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PREAMBLE ANTICIPATION GUIDE

Read each statement and decide if it is True or False. Complete the left column before the reading by circling the T for True or the F for False. Complete the right column after you finish the reading. Did any of your answers change?

BEFORE READING		STATEMENT	AFTER READING	
T	F	Massachusetts is spelled wrong in the Constitution.	T	F
T	F	17 delegates helped write the Constitution.	T	F
T	F	"We the People" are the first words of the Preamble.	T	F
T	F	Founding Fathers are also known as framers of the Constitution.	T	F
T	F	The Constitution is signed in Seattle, Washington.	T	F
T	F	Posthumous means generations past.	T	F
T	F	The first Constitution was called the Articles of Confederation.	T	F
T	F	The Preamble is the third sentence in the Constitution.	T	F
T	F	The Founding Fathers wrote the Constitution.	T	F

DID YOU KNOW?

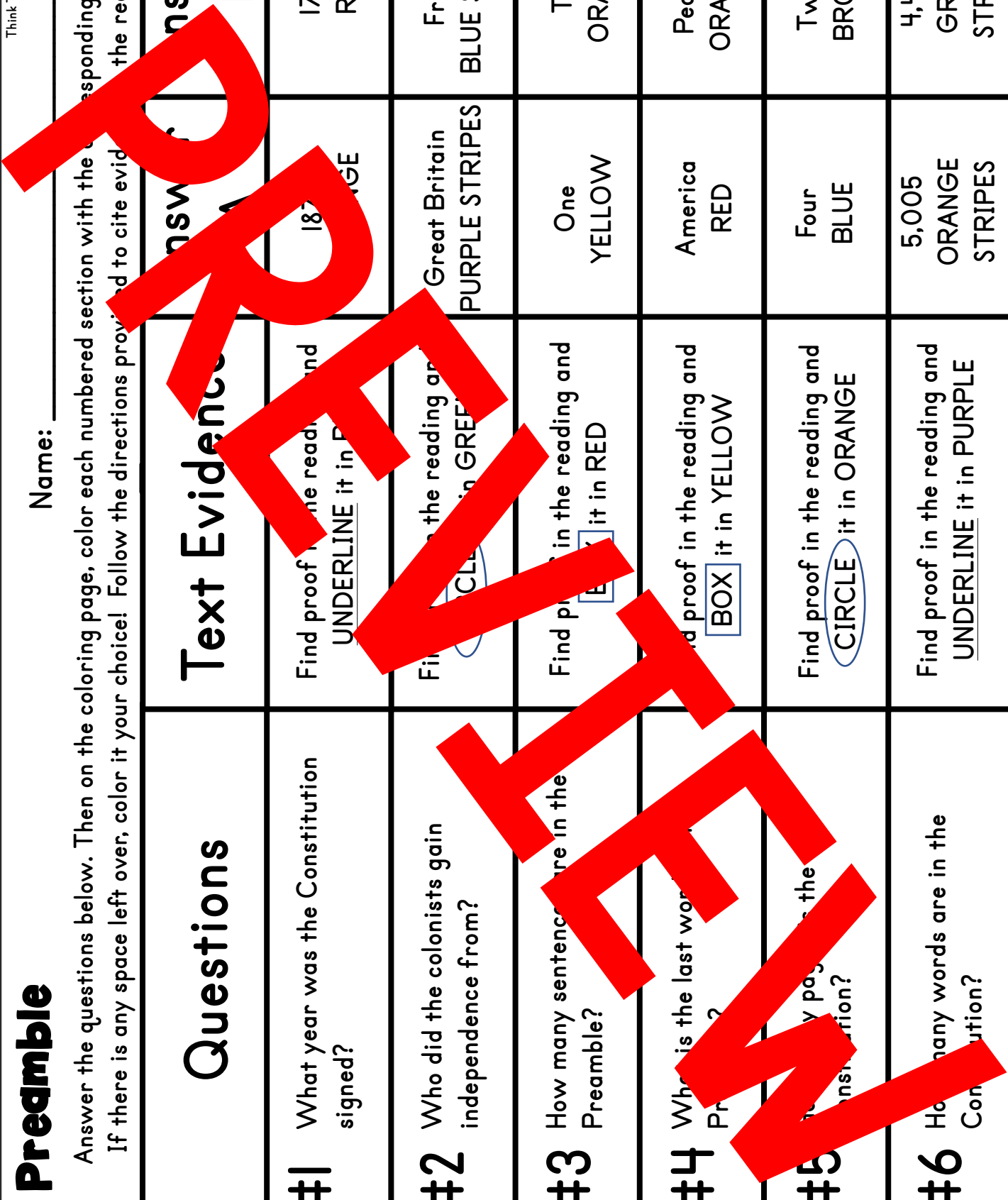
It took over three months to actually "frame" the Constitution.

Preamble

Name: _____

Answer the questions below. Then on the coloring page, color each numbered section with the corresponding color. If there is any space left over, color it your choice! Follow the directions provided to cite evidence from the reading.

Questions	Text Evidence	Answer	Answer
#1 What year was the Constitution signed?	Find proof in the reading and <u>UNDERLINE</u> it in PURPLE	1787	1787 RED
#2 Who did the colonists gain independence from?	Find proof in the reading and <u>CIRCLE</u> it in GREEN	Great Britain	France BLUE STRIPES
#3 How many sentences are in the Preamble?	Find proof in the reading and <u>BOX</u> it in RED	One	Two ORANGE
#4 What is the last word in the Preamble?	Find proof in the reading and <u>BOX</u> it in YELLOW	America	People ORANGE
#5 How many words are in the Constitution?	Find proof in the reading and <u>CIRCLE</u> it in ORANGE	Four	Twelve BROWN
#6 How many words are in the Constitution?	Find proof in the reading and <u>UNDERLINE</u> it in PURPLE	5,005	4,400 GREEN STRIPES



PREAMBLE

The U.S. Constitution was written in the same Pennsylvania State House where the Declaration of Independence was signed. "Pensylvania" is spelled wrong in the document. The Constitution was signed on September 17th, 1787. The Constitution is the supreme law of the United States of America.

The Constitution is 4,400 words. It is the oldest and shortest written Constitution of any country government in the world.

The Constitution is stored in the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C. The original parchment pages are behind protective glass framed with titanium. The pages contain argon gas and are kept at 67 degrees 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, purposes and goals of the U.S. Constitution and the framework of the government. By beginning with "We the people," the Founding Fathers showed that the new country was created 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 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 most of the major weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation.