

The Constitution

We the people of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, 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 Constitution is the highest law in the United States. The Constitution was written in 1787 and has changed through “amendments” passed by the states. The first ten amendments describe the rights of all Americans. They are called The Bill of Rights.

The Constitution also describes the three main branches of government and their responsibilities. The judicial branch explains and interprets the law. This branch includes judges and the Supreme Court. The legislative branch makes the laws. It is made up of senators and state representatives—Congress. The executive branch makes sure the law is followed. This branch is headed up by the President of the United States, Vice President and executive officers.

Fill in the blanks to the following sentences about the above passage.

1. The constitution was written in _____ .
2. States can change it by passing an _____ .
3. The three main branches of government are: _____ , _____ , and _____ .

Why do you think the Constitution is important?
