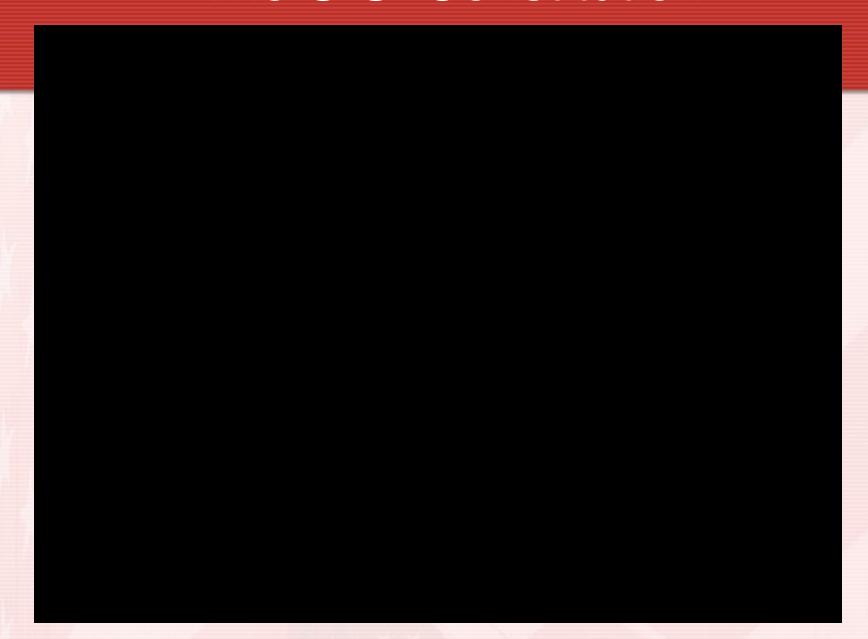




The U.S. Constitution





I. Begins with the Preamble

A. A short definition of the goals of the new government under the Constitution.

PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION

 We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure 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.

Organization of the Constitution

II. Constitution is divided into sections

A. Each section is called an Article

 B. Each Article describes a different part or role of government

C. Constitution has seven Articles

D. The Amendments follow Article VII

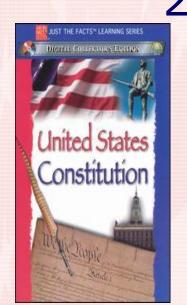
III. The Legislative Branch
A. Article I
1. Explains how
Congress is organized



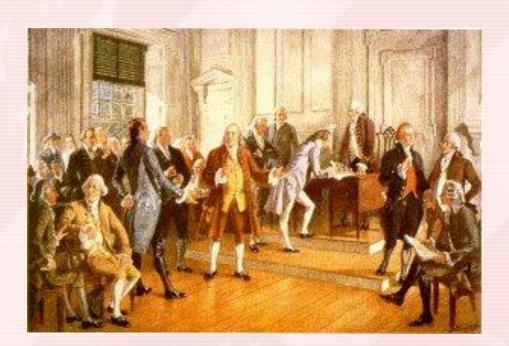
- 2. Directs Congress in what it can and can't do
- 3. Describes how a bill becomes a law
- 4. Elastic or Necessary and Proper Clause is very important in that it gives Congress the power to do what it thinks is necessary and proper in order to carry out it's powers

1. Congress has the power to declare war

2. Congress must then make laws to form an army in order to fight the war they have declared



 B. Elastic Clause allows Congress to make laws for the events or situations which could have never been imagined



Article II

- The Executive Branch
 - A. Headed by the President of the United States
 - B. Main job is to be sure all the laws which Congress passes are carried out.
 - C. President can recommend laws for Congress to pass.
 - D.The Electoral College is outlined in Article II

II. Powers of the President

- A. Commander and Chief of the military services of the United States
- B. Can pardon or forgive criminals of their crimes.
- C. Appoints Supreme Court Justices
- D. Appoints ambassadors to other countries



E. Head of State

- 1. Negotiate and make treaties with other countries.
- F. Chooses Vice President and cabinet.
- G. Can veto laws made by Congress.
- III. How the Executive Branch works
 - I. A. President picks a person to head each cabinet post

- B. Head of each department makes sure cabinet money is spent correctly.
- C. Head of each cabinet is called the "Secretary": example- The Secretary of State.