



**15-16 yr olds – Practice Constitution Bee**      **Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Assignment #1** – Make sure that you are scoring in the 90% range on all 6 regular quizzes and on the Bonus Questions before moving on to this Practice Constitution Bee.

**Assignment #2** – Print out and take this Practice Constitution Bee and time yourself. Print out and have your parent/guardian take this Practice Constitution Bee and time themselves.

a) I corrected my child's work on the Practice Constitution Bee below and he/she got \_\_\_\_\_ / 375 points. It took him/her \_\_\_\_\_ minutes to complete. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian signature)

b) I corrected my parent's/guardian's work on the Practice Constitution Bee below and he/she got \_\_\_\_\_ / 375 points. It took him/her \_\_\_\_\_ minutes to complete. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Student signature)

**Questions from the Practice Constitution Bee will be very similar to questions on the final online Constitution Bee except questions on the final online Constitution Bee will be randomized. The final Bee will also be timed. The exact time limit and other details will be announced before the final online Bee in plenty of time to be sure you are prepared. Scoring on the Practice Bee will be similar to scoring on the final Bee. Unless otherwise noted, each question is worth 1 point and on questions with multiple parts (i.e. a, b, c) each part will be worth 1 point. Memorization of clauses and quotes will be worth 1 point per blank so there is heavy weight to memorization. Total points will be given for each question at the end in parentheses.**

- 1) Which topic does Article VI address?
- 2) How do you identify a clause in the Constitution?
- 3) Which topic does Article V address and what is that topic's definition?
- 4) Name the 5 Clauses Everyone Should Know (in order of the acronym) and their constitutional references (5)
- 5) Which topic does Article IV address?

- 6) Why is the Constitution important?
- 7) Which branch of government does Article III address and what is the name of the entity it discusses?
- 8) "The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States" is the actual text from which article in the Constitution?
- 9) Which topic does Article VII address and what is that topic's definition?
- 10) Which branch of government does Article I address and what is the name of the entity it discusses?
- 11) "The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several states" is the actual text from which article in the Constitution?
- 12) Which branch of government does Article II address and what is the name of the position it discusses?
- 13) How many articles are there in the Constitution?
- 14) Explain how the organization of the Constitution is similar to the organization of the Bible
- 15) Which two articles were mentioned as not having listed sections since they contain only one section? (Article VII is also only one section long but it wasn't mentioned with the other two articles) (1)
- 16) a) What phrase does Article I, Section 8 begin with? b) How many clauses does the phrase apply to? (2)
- 17) The 5 Clauses Everyone Should Know come from which 2 Articles? (1)
- 18) The great majority of all listed Congressional powers are found in which Article and Section? (1)
- 19) The laws of the United States are also known as:
- 20) Define the term "Condition"
- 21) a) If a skinny boy wants to become a buff man what condition must he meet? b) If a federal law wants to become the supreme law of the land, what condition must it meet? c) How can you know if it meets the condition? (3)
- 22) Define the term "Pursue":
- 23) a) Can a federal law tell people what color of house they must live in? b) Explain (2)
- 24) If a car owner and a mechanic shop owner have a disagreement over the price of the service offered, who wins?
- 25) What does this car analogy teach us about the supremacy clause?

- 26) a) Can a federal law call for the formation of a Navy? b) Explain (2)
- 27) The supremacy clause says what 2 things are supreme? (1)
- 28) Define the term "Supreme":
- 29) a) Are all laws of the United States the supreme law of the land? b) Explain which are and which are not (2)
- 30) Write from memory the words of the Supremacy Clause (24)
- 31) a) If a mechanic shop wants to charge \$3000 and a car owner only wants to pay \$1000 why not just split the difference at \$2000? b) What should the price be? (2)
- 32) What words from the Supremacy Clause state the condition that federal laws must meet in order to become the supreme law of the land?
- 33) Define the a) Misinterpretation b) Correct Interpretation, and c) Justification behind understanding the Supremacy Clause (9 – 3 pts per part)
- 34) a) Write the words of the condition found in the Supremacy Clause? b) What words (phrase) does the condition apply to? c) What is another name for that phrase? (3)
- 35) A hypothetical law is passed by Congress that gives them to the power to do X. If the states or the people don't agree that they should have the power to do X how should the question be resolved?
- 36) How would you respond to someone who claims a federal law is supreme regardless of its Constitutionality?
- 37) How would you respond to the claim that if Congress passes a law then it is, by definition, the supreme law of the land because the people's representatives had their chance to support or oppose it and have voted?
- 38) Explain the difference between "bottom up" government versus "top down" government
- 39) a) If a car owner authorizes a mechanic shop to make repairs and to service his car does that mean the mechanic can do whatever repairs and services he wants? b) Why or why not? (2)
- 40) What does this car analogy teach us about the general welfare clause?
- 41) If a mechanic takes the initiative to turn your old car into a nice new Ferrari there are at least two things that are wrong with doing so. Name the two. (1)

42) a) Which repairs and services are listed on a contract? b) If a repair isn't listed on the contract what can the mechanic assume about that repair? (2)

43) The General Welfare Clause is based on this idea: "If ...." (7)

44) The general welfare powers are listed in which article, section and clauses?

45) The common defense powers are listed in which article, section and clauses?

46) The 10<sup>th</sup> amendment says, "The \_\_\_\_\_ not delegated to the United \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_ . . . are \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ respectively, or to the \_\_\_\_\_" (6)

47) How does the principle of self-government apply to the General Welfare clause?

48) Which interpretation below of the general welfare clause supports the principle of self-government?

- a) Government decides for the people what is good for them
- b) People decide for themselves what is right

49) Fill in the blanks of Thomas Jefferson's quote regarding general welfare: "Congress has not \_\_\_\_\_ powers to \_\_\_\_\_ for the general welfare, but only those specifically \_\_\_\_\_." (3)

50) Complete Daniel Webster's quote: "The \_\_\_\_\_ was made to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ against the dangers of good \_\_\_\_\_." (4)

51) Write from memory the words of the General Welfare clause (14)

52) a) When Johnny's mom says he can go outside to play as long as he doesn't leave the yard, why is his excuse of her never having specifically said he couldn't cross the street to play on the swings unjustified? b) Apply this analogy to the General Welfare clause (2)

53) Define the a) Misinterpretation b) Correct Interpretation, and c) Justification behind understanding the General Welfare Clause (9 – 3 pts per part)

54) Write from memory the words of the 10<sup>th</sup> amendment (21)

55) Complete the exact words from the quote by Thomas Jefferson regarding the general welfare clause which begins, "Congress has not unlimited powers ..." (11)

56) Explain the validity or falsehood expressed in Attorney General Francis Biddle's statement, "The government of the United States can do anything not specifically prohibited by the Constitution".

57) a) Complete the exact words from the quote by Thomas Jefferson regarding the general welfare clause which begins, "To take a single step beyond the boundaries drawn around the powers of Congress, is to ..." b) The "boundaries drawn around the powers of Congress" are found in what article and section? c) Explain what Jefferson means (10)

58) Define the term: Enumerated

59) Write from memory the complete quote from Daniel Webster regarding "good intentions". (14)

60) a) If you authorize your mechanic shop to change out your brake pads – and to only do that one thing – is it all right for him to also take off your wheel? b) Explain (2)

61) How does this analogy apply to the necessary and proper clause?

62) If your mechanic claims that in order for you to be happy it is necessary and proper that he cut a sunroof in your car and that you authorized it, how would you respond?

63) What is the rule that should be used to determine whether a law is necessary and proper?

64) The words from the necessary and proper clause, "for carrying into execution the foregoing powers" are referring to what powers?

65) Why is the phrase "for carrying into execution the foregoing powers" so critical to the principle of self- government?

66) a) Is an implied power: i) directly given and listed, or ii) indirectly suggested. b) Are there any powers granted to Congress that aren't specifically listed in Article I, Section 8? c) Explain (3)

67) Explain how the federal government is justified in building a mint when the power to do so was not specifically given in Article I, Section 8?

68) a) Why is the necessary and proper clause often referred to as the elastic clause? b) What is the danger in such a nickname? (2)

69) Write from memory the words of the Necessary and Proper Clause (22)

70) Define the a) Misinterpretation b) Correct Interpretation, and c) Justification behind understanding the Necessary and Proper Clause (9 – 3 pts per part)

71) How would you respond to someone who justifies a federal law by saying the Constitution allows laws to be made that are, "necessary and proper"?

72) How would you respond to someone who questions you, with “How can you say Medicare isn’t necessary or that Social Security isn’t proper?”

73) a) Define the following terms: Interstate; Intrastate; Interpersonal; Intrapersonal b) Explain why understanding what “interstate” means is so important to understanding the “interstate” commerce clause. (5)

74) If you would like to sell your car but the buyer and you can’t come to agreement on how well it runs:  
a) To whom can you take the car b) What can they do? (2)

75) What does this car analogy teach us about the interstate commerce clause?

76) Choose the correct definition for “Regulate”: a) to make all decisions about b) to set a standard for.

77) a) Can states set standards over each other? b) Does the interstate commerce clause give Congress power to regulate – or to set a standard – over the states? c) If so, what is that power? If not, why not? (3)

78) a) (True or False) Before the interstate commerce clause, states could choose to put any amount of fees on other states. b) Why did the states need a third party to help in this situation?

79) Fill in the blanks from a quote by James Monroe regarding the interstate commerce clause: “A power . . . to \_\_\_\_\_ any [\_\_\_\_\_] on the trade \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ was the \_\_\_\_\_ granted.” (6)

80) Fill in the blank in the modernized wording of Article I, Section 9, Clause 6: “No trucks or ships that are going to or from a \_\_\_\_\_ can be \_\_\_\_\_ to pay \_\_\_\_\_ just for being in that \_\_\_\_\_.” (4)

81) Choose the correct definition for “among the several states”: a) between the states b) between the states, inside each state, between the people and with each person.

82) The expanded version of the interstate commerce clause – Congress has power to control all buying and selling that happens inside the state – is, a) justified or not justified in the Constitution? b) Explain c) What effect does the expanded version have on states? (3)

83) Write from memory the words of the Interstate Commerce Clause (12)

84) Define the a) Misinterpretation b) Correct Interpretation, and c) Justification behind understanding the Interstate Commerce Clause (9 – 3 pts per part)

85) a) The words from the Constitution, “. . .nor shall vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another” come from what Article, Section, and Clause? b) What does this clause mean? (2)

86) a) The words from the Constitution, “No state shall, without the consent of the Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports” come from what Article, Section, and Clause? b) What does this clause mean? (2)

87) Complete the exact words from the quote by James Monroe regarding the Interstate Commerce Clause which begins, “The power to prevent ...” (13)

88) Define the term “Treaty” (1)

89) If your mechanic shop says they have to charge you for an engine overhaul every time you come in because of an agreement they signed with other mechanic shops, how would you respond?

90) What does this car shop analogy teach us about the treaty law clause?

91) What is the exact wording in the Constitution of the condition that a treaty must meet in order to become the supreme law of the land?

92) a) Are all treaties the supreme law of the land? b) Is a treaty supreme over the Constitution? c) Explain. (3)

93) Treaties have to do with \_\_\_\_\_ policy, not \_\_\_\_\_ policy (provide 3 terms for each blank) (6)

94) Suppose a gun control treaty were agreed upon by the United States and the United Nations. Would such a treaty: a) be the supreme law of the land? b) Why or why not? (Use references from the Constitution) (2)

95) a) Can a treaty between the United States and the United Nations commit us to declaring war? b) Why or why not? (Use references from the Constitution) (2)

96) a) Can a treaty between the United States and Mexico to protect their shared border against invasion be the supreme law of the land? b) Why or why not? (Use references from the Constitution) (2)

97) Write from memory the words of the Treaty Law Clause (23)

98) Define the a) Misinterpretation b) Correct Interpretation, and c) Justification behind understanding the Treaty Law Clause (9 – 3 pts per part)

99) How would you respond to someone who says the United States needs to be a responsible world citizen and comply with United Nations treaties that are universally accepted?

100) a) Complete the exact words from Thomas Jefferson’s quote relative to Treaty Law which begins, “in questions of power, then, ...” b) What does Jefferson mean by this quote? (12)

101) a) Fundamentally, what is the purpose of treaties b) What is the danger when the fundamental purpose of treaties is violated? (2)

102) Choose your favorite clause and in 250 words or less explain why you think it is so important today. (use another piece of paper and/or feel free to type your response if you prefer)

1) Supremacy 2) new paragraph, indentation 3) Amendments (Rules to change the Constitution) 4) Supremacy Clause (Article VI, Clause 2), Treaty Law Clause (Article VI, Clause 2), Interstate Commerce Clause (Article I, Section 8, Clause 3), Necessary and Proper Clause (Article I, Section 8, Clause 18), General Welfare Clause (Article I, Section 8, Clause 1) 5) States 6) because it makes the rules that protect we, the people, from the government or any other person taking our freedom from us 7) Judicial (Supreme Court) 8) II 9) ) Ratification (Voting to Adopt the Constitution) 10) Legislative (Congress) 11) I 12) Executive (President) 13) 7 14) Just as the Bible has books, chapters and verses so also does the Constitution have articles, sections and clauses. And, just as the real meat of the Bible is found in the verses and books and chapters are just organizational terms, so also is the meat of the Constitution found in the clauses and articles and sections are just organizational terms. 15) Article V, Article VI 16) a) "The Congress shall have power .." b) 18 17)) Article I and Article VI 18) Article I, Section 8 19) federal laws 20) A requirement that must be met first 21) a) He must lift weights b) it must be made in pursuance of the Constitution c) You can point to the specific words in the Constitution that grant the power to make that law 22) to follow 23) a) No b) the power to do so cannot be found in the Constitution 24) It is "what" wins that matters. The contract they both agreed to wins 25) It is not the mechanic shop (the federal government) nor the car owner (the people or the states) who are in charge (supreme). What is in charge is the contract (the Constitution) made between them 26) a) yes b) because the power to do so can be found in the Constitution 27) The Constitution and the Laws of the United States that pursue the Constitution 28) the highest level of power or authority 29) a) No b) Only those laws that are made in pursuance of the Constitution are supreme. If a federal law violates or contradicts the Constitution it is not the supreme law of the land 30) This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof, shall be the supreme law of the land. 31) a) because neither party will be happy b) The price on the contract 32) "Which shall be made in pursuance thereof" 33) a) Federal law trumps state law b) Neither federal nor state law is supreme. The Constitution is supreme. It defines which powers are delegated to which entity be it federal, state, or a power which is reserved to the people. c) "This Constitution, and the laws of the United States



*which shall be made in pursuance thereof* shall be the supreme law of the land.” (Article VI, Clause 2)

34) “which shall be made in pursuance thereof” b) the laws of the United States c) federal laws 35) Look in the Constitution and see if that power was directly given or if it is necessary and proper in order to carry into execution a specifically listed power 36) By quoting the Supremacy Clause (Article VI, Clause 2) and pointing out that the laws of the United States are only supreme if they are made in pursuance of the Constitution. If the law doesn’t follow the Constitution then it’s not supreme 37) In our Republic, it is true that people vote for representatives who then represent them in Congress but those representatives are only given power to do certain things as found in the Constitution. They aren’t free to do whatever they would like to do. 38) “Bottom up” government says that people are in charge and only delegate to government certain powers. “Top down” government says the government is in charge and can do what they determine is good for the people. 39) a) No b) The mechanic can only make the repairs and perform the services specifically listed on the contract 40) The car owner (the people or the states) only authorized the mechanic shop (the federal government or the Congress) to do those repairs and services (to make laws) listed in the contract (the Constitution) not just whatever repairs and services seem to be generally good to the shop 41) You can’t afford it and you didn’t authorize it 42) a) Those the mechanic is authorized to do b) he is not authorized to do it 43) it’s not listed, you can’t do it 44) Article I, Section 8, Clauses 2-9 and 17 45) Article I, Section 8, Clauses 10-16 46) powers; States; Constitution; reserved; states; people 47) Self-government claims the people create government and authorize them to do certain things for them. If government gets to decide what general welfare means, then they govern over people and self-government is destroyed 48) b 49) unlimited; provide, enumerated 50) Constitution; guard; people; intentions 51) The Congress shall have power to provide for the common defense and general welfare 52) a) because when she said to not leave the yard that included the restriction to not cross the street and play on the swings. b) the Constitution defines what the federal government can do but it does not list everything that can’t be done just like Johnny’s mom listed what he could do (stay in the yard) without having to list everything he couldn’t do (cross the street to play on swings) 53) a) Congress decides what is good for the people b) The standard is not whether something is good for the people but rather whether it is right - as authorized by the people. The list of those authorized general welfare powers is found in Article I, Section 8, Clauses 2-9, 17. c) “The Congress shall have power to . . . provide for the common defense and *general welfare* . . .” (Article I, Section 1, Clause 1) and “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.” (10<sup>th</sup> Amendment) 54) The powers not delegated to the United State by the Constitution ... are reserved to the states respectively or to the people. 55) “...to provide for the general welfare, but only those specifically enumerated.” 56) It is false because it says the exact opposite of what the general welfare clause and 10<sup>th</sup> amendment state: “If it’s not listed, you can’t do it”. His statement essentially says, “As long as it’s not prohibited, we can do it.” The Constitution is a list of powers government *can* do not a list of powers they *can’t* do 57) a) “take possession of a boundless field of power” b) Article I, Section 8 c) Once you break the rules of the Constitution there is no more restraint on government 58) written down or listed 59) “The Constitution was made to guard the people against the dangers of good intentions.” 60) a) Yes b) In order to change your brake pads (which you have authorized him to do in the contract) it is necessary and proper to take off your wheel 61) The mechanic shop (the federal government or the Congress) can only do those things (make laws) which are necessary and proper in

order to carry out the specific thing (the power) listed in the contract (the Constitution) that the car owner (the people or the states) have authorized to be done 62) I only authorized you to do those things which were necessary and proper in order to make the repairs listed on the contract which was to change out my brake pads and putting a sunroof in my car has nothing to do with changing out my brake pads 63) A law is necessary and proper only if it is needed in order to carry out a specific power given to the federal government as listed in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution. 64) Article I, Section 8, Clauses 2-17 65) Because it limits Congress to only do those things that can be directly tied to Article I, Section 8 powers which we, the people, specifically authorized them to do. We authorize the government to act for us. They don't authorize themselves to decide what they will do for us. 66) a) (ii) indirectly suggested b) Yes c) There are powers Congress has that aren't found in the list but those unlisted powers have to be necessary and proper in order to carry out the specifically listed powers 67) Although building a mint isn't a directly listed power, coining money is (Art I, Sec 8, Cl 5) so when the people directly authorized Congress to coin money they indirectly authorized Congress to build a mint. 68) a) It can be stretched to give powers not specifically listed in the Constitution b) sometimes the stretching of meaning gives powers not related to those powers listed in the Constitution 69) The Congress shall have power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers. 70) a) Congress determines what is necessary and proper b) Implied powers – those powers which are not listed in the Constitution but which are required in order to carry out those specifically listed powers – are indirectly granted to the Congress in the Constitution c) “The Congress shall have power . . . to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper *for carrying into execution the foregoing powers.*” (Article I, Section 8, Clause 18) 71) Necessary and proper is only part of the phrase. The most important part of the phrase is found in the last 7 words that say, “for carrying into the foregoing powers”, which defines what necessary and proper refers to 72) I'm not saying retirement and insurance aren't necessary or proper. What I'm saying is that those programs aren't necessary and proper to carry into effect any of the powers listed in Article I, Section 8 so although retirement and insurance are necessary and proper for people to have they should be provided by the people themselves, not the government. 73) a) between (across) states; inside of (within) a state; between (across) people; inside of (within) a person b) The Interstate commerce clause only applies to buying and selling that crosses state lines. It doesn't apply to buying and selling inside of a state, between people or with a person 74) a) A mechanic shop b) run a standardized test on the car 75) The mechanic shop (the federal government or the Congress) can run the standardized test (to regulate or to set a standard) but they can't control the buyer or the seller (the states) in decisions about the buying and selling of the car (commerce) 76) b 77) a) No b) Yes c) Congress can prevent states from putting fees on each other 78) a) True b) since states couldn't control each other they needed to agree to a third party, the federal government, to have power to prevent each of them from putting fees on each other so they could buy and sell more regularly again. 79) prevent; fees; between; states; only power 80) state; forced; fees; state 81) a) 82) a) not justified b) Such power was never given by the states to the federal government c) It destroys the state sovereignty – or power over its own affairs 83) The Congress shall have power to regulate commerce among the several states. 84) a) Federal law can regulate all commerce b) Congress was granted the power to prohibit the states from collecting fees as a condition of doing business within their state. This was a power granted over interstate commerce – not over the states and not between individuals. c) “The Congress shall have power . . . to *regulate*

commerce . . . *among* the several states.” (Article I, Section 8, Clause 3) (see also Article I, Section 10, Clause 2; Article I, Section 9, Clause 6) 85) a) Article I, Section 9, Clause 6 b) No trucks or ships that are going to or from a state can be forced to pay fees just for being in that state. 86) a) Article I, Section 10, Clause 2 b) No state shall, without the consent of the Congress, collect any state fees on products entering or leaving the state. 87) “... any [fees] on the trade between the states was the only power granted. 88) A formal agreement between two or more nations 89) What you do with my car is controlled by the contract you and I make not by an agreement you make with other mechanic shops 90) Other mechanic shops (other nations) and their agreements (treaties) cannot control a car owner’s (the people or the states) contract (the Constitution) with his own mechanic shop (the federal government) 91) “under the authority of the United States” 92) a) No b) No c) If a treaty and the Constitution conflict, the Constitution wins since treaties have to be made *under* the authority of the United States and the Constitution tells us what powers are under the authority of the United States 93) foreign, international, external; domestic, national, internal 94) a) no b) it violates the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment in the Constitution 95) a) No b) Article I, Section 8, Clause 11 says only Congress can declare war. Treaties don’t declare war 96) a) Yes b) Article IV, Section 4, Clause 1 gives power to the United States to protect against invasion so a treaty to protect against invasion is under the authority of the United States 97) All treaties made or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land 98) a) All treaties are the supreme law of the land b) Only those treaties which comply with the Constitution are supreme. Unlawful treaties grant powers to government that are either forbidden or not granted by the Constitution. c) “All treaties made, or which shall be made, *under the authority of the United States*, shall be the supreme law of the land.” (Article VI, Clause 2) 99) The rules of government are found in the Constitution, not in treaties. If treaties comply with the Constitution (both in how they are adopted and in the powers they employ) then those treaties are also supreme. But if they don’t, treaties don’t trump the Constitution. The specific powers of government are delegated by the people to the government. The government officials get their power from the people, not from treaties, and they are accountable back to the people not to an international body that is unelected and unaccountable. 100) a) “...bind [men] down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution” b) We should look to the Constitution for the rules and limits of power, not to treaties. 101) a) The purpose of treaties is to set up a formal agreement describing how our nation interacts with other nations in external, foreign, international affairs. b) If treaties are used to control what happens within our nation, in national, internal and domestic affairs then we become subject to a body that we never elected, that is not accountable to us and to whom we never delegated authority nor power. 102) Answers will vary but should be well thought out because the response will be worth a very large number of points.