

## **A Constitution Day Quiz & Answers**

1. What is the U.S. Constitution?
2. Where was the Constitution written?
3. When?
4. Why?
5. How many delegates attended the Convention?
6. What was the “Connecticut Compromise”? Who proposed it?
7. How many Articles (sections) are included?
8. Who is the “Father of the Constitution”?
9. Who actually "wrote" the Constitution?
10. How many delegates signed the Constitution on September 17, 1787?
11. Name the state that did not attend the Constitutional Convention.
12. When was the Constitution ratified?
13. When was George Washington inaugurated as the first U.S. President? Where?
14. What is the Bill of Rights?
15. Who was the “Father of the Bill of Rights”?
16. How many amendments were proposed to the states in 1789?
17. What is the “Madison Amendment”? When was it ratified?
18. What problem in the Election of 1800 led to passage of the Twelfth Amendment? How was the problem solved for the future?
19. Name the three branches of the United States government.
20. Where would you go to see originals of both the Constitution and the Bill of Rights?

*Answers posted at <https://www.teachinghistoryinmi.org>*

### Answers for "A Constitution & Bill of Rights Quiz"

1. The Constitution is the basic written framework/governing document for the United States.
2. Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
3. May-September 17, 1787
4. The Preamble to the Constitution states, it was written "... in order to form a more perfect union..." The Constitution was written to create a stronger national government than had existed under the previous written governing document.
5. About 55 delegates attended, of the 74 delegates appointed from 12 states
6. The Connecticut Compromise was the agreement to balance power between large states and small states by having one branch of Congress based on equality of states (Senate) and one based on population (House of Representatives).
7. Seven Articles, including 54 sections, with 4,543 words, including the signatures. Adding all the amendments, it now contains 7,591 words.
8. James Madison (His birthday is March 16, 1751-Liberty Day).
9. Actually Jacob Shallus was the calligrapher who wrote the four page document, possibly with some help from his son. (See "The Man behind the Quill: Jacob Shallus, Calligrapher of the United States Constitution" by Arthur Plotkin)
10. In the late afternoon of Monday, September 17, 1787, 38 delegates signed the Constitution. Delegate John Dickinson, who was absent, had his name written by delegate George Read, making a total of 39 delegate names affixed to the Constitution. The document was also signed by William Jackson, the Convention secretary. However, three delegates who were present refused to sign: Elbridge Gerry (MA); Edmund Randolph and George Mason (VA).
11. Rhode Island
12. On June 21, 1788, the Constitution was approved by New Hampshire, the ninth of 13 states to ratify it.
13. On April 30, 1789 George Washington was inaugurated as the Nation's first President at Federal Hall in New York City, then the nation's capital.
14. The first ten Amendments to the U.S. Constitution (proposed September 25, 1789; ratified Dec. 15, 1791, now "Bill of Rights" Day)
15. James Madison.
16. Twelve were proposed in 1789, 10 ratified in 1791 and one in the 1990's (on congressional pay) Only the proposal on congressional representation was never adopted.
17. The "Madison Amendment" was ratified on May 18, 1992, as the 27th Amendment. Approval by the Michigan legislature gave the proposal the required vote of 3/4ths of the several states. Madison had proposed that salary increases voted for members of Congress would not become effective until after an ensuing election.
18. In the Election of 1800, the Democratic-Republican candidates for President and Vice President, Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr, each received 73 electoral votes, causing the election to be decided in the House of Representatives. Adopted by Congress in 1803 and ratified by the states in 1804, the 12th Amendment provided that electors would receive two votes, separately, for the offices of President and Vice President.
19. Legislative, Executive, and Judicial. The powers of the three branches are described in Article I, Article II, and Article III of the Constitution.
20. The originals are on display in the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

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