**Government**

**Basic Principles of the Constitution**

**Review Sheet**

**Section 1- Independence and Revolution**

**1)What was the Pilgrims’ government agreement called? Mayflower Compact**

**2)What is the structure of Parliament’s Houses? lower house House of Commons, House of Lords, then Prime Minister**

**3)What was the first legislature in America called? Virginia House of Burgessess**

**4)Who were at odds in the French and Indian War? British and French**

**5)What did the British truly give the 13 colonies? Protection from the french**

**6) Explain why a peaceful settlement of differences was not possible between the colonies and Great Britain by 1776? Colonists accepted Locke’s and Paine’s ideas/rules, American grievances with British rule, British refusal to acknowledge colonists**

**7) What were the Intolerable Acts? Caused an embargo**

**8) What caused the Boston Tea Party? Britain’s increased tax revenue**

**9) Who wrote the original draft of the Declaration of Independence? What were the three sections? Thomas Jefferson 1. A statement of purpose and basic human rights 2. Complaints against King George III 3. Colonist’s determination to separate from Great Britain**

**10) In what ways does the Declaration of Independence express the ideas of John Locke? What colonists wanted: Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness 1. Listing the king’s violation of these rights 2. Used Locke’s arguments to justify a change in government**

**11) Who was president of the Continental Congress? John Hancock 1. Declaration of Independence 2. First Continental Congress created 3. Britain passes Coercive Acts 4. Britain declares the colonies are in a state of rebellion**

**12)What were the significant events that led to the Revolutionary War? 1. The French and the british disagreed over control of land in western PA and Ohio 2. French and Indian War 3. British expected colonists to repay the war debt 4. The Stamp Act 1765**

**13)Where were the first two battles of the American Revolution fought? Lexington and Concord**

**14)What was the significance of the Magna Carta? Established a limited government**

**Section 2- After the War**

**15)What was America’s first formal constitution? Fundamental orders of Connecticut**

**16)What was the significance of Shay’s Rebellion? Caused many Americans to want a strong national government**

**17)What is interstate commerce? Trade among states**

**18)Under the Articles of Confederation, what was the purpose of Congress? What were the weaknesses of this document? To make laws, 1. No power to levy or collect taxes 2. No power to regulate trade 3. No national court system 4. No executive branch**

**19)Why was the executive branch not listed in the Articles of Confederation? We did not want a strong, dictator type ruler again**

**20)Who could amend the Articles of Confederation? Congress**

**Section 3- The Constitutional Convention**

**21)What were the significant events leading up to the Constitutional Convention of 1787? 1. Shay’s Rebellion 2. Annapolis Convention 3. 1786 economic depression leaves farmers and merchants in debt**

**22)Who sat in the rising sun chair? George Washington**

**23)Who as known as the father of the Constitution? James Madison**

**24) Who proposed the Albany Plan of Union? Benjamin Franklin**

**25) What were the significant parts of the proposed Virginia Plan? Strong national government with 2 houses/chambers, a strong national executive chosen by the legislature, a strong national judiciary chosen by the legislature**

**26)What was the Three-Fifths Compromise? 3 out of every 5 slaves would count toward your total population**

**27)What were Federalists concerned about? Without a strong national government anarchy would ensue**

**28)What did Antifederalists demand? Bill of Rights**

**29)What is popular sovereignty? People have the ability to determine what goes on in the country and our constitution is based on this**

**30)What is Article I of the Constitution concerned with? Legislative II? Executive III? Supreme court**

**31)What is the elastic clause? Necessary and proper clause, limited to enumerated and the ability to govern would be diminished , final enumerated power**

**32)Why did the Founders include the amendment process in the Constitution? The constitution will grow with a changing nation What are the amendment processes? 2/3 vote of each house or a national convention, must be ratified or approved in 7 years**

**33) The amendments are divided into three major categories. Name them. Bill of Rights, Civil War, 20th Century**

**Section 4- The Judicial Branch**

**34)What is judicial review? The power of the supreme court and other federal courts to set aside laws and actions of local, state, and national governments that violate the constitution (uphold the constitution)**

**35)What is the difference between judicial activism and judicial restraint? Activism: judge Earl Warren was for activism but it weakened the separation of powers (strong judicial system) judicial restraint: the court strictly rules on the constitutionality of acts without regard to social political problems and consequences**

**36)What was the problem with the Equal Rights Amendment? States revoked their ratification**

**37)What were poll taxes? African Americans paid money to vote**

**38)What is jurisdiction? Ability to hear a case first, subject matter and parties involved**

**39) What examples of jurisdiction does the Federal Courts have? 1. Treaties with foreign nations 2. US laws 3. Bankruptcy 4. Interpretations of the US Constitution 5. Maritime Law**

**40)How can Supreme Court decisions be overturned? Themselves or a constitutional amendment**

**Section 5- The Executive Branch**

**41)What is an executive agreement? How does it differ from a treaty? Agreement between heads of state, a treaty has congressional approval**

**42)What three presidents have been brought up on impeachment charges? Nixon, Clinton, Andrew Johnson**

**43)What is slander? Libel? False speech intended to hurt another, written material**

**Section 6- The Legislative Branch**

**44)What are some examples of enumerated powers of Congress? Levy taxes, to raise and support armed forces, declare war, establish post offices, express power to life and liberty**

**45)What is needed by Congress to override a presidential veto? 2/3 vote in each house**

**46)Explain the role the president, Congress and federal courts play in passing and carrying out the laws of the United States. President proposes legislation to congress who will then pass the laws and monitors their enforcement, if differences develop between them the courts will be called in,**

**Section 7- Amendments**

**47)What is the 6th Amendment? Change of venue, speedy trial, the defense, charges against you,**

**48)What is the 14th Amendment? Gave African Americans citizenship**

**49)What is the 15th Amendment? African Americans the right to vote**

**50)What is the 17th Amendment? Senators are directly elected by the people**

**51)What is the 19th Amendment? Women’s Suffrage**

**52)What is the 26th Amendment? Voting age from 21 to 18**