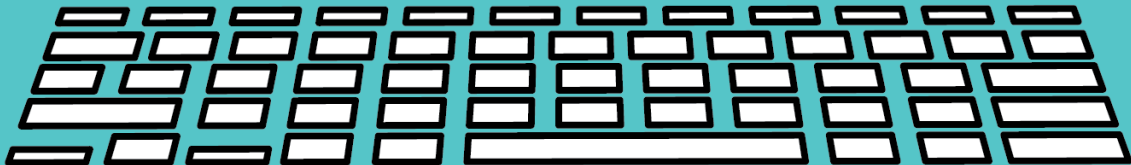


Short Answer	Type Answer Here
1. What year was the Constitution signed?	
2. In what state was the Constitution written?	
3. Who did Americans gain independence from?	
4. How many sentences are in the Preamble?	
5. What is the last word of the Preamble?	
6. How many pages is the Constitution?	
7. How many words are in the Constitution?	
8. What state is spelled wrong in the Constitution?	



Short Answer	Type Answer Here	Fill in the Blank	Type Answer Here
1. What year was the Constitution signed?		9. The Founding ____ wrote the Constitution.	
2. In what state was the Constitution written?		10. ____ means future generations of people.	
3. Who did Americans gain independence from?		11. "Establish justice" meant they would establish Rule of ____.	
4. How many sentences are in the Preamble?		12. The Preamble is the opening sentence to the ____.	
5. What is the last word of the Preamble?		13. The first Constitution was called the ____ Articles ____.	
6. How many pages is the Constitution?		14. The Constitution is stored in ____, DC.	
7. How many words are in the Constitution?		15. "We the ____" are the first words of the Preamble.	
8. What state is spelled wrong in the Constitution?		16. Founding Fathers are also known as ____ of the Constitution.	



PREAMBLE

The U.S. Constitution was written in the same Pennsylvania State House where the Declaration of Independence was signed. "Pennsylvania" is spelled wrong in the document. The Constitution was signed on September 17th, 1787. The Constitution has 4,400 words. It is the longest and shortest written Constitution of any major government in the world.

The Constitution is stored in the National Archives in Washington, DC. All four pages are made of parchment. The parchment is made of animal skin and is kept in a vault to preserve the parchment's quality.

"We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

The Preamble to the United States Constitution is a short, one-sentence introduction. It states the beliefs, principles and goals of the U.S. Constitution and the framework of the government. By beginning with "We the people" the Framing Fathers showed that the new country was united for the people. The Preamble was placed in the Constitution during the last days of the Constitutional Convention.

GOAL #1: To Form a More Perfect Union

This goal addresses the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation. Before the Constitution was written the states viewed themselves as separate nations. The framers, or founders, wanted the individual states to work together as a unified nation.

To "Form a more perfect Union" meant the new government was supposed to be better than the Articles of Confederation. The Articles of Confederation had several flaws such as a weak central government. America's first Constitution was actually called the Articles of Confederation, which was passed in 1781. The biggest issue was that it did not give Congress the power to collect taxes. The Constitution addressed or fixed all of the major weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation.

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GOAL #2: Establish Justice

This goal was created to establish rights and create laws that were fair for all citizens. "Establish justice" meant they would establish Rule of Law. Rule of Law means that laws apply to everyone equally. It does not matter if a person is a political leader or wealthy, no one is above the law.

GOAL #3: Ensure Domestic Tranquility

The framers wanted the national government to have the power to keep order and maintain peace. It is the government's responsibility to ensure peace inside America. Today, domestic tranquility includes dealing with terrorism, keeping peace, providing for national security and providing for peaceful assemblies. This also means keeping American people happy with their government, avoiding the kinds of social and political unrest that led the Framing Fathers to write the United States Constitution.

GOAL #4: Provide for the Common Defense

Before American colonists gained their independence from Great Britain, people lived in fear of governmental armies. Today, the government has the power to raise an army and navy to protect and defend the nation from foreign enemies. The protection of the nation, its citizens and property, is the responsibility of the federal government, not individual states. The national government has the power to raise an army, declare war, and make treaties.

GOAL #5: Promote the General Welfare

The government works to promote the well-being of all citizens. The framers wanted the government to provide health and happiness for everyone. This goal allows the government to help those in need. The whole country having tranquility, justice, and defense helps to promote the general welfare. It means that every state and every person of those states will benefit from what the government provides.

GOAL #6: Secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity

Patriots risked their lives for freedom so our Framing Fathers wanted to ensure it would be here for years to come. Posterity means future generations.

"Do Ordain and Establish this Constitution for the United States of America"

This final clause restates the main purpose and the primary goal of ensuring that the people have control of their government.

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