble. What is its purpose?
8. The Preamble actually states SIX main goals of the Constitution. Put THREE of them into YOUR OWN WORDS.
9. Article One, Section 2, Subsection 2 deals with the qualifications needed to work in the Lower House (House of Representatives). How many qualifications are listed in this paragraph.

10. Kindly turn to Article One, Section 7, Subparagraph 2. (How a Bill Becomes a Law). Skim the paragraph. What happens to a bill if it sits on the President's desk for more than ten days without his approval?
11. In Section _____ of Article One there is a list of specific powers given to Congress.
12. In that Section (*Powers of Congress*), there are _____ number of powers given.
13. Write FOUR of those powers in your own words.
14. How is Power #18 different than the other 17 listed?
15. The exact qualifications needed to be President are found in Article _____, Section _____, Subsection _____. In total, there are _____ qualifications.
16. In order to be President, you have to be at least _____ years old.
17. Article One has _____ number of sections. Article Two has _____ number of sections. Article Three has _____ number of sections.
18. Why do you think our "Founding Fathers" - people who wrote our Constitution, might have felt that the Legislative Branch should be the most important of the three branches of government. Please explain yourself in a complete and mature manner.
19. The Constitution has been changed several times. We call these Amendments. How many times has the Constitution been amended, or changed?
20. The first time the Constitution was changed was in the year _____. The last time it was changed was in the year _____.
21. Which Amendment gave African Americans the right to vote? What year was it?
22. Which Amendment gave women the right to vote? What year was it?
23. Why would average workers have been upset with Congress in 1913?
24. Why would young people have been happy with Congress in 1971?

Part 3 -- Essay Questions

Now that you've extensively interpreted the "Declaration of Independence" and the "Constitution," think about the major concepts that our Founding Fathers (the people who wrote these documents) were trying to get across to people of their generation and future generations.

Directions: Answer (1) of the two questions.

1. Abraham Lincoln described the Declaration of Independence as an "apple of gold" and the Constitution as the "frame of silver" which encases it. For Lincoln, the Declaration asserts the moral and philosophical standard which the Constitution aims to implement.

QUESTION: In your analysis, to what extent does the Declaration assert a moral or philosophical vision for America? Explain the principles that constitute that vision. In your explanation, root each principle in a specific passage of the Declaration.

Moral standards are considered behaviors that can be distinguished between right and wrong behavior.

Philosophical standards are a particular set of ideas about knowledge, truth, the nature and meaning of life.

The task here is examine the Declaration of Independence and understand what Lincoln was referring to in this document as to what the moral and philosophical standards Lincoln refers to. Then give 3 specific examples from the Declaration and your explanation as to why you think that is a moral or philosophical standard contained in the Declaration by using modern examples.

2. In our beautifully written Preamble to the Constitution (“We the People of the United States, in order to form a more Perfect Union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”), our Founding Fathers laid out the six main goals of what our government should do.

QUESTION: What must our country do to achieve a “more perfect Union” in your lifetime?
(Make sure what you know a “more perfect Union” means.)

- A. Answer the question by explaining your position. Give specific examples.
- B. In the second part, ask yourself what might someone say to oppose or disagree with what you said?
- C. In the last part, explain why your position is more compelling (a better choice.)

You can also view and read a speech by President Obama given in Philadelphia in 2008 entitled, “A More Perfect Union.”

Video: <http://bit.ly/1B25Jtq>

Written copy: <http://n.pr/1ts0oD1>