The US Constitution Study Guide

**Directions:** Read the study guide below. Complete blanks, definitions and questions as asked.

**The Articles**

**Article 1. The Legislative Branch**

* What does the legisltavie branch do? List responsibilities.
* Congress= House of Representative = Senate

House of Represntatives

* Members of the House of Reps are elected every \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years
* Qualifications
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years old
* live in the state where they want to be elected
* be a US citizen for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years
* The House has the sole power of impeachment
* Impeachment (definition):
* The Speaker of the House is the leader of the House
* The current Speak of the House is:
* The number of members a state has in the house of representatives is based on the states population

Senate

* There are \_\_\_\_\_\_ Senators from each state (2x50=total number of Senators, 100!)
* Senators are elected every \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years
* Qualifications
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years old
* live in the state where they want to be elected
* be a US citizen for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years
* The Vice President of the United States shall be Preseident of the Senate and can ONLY vote when there is a tie
* There is a Preseide pro-tempore when the VP cannot be present
* The Senate tries ALL impeachments
* When the President is ttied, the Chieckf Justice of the Supreme Court shall preside
* 2/3 of the members must vote to convict in impeachment trials
* US Senators are elected by direct vote of the people by that state

In general, a bill becomes a law when it is passed by the Senate and the House and signed by the President. Watch this: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Otbml6WIQPo> ☺

Some powers of Congress include

* Declare war
* Coin money
* Tax
* Raise an army

**Article 2. The Executive Branch**

* What does the executive branch do? List responsibilities.

The President

* Can be elected for a maximum of \_\_\_\_\_\_ terms.
* Each term is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years
* The President if elected when he gains a majority of electoral votes
* There are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ electoral votes
* House of Rep +435
Senators +100
District of Columbia + 3
Electoral Votes 538
* Qualifications
* Natural born citizen
* Circle the answer: at least 30 years old OR at least 35 years old
* Resident of the United States for 14 years
* The President is Commander-in-chief of the armed forces (military)
* The President has the power of veto
* Veto (definition) and describe when it is used:

**Article 3. The Judiciary Branch**

* What does the judiciary branch do? List responsibilities.

The Courts

* The U.S. Supreme Court is the highest federal court in the land
* There are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ justices on the Supreme court
* Justice = Judge
* The term of office for each justice is life (or good behavior)

**Article 4. The States**

**Article 5. Amending the Constitution**

**Article 6.**

* The US Constitution is the supreme law of the land

**Article 7. Ratification**

* Legislative Branch- makes the laws
* Executive Branch- enforces the laws
* Judicial Branch- interprets the laws

**The Bill of Rights

Be able to name each of the amendments below and their years!!!!**

The Bill of Rights are the first 10 amendments of the Constitution.

1st- Freedom of religion, speech, press, peaceably assemble, and petition the government

2nd- Right to bear arms

3rd- No quartering of troops (soldiers)

4th-No search and seizuare without a warrant

5th-Rights of accused persons; no double jeopardy, no witness against himself

6th- right to a speedy, public trial

7th-trial by jury

8th- limits of fine and punishments

9 & 10- what are they?

-Enumerated Powers: powers listed within the US Constitution

-Implied Powers-Powers owing their existence to the elastic clause

What is the elastic clause?

What year was the Bill of Rights enacted?

What is an amendment?

**Other Important Amendments**

Why do you think these amendments are important? Explain.

What is the connection between the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments?

13th- Slavery abolished (1865)

14th- Civil Rights (1868)

* All persons born naturalized in the Us are US citizens

15th- Right to vote (1870)

18th- Prohibition (1919)

* Alcohol illegal

19th- Woman suffrage (1920)

* Women can vote!!

21st- Repeal of Prohibition (1933)

* Eliminates 18th amendment

26th- 18 –year-olds can vote (1971)

**Illinois Constitution**

Legistlave Branch

* House of Reps + Senate = General Assembly
* There are 118 members in the state house
* There are 59 members in the state Senate
* Revenue bills may begin in either the House or the Senate
* Members are elected every 2 years
* Members must be 21 years old

Executive Branch

* Governor is elected every 4 years
* The governor is the chieft executive of the state of Illinois
* The Governor must be 25 years old
* The governor has the right to grand a pardon
* Who is our governor?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Judicial Branch

* There are 7 justices on the Illinois State Supreme Court
* Judges are chosen by the pople (vote)
* Springfield is the capital of Illinois

If you can answer the following then you can pass the test!!!!

**Questions on the Illinois Constitution:**

1. The legislative branch of the State of Illinois is called?
2. The governor of the State of Illinois ie elected for a term of ?
3. The chief executive of the State of Illinos is?
4. Judges in the State of Illnois are chosen through
5. Members of the General Assembly must be at least how old
6. To be eleted governor of the State or Illinois, one must be at least how old?
7. Who of these has a right to grand a pardon in the State of Illinois
8. The capital of the State of Illinois is?

**Questions on the US Constitution**

1. What are the qulifications for a US Senator?
2. The age required to be a member of the House of Represenatives is?
3. The President must be at least how old?
4. At what wage is person eligible to vote?
5. Who needs to be a naturally born citizen in order to qualify for his office?
6. The term length for President is how many years?
7. How often are members of the US House of Representatives elected?
8. Ther term of office for a Supreme Court Justice is?
9. What is the length of a US Senator’s term of office?
10. The President is limited to how many elected terms of office?
11. Who is responsible for making federal law?
12. Who brings charges of impeachment within the federal government?
13. Who tries impeachment within the Federal Government?
14. Who shall preside over the impeachment proceeding against the PReeint?
15. Which branch of government enforces the laws? Makes the laws? Interprets the laws?
16. The power to DECLARE war belongs to which branch of government?
17. The power to coin and print money rests with who?
18. The commander-in-chief of the US military is….?
19. Who has the power to veto within the federal government?
20. The presiding officer in the US House of Representative is…
21. The leader of the US Senate is
22. The exact number of US Senators is
23. The membership of the House of Representatives is
24. The totatl number of electoral votes
25. The number of members of the US House of Representatives is bade on
26. The US Senator eare elected by
27. The President is elected when he reeives a majority of
28. The US Supreme Court is made up of how many Justices?
29. Powers listed specifically in the Constitution are called?
30. In general, a bill usually becomea a law when what process has been completed?
31. Powers owing ther esitence to the elastic clause are called?
32. The Supreme Law of the land refers to
33. Which of the following is the highest court of the land?
34. The first 10 Amendments are known as

\*\* know each of the amendments listed above!

Know the 1st amendment in detail!