

Constitution Study Guide

1. Why is the Magna Carta significant to us today?
2. How was the tradition of representative democracy established in the American colonies?
3. What were the problems with the Articles of Confederation?
4. Describe the struggle by the founding fathers to get the Constitution ratified. What problems did they have to overcome and how did they overcome them?
5. What plans were brought to the Constitutional Convention and what were their pros and cons?
6. Describe the circumstances & substance of the Connecticut Compromise.
7. What does the Preamble tell us about the Constitution?
8. What is the significance of the order of the articles of the Constitution?
9. What is the elastic clause and why is it important?
10. Do you agree with the basic principles of the Constitution? Defend your response.
11. What is the full faith and credit clause and why is it significant?
12. What is the process for admitting new states into the United States?
13. How is the Constitution amended?
14. What is meant by freedom of speech in the 1st amendment?
15. Why do some people consider the 2nd amendment outdated?
16. What constitutes an “unreasonable” search and seizure?
17. Do you agree with four protections for the accused? Defend your response.
18. What rights do you have in a criminal trial?
19. What is the significance of the 8th amendment?
20. Why is the 20th amendment called the “lame duck” amendment?
21. Do you agree with limiting the President to two terms? Defend your response.
22. How may the Vice President become acting president under the 25th amendment?
23. Is changing the Constitution “informally” appropriate? Defend your response.