

Writing the Constitution

Key Vocabulary—Writing the Constitution

adopt: to accept an idea, plan, or way of doing something

amendment: a change or addition to the U.S. Constitution

arms: weapons, such as guns

assemble: to come together in one place

bill: a proposed plan for a law that the government reviews

constitutional: when something is allowed because it is in the U.S. Constitution

create: to make something new

delegate: someone who speaks for another person or group of people, often at a meeting or as part of a political office

federal: part of the central U.S. government, not state or local governments

independent/independence: free; not controlled by another person or country

petition: to formally ask the government to do something

press: newspapers, magazines, television, and Internet websites

protect: to keep something or someone safe

representatives: elected members of a government group in the United States, such as in Congress

right: something you are morally or legally allowed to do

speech: an expression of ideas and opinions that is made by someone who is speaking in front of a group of people

trial: a process in court to decide if someone is innocent or guilty of a crime

Directions: As you watch the video, write down the answers to the questions below. Eventually you'll have your answers for all 100 civics questions.

Constitution: Purpose

What does the Constitution do? USCIS #2

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Constitution:

When was the Constitution written? USCIS #66

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The Constitutional Convention

What happened at the Constitutional Convention? USCIS #65

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Federalist Papers

The Federalist Papers supported the passage of the U.S. Constitution. Name one of the writers. USCIS# 67

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Amendments

What is an amendment? USCIS #4

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Amendments:

How many amendments does the Constitution have? USCIS #7

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Bill of Rights

What do we call the first ten amendments to the Constitution? USCIS #5

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Correct the Sentence—Writing the Constitution

Read the sentences below. Each sentence has one mistake. Find the mistake and correct the sentence. Write the sentence again correctly.

1. The Constitution was written in 1783.

2. George Washington was one of the writers of the Federalist Papers.

3. The Bill of Rights has 12 amendments.

4. The Declaration of Independence was written at the Constitutional Convention.

5. The Constitution has 37 amendments.

6. The first ten amendments are called the Federalist Papers.

7. An amendment is an introduction to the Constitution.



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