



## Columbia Public Schools United States Constitution Exam Review Sheet

All students in the State of Missouri are required by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to score a passing grade on the United States Constitution Exam in order to graduate from high school.

### Exam Format:

The Columbia Public Schools United States Constitution Exam consists of 60 selected response questions. You must pass this exam with a minimum of 60 percent (36 correct answers out of 60 questions).

### Topics covered by United States Constitution District Exam:

#### FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNMENT

1. Define federalism, separation of powers, and popular sovereignty. 795      34, 69      68
2. Define checks and balances and be prepared to identify examples of checks and balances. 790, 69      71
3. Why did Anti-Federalists oppose the Constitution? 55
4. What issue was settled by the Great Compromise? 52
5. What are the characteristics of a democracy? 20
6. Which Articles discuss the structure and powers of the following branches:  
a. Legislative  
b. Executive  
c. Judicial 66
7. What are the major responsibilities of the following branches:  
a. Legislative  
b. Executive  
c. Judicial 66

#### ELECTORAL PROCESS

1. What is the purpose of the electoral college? 313-316
2. How is it determined which candidate gets a states' electoral votes? 315-316
3. What is the total number of electoral votes in the United States? 316
4. What is the youngest age a citizen can vote? age 18

#### LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

- 793 1. Define the elastic clause.
- 52 2. Which governmental body/bodies make up Congress?
- 380 3. How long is a Senator's term in office?
- 406 4. Which is the only governmental body that can declare war?
- 388 5. Who is the presiding officer in the House of Representatives?
- 51 6. A law-making body composed of two houses is called?
- 491 7. How may Congress override the President's veto?
- 431 8. Before a bill is sent to the President what must happen?
- Conf. committee  
380 9. How many Senators are elected from each state?
10. How many Representatives are elected from each state? *According to population*
- 380 11. Who has the power to impeach the President?
- 458 12. Who is the President of the Senate?
- 210 13. How often does the Constitution require that a census be taken?
- 380 14. How long is a Representative's term in office?
- 410, 796 15. What does impeachment of a federal official mean?
- 410 16. Who holds the responsibility for trying impeachment cases?
- 411, 380 17. Who has the power to approve Presidential appointments?
- 374, 804 18. What is redistricting? (*reapportionment*)

### EXECUTIVE BRANCH

1. Who appoints Federal Judges? *The President*
- 457, 455 2. If the President dies in office, who becomes President?
- 454 3. How many terms of office is the President limited to?
4. Which of the executive departments:  
 a. assists the president in coordinating the armed forces? *Defense*  
 b. supervises U.S. ambassadors in foreign countries? *State*
- 454 5. How long is a single Presidential term in office?
6. Who is the head of the executive branch? *President*
- 481 7. What roles does the President fill?
- 483 482 485 488 487 490

463 8. Who does the Cabinet aid and advise?

458 9. In the Senate, when is the Vice President allowed to vote?

### JUDICIAL BRANCH

537 1. Who makes up the Judicial Branch of government?

2. Who makes final decisions concerning the interpretation of the Constitution?

*Supreme Court*

69,70 3. What power does the Supreme Court have under judicial review and what case established judicial review?

545 4. How long is the Supreme Court Justice's term in office?

538 5. What gives the Supreme Court power to hear a case on appeal from a lower court?

6. Which branch of government holds the major responsibility to interpret laws?

*Judicial*

545 7. Who appoints justices of the Supreme Court?

8. Where are cases involving disputes between states tried?

*Supreme Court*

537 9. What type of jurisdiction does the U. S. Court of Appeals have?

### BILL OF RIGHTS

157 1. Which Supreme Court case ruling established that a defendant must be informed of his rights?

70 2. What is the main purpose of the Bill of Rights?

65 3. Where is the freedom of speech, press, and religion guaranteed to Americans?

4. What rights do people have when they are accused of a crime?

*Due process*

793 5. What is due process?

175 6. Which Supreme Court ruling ended racial segregation in schools?