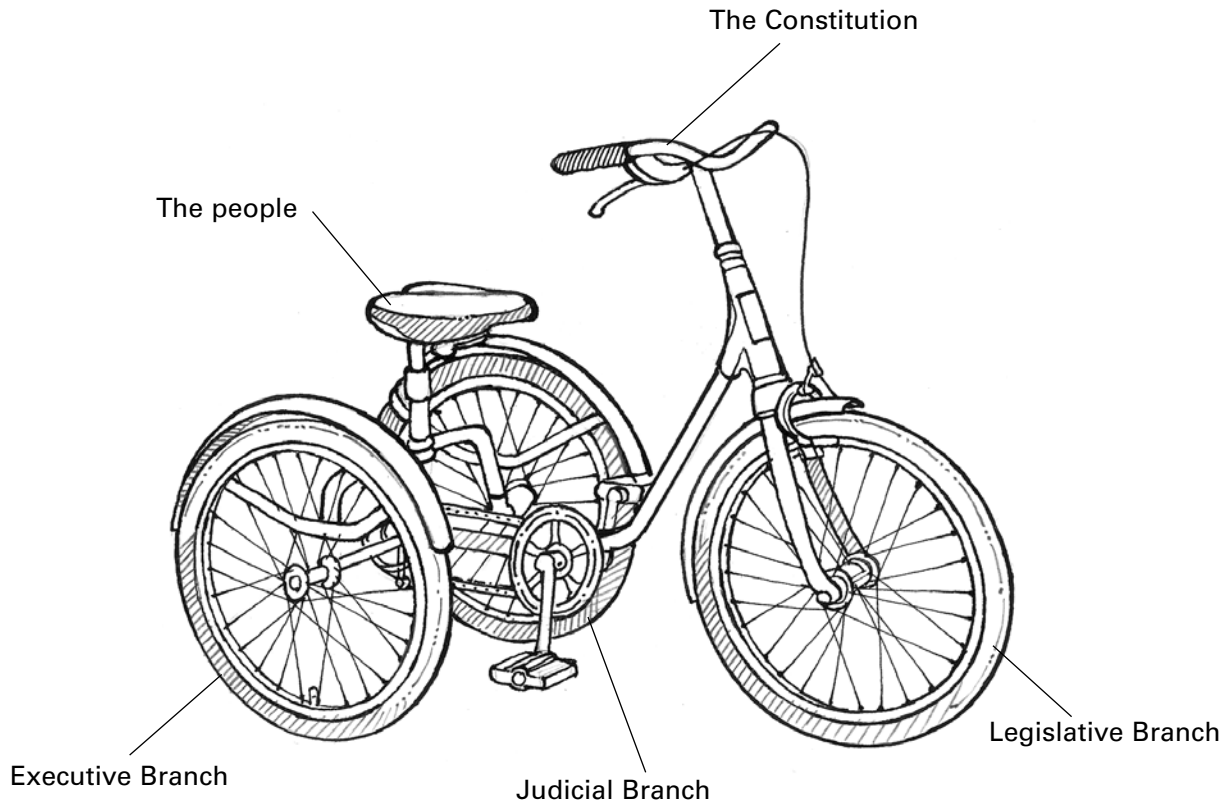


Simile Example

The three branches of government under the Constitution are like a tricycle **because** the government depends on a proper balance among the three branches.

- The Constitution guides the functioning of the government, **just as** handlebars are used to steer the tricycle.
- The legislative, executive, and judicial branches each have different powers but cannot run the government independently, **just as** the tricycle would not run smoothly without all three wheels working together.
- The people enable the government to work by voting and paying taxes, **just as** a rider gives power to the tricycle.



Constitutional Pursuit Game Directions

Object of the Game: To apply the principles in the Constitution to hypothetical situations

Procedure

You will consider 20 questions about the Constitution, one at a time. When each new question is revealed, follow these steps:

1. You and your partner will have a set amount of time to
 - find the answer to the question in the Constitution.
 - record on your answer sheet any missing article, section, or clause numbers denoting where in the Constitution the answer can be found.
 - circle the correct answer on the answer sheet.
 - record evidence for the answer in your own words and in complete sentences on the answer sheet.
2. When time is up, exchange answer sheets with the students sitting across from you.
3. When your teacher reveals the answer and supporting evidence for the question, score the question as follows:
 - correct answer: 1 point
 - correct location in the Constitution: 1 point
 - correct supporting evidence from the Constitution: 1 pointIf the answer sheet does not have the correct answer, cross out the wrong answer and write in the correct answer.
4. Return the answer sheets to their owners.

Constitutional Pursuit Questions

1 The president of the United States was impeached by the House for stealing money from the U.S. Treasury. The Senate found him guilty of the crime and voted to remove him from office. Now the Senate wants to put the president in jail for 10 years. **Can the Senate jail the president?**

2 North Dakotans have threatened to leave the Union because they no longer want to pay taxes. To keep North Dakota as part of the United States, the president has declared war on the state. **Can the president declare war on a state?**

3 The Supreme Court is hearing a case about the constitutionality of a wartime draft that was instituted because of a shortage of soldiers. Some people claim the draft is unconstitutional. **Does Congress have the power to institute a draft?**

4 Spain would like to make the vice president of the United States the duke of Andalusia. No one in Congress supports this because they see it as a conflict of interest. **Can the vice president accept the title of duke of Andalusia while he holds the office of U.S. vice president?**

5 Congress has adjourned for the year and the members are in their home states enjoying the winter holidays with their families. In the meantime, the United States has been attacked. The president calls Congress back into session to ask for a declaration of war. **Can the president call Congress back into session because the country is under attack?**

6 Most senators are opposed to a treaty the president has signed that would make Mexico the 51st state. The president has said that the treaty will go into effect anyway. **Can the president put a treaty into effect if most senators are opposed to it?**

7 Two U.S. senators are running for president. Senator X wins the popular vote, 51% to 49%. Senator Y gets a majority of the electoral votes in the Electoral College. **Which senator becomes president and why?**

8

Congress is angry with the president because they feel that he does not work hard enough. Both houses of Congress have voted to lower his salary, beginning with his next paycheck. **Can Congress lower the president's salary, effective immediately?**

9

Congress has decided to create three new lower federal courts. The federal judges that will serve on the courts will hold their offices for six-year terms. One of the new federal judges claims this is unconstitutional. **Is it constitutional to limit a federal judge to a six-year term?**

10

A foreign citizen is brought to trial for committing a crime in Washington, D.C., while serving as ambassador to the United States. She has demanded that the Supreme Court try her case. **Does the Supreme Court have original jurisdiction to try the ambassador's case?**

11

The state legislatures of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana have all voted in favor of becoming one large state. They plan to join all the national parks in their states to form the largest national park in the world. **Can separate states join together to form one larger state?**

12

Maryland has passed a law that conflicts with a law passed by Congress. **Which law do the people of Maryland have to follow, their state law or the federal law?**

13

A narrow majority of all the members of Congress have approved a Constitutional amendment that would give Congress the power to remove a federal judge for making "bad decisions." **Can Congress send this amendment to the states for ratification?**

14

Military enlistment is rising fast. To provide room and board for all the new soldiers, Congress has passed a law mandating that people quarter soldiers in their homes. Homeowners will be compensated \$1,000 a month for housing each soldier. **Can Congress pass a law requiring any household with a spare room to quarter soldiers in their homes?**

15 The Bill of Rights does not mention every single right that people have. **Must the government respect all the rights of the people, even rights that are not listed in the Constitution?**

16 Congress has recently decided to build a new playground, swimming pool, and park in a few major cities. The residents of the areas designated for the new parks have 30 days to find new housing. The government is not paying them for their homes because the facilities will be open for use by everyone and are for the “common good.” **Can Congress take people’s homes for the “common good” without compensating them?**

17 You have been accused of a crime and arrested. You have been in jail awaiting trial for seven years because you could not make the \$40 million bail. Your lawyer argues that two of the amendments in the Bill of Rights have been violated. **Can you legally be jailed awaiting trial for seven years because you could not make the \$40 million bail?**

18 The vice president has resigned from office following a tax-evasion scandal. The president announced today that he wants to appoint the secretary of state to fill the position, and he wants the new vice president to take office tomorrow. **Does the president have the power to replace the vice president, effective tomorrow?**

19 The president died of pneumonia at the end of the second year of his term. The vice president assumed the presidency and served for two years before she was reelected. She then served a full term in office and wants to run again. **Can the former vice president, who is now president, run for a third term in office?**

20 **Which three amendments, together, guarantee any citizen of the 50 states over the age of 18 the right to vote?**

Constitutional Pursuit Answers

Question	Where in Constitution?			Answer	Supporting Evidence from the Constitution (in your own words)
	Art.	Sec.	Cl.		
1	I	3	7	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	The Senate has the power to remove the president from office if they find him guilty of a crime. But their judgment cannot extend beyond removal from office and disqualification to hold any further offices in the U.S. government.
2	I	8	11	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	The president cannot declare war. Only Congress has the power to declare war.
3	I	8	12	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No	Raising and supporting an army is a power given to Congress, so it is reasonable for Congress to institute a draft in order to carry out this power.
4	I	9	8	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	No person holding an office in the United States can accept a title from any king, prince, or foreign state without the consent of Congress. So the vice president cannot keep his office and hold the title of duke of Andalusia unless he gets Congress's approval.
5	II	3		<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No	The president has the power to convene both houses of Congress on "extraordinary occasions," such as the United States being attacked.
6	II	2	2	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	The president has the power to make treaties with other countries, but treaties can go into effect only with the approval of two thirds of the Senate.
7	II	1	3	X <input checked="" type="radio"/> Y	Senator Y would become president. The candidate with the most votes in the Electoral College becomes president, as long as he or she has a majority of the electoral votes.
8	II	1	7	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	Congress can raise or lower the president's salary, but the salary cannot be changed during the <i>current</i> term.
9	III	1		Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	Both superior and inferior federal judges hold their offices during "good behavior." A six-year term is unconstitutional because a federal judge holds the office for life.
10	III	2	2	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No	The Supreme Court tries cases originally if the case affects ambassadors. In most other instances, they hear cases only on appeal.
11	IV	3	1	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No	Separate states can join to become one larger state as long as they have the approval of each state's legislature and of Congress.
12	VI	2		Md. <input checked="" type="radio"/> U.S.	The laws of the United States are considered the "supreme law of the land," so the people of Maryland would have to follow the federal law.
13	V			Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	For an amendment to be passed on to the states for ratification, at least two thirds of both houses of Congress must have voted in favor of the amendment.

Question	Amendment	Answer	Supporting Evidence from the Constitution (in your own words)
14	3	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	In a time of peace, Congress cannot mandate the quartering of soldiers in any house without the consent of the owner, even if people are compensated.
15	9	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No	The fact that some rights are listed in the Constitution should not be interpreted as denying other rights that are not listed. The government must respect all the rights of the people.
16	5	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	If Congress wants to take private property for public use, it can do so only if it pays people a fair price for their homes.
17	6 and 8	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	Amendment 6 guarantees the right to a speedy trial, and Amendment 8 protects people from excessive bail. A \$40 million bail is excessive, and seven years in jail awaiting trial does not constitute a speedy trial.
18	25	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	When the office of vice president is vacant, the president can nominate someone for vice president, but that person cannot take office until confirmed by a majority vote of both houses of Congress.
19	22	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes No	If the president has served two years of the former president's term, and was then reelected and served one four-year term, he or she is eligible to run for one additional term. A president can be elected to two full terms or to only one full term if he or she has served <i>more</i> than two years of a former president's term.
20	15, 19, and 26		Amendment 15 prevents states from denying a citizen the right to vote based on race. Amendment 19 expands the right to vote to women. Amendment 26 prevents states from denying the right to vote to anyone who is 18 or older.