

Chapter 3

Section 1: Basic Principles

Guiding Question: What are the main principles on which the Constitution is based?

GET STARTED

Lesson Goals:

- Students will understand how the Constitution is organized.
- Students will define the six basic principles around which the Constitution is built.

Bellringer On the board, write the following: **no kings, power to the people, not too much power for the federal government, keep power in the states. Look at the cartoons about the basic principles of the Constitution in Section 1 and decide which cartoon illustrates each of these ideas. Write the answers in your notebooks.**

Vocabulary Create a set of flash cards for the vocabulary words. Break the class into two groups and test each group by holding up a flash card. Award one point for each correct answer. The group with the highest score wins.

TEACH

Review students' Bellringer responses. Then tell them that in this section they will learn the basic principles of the Constitution. Point out to students that while popular sovereignty, limited government, separation of powers, and checks and balances may seem commonplace today, at the time that the Constitution was written, they were radical ideas. These concepts, plus judicial review and federalism, are the basic principles of U.S. government. Then ask students to read Section 1 to learn more about the basic principles of the Constitution.

Ask:

- Where does the federal government get its power? (*from the people as stated in the Preamble*)

ELL/ESL Strategy

Language Objective: *To understand and summarize key vocabulary terms and concepts*
This section in particular has key concepts and ideas that students learning English may have difficulty understanding. For example, terms like *limited government* and *federalism* may be entirely new concepts that are difficult to grasp. Have students work in pairs to make their own list of the key terms and other words in the section that are new to them. Then, organize the class in small, mixed-ability groups to define, discuss, and explain the importance of each term or concept in relation to the U.S. Constitution.

Other Strategies

Learning Styles: Body/Kinesthetic

Learning Styles: Interpersonal/Group Learning

ASSESS AND REMEDIATE

- Assign the Section Assessment questions; grade student responses.

Chapter Resources

Essential Questions Journal

Prereading and Vocabulary Worksheet
(All-in-One, p. 129)

Chapter 3 Outline (All-in-One, pp. 130–132)

Other Resources

Reading Comprehension Worksheet
(All-in-One, pp. 135–136)

Section Quiz B (All-in-One, p. 142)

Landmark Decisions of the Supreme Court: *Marbury v. Madison* (All-in-One, pp. 165–166)

Audio support is available for this section.

Additional features for Differentiated Instruction can be found throughout the Teacher's Edition.