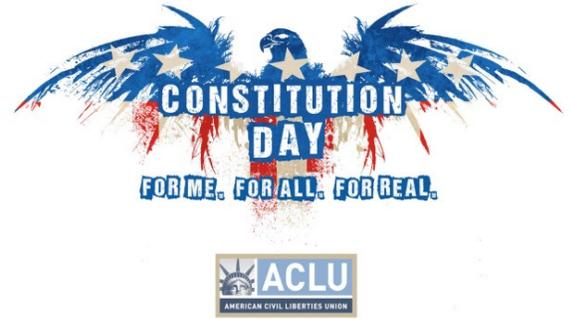




CONSTITUTION DAY QUIZ – Teacher’s Guide

- 1. The correct answer is “A”**
The Articles of Confederation was in effect from 1781 - 1789. It was based on the concept of a weak central government because of the experience we had under the strong influence of Great Britain. This constitution was our first written plan of government and was based on an opposition to a strong central government, strong executive, taxation and the power to control trade.
- 2. The correct answer is “C” - Congress.**
This is found in Article 1, Section 1: “All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.” Thus, the function of Congress is to legislate or make the laws.
- 3. The correct answer is “C” - 10 Years.**
Based upon Amendment 22 of the Constitution, no person can be elected to the office of President more than twice or serve more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President. Therefore, the total length of time that any person could serve as President is ten years.
- 4. The correct answer is “A” - hear the witnesses against him or her.**
This is guaranteed to every person in the United States based on the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution: “In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation to be confronted with the witnesses against him...”
- 5. The correct answer is “A” - refuses to testify against herself or himself.**
This constitutional right is found in the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution: “No person shall... be compelled in any criminal Question to neither be a witness against herself or himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.”
- 6. The correct answer is “D” - John Adams.**
The elections of 1789, 1792, 1796 and 1800 were based on the constitutional provision that the individual with the most electoral votes became president and the one with the second highest became Vice President. John Adams received the second highest vote count in the election of 1789 and became President George Washington's vice-president. The process was changed in 1804 with the adoption of the Twelfth Amendment



- 7. The correct answer is “A” - the first ten amendments.**
There was a concern when the Constitution was written in 1787, that the federal government would be too powerful. The Bill of Rights was added in 1791 to put a check on the power of the national government and to protect the individual rights of all Americans.
- 8. The correct answer is “A” - Speaker of the House.**
The importance of succession to the presidency was initially addressed in Article 2, Section 1, Clause 6 and further clarified by the Presidential Succession Act of 1947. The present order of succession is President, Vice-President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, President Pro Tempore of the Senate and then the various cabinet positions based on their order of creation (with the exception of the Department of Defense that combined the Departments of War and Navy in 1947). The Secretary of Defense is now fifth in the overall order of succession.
- 9. The correct answer is “B” - Secretary of State.**
The Secretary of State was the first Cabinet Position created by President George Washington in 1789. The country's first Secretary of State was Thomas Jefferson.
- 10. The correct answer is “A” - wins a majority of the electoral votes.**
Based upon the electoral process as described in the Constitution in Article 2, Section 1, Clause 3: “The Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President, if such Number be a Majority of the whole Number of Electors appointed...”