

Directions: Fill in the outline below. Filling in the blanks will help you as you read and study Chapter 3.

I. Section 1: Basic Principles

A. The Outline of the Constitution

1. Basic _____, or laws, are outlined in the Constitution.
2. Soon after the Constitution became effective, _____ amendments were added to it. It now has _____ amendments.
3. Article _____ says the Constitution is the law of the land.

B. Popular Sovereignty

The idea that the federal government gets its power from _____ is called popular sovereignty.

C. Limited Government

1. Limited government means that the government is never _____ the law.
2. Government must follow the principles authorized by the people. This is the _____ of _____.

D. Separation of Powers

1. The division of government into three _____ is called the separation of powers.
2. The Constitution states that only _____ can make laws.

E. Checks and Balances

1. The President cannot make laws, but must _____ all laws passed by Congress.
2. Congress can _____ the President's veto.

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F. Judicial Review

Courts can decide whether or not actions of the government are _____ . This power is called judicial review.

G. Federalism

Federalism is a system of government in which power is divided between a _____ and _____ governments.

II. Section 2: Formal Amendment

A. The Formal Amendment Process

One way to make a change to the Constitution is for two-thirds of the members of _____ to approve an amendment. Because we have a federal system, three-fourths of the _____ must then ratify the amendment for it to become part of the Constitution.

B. The 27 Amendments

1. The first _____ amendments to the Constitution are known as the Bill of Rights.
2. The _____ Amendment limited a President to two full terms in office.
3. The 27th Amendment was first proposed in _____ but was not ratified until _____.

III. Section 3: Change by Other Means

A. Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Influence

1. _____ passed by Congress have helped shape the basic framework of the Constitution.
2. Presidents have brought about constitutional change by making _____ agreements with leaders of foreign countries.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

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3. The Supreme Court _____ the Constitution as it hears and decides cases.

B. Party Practices

1. Many of the Framers disliked the idea of political parties. Despite this fact, much of American government today is conducted on the basis of _____.
2. One way parties have brought about constitutional change is by taking over the selection of candidates for the _____ and _____.

C. Custom

1. The Constitution does not mention the President's _____, his group of advisors. Instead, it came about through tradition and custom.
2. Some customs were followed for years before being written into the Constitution, such as the _____ - _____ - _____ tradition.