

# Constitutional Convention Icivics Answer Key

## Anatomy of the Constitution

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### How Do They Govern?

The U.S. Constitution is the document that creates our nation's government. The contents of the Constitution create the three branches of our government and give directions for how the federal government works. (It does this with a little over 4,500 words covering only four sheets of paper!) Although the Constitution was written in 1787, over 220 years ago, it still guides our officials in running our country today. It is the oldest written constitution in the world that is still in use.



The Constitution on display at the National Archives in Washington, DC.



### Introducing... The Preamble

Our Constitution is divided into nine parts. The first paragraph is called the *Preamble*. Its job is to introduce the Constitution, explain what the Constitution is meant to do, and describe the purpose of the new government. The first three words of the Constitution—"We the People"—contain the important idea of **self-government**.

### Creating Congress: Article I

Article I is the first and longest part of the Constitution. It creates the legislative branch of our government. *Legislative* means law-making. This section is the longest because the people who wrote the Constitution believed that a legislative branch is very important in a government that represents the citizens. Members of the *legislature*, or law-making body, are responsible for turning citizens' wants and needs into laws.



### Represent Me!

The legislative branch makes our government a representative democracy. In a *representative democracy*, citizens elect people to represent their needs and concerns in government. Article I creates a legislature called Congress and divides it into two parts: the Senate and the House of Representatives. Article I describes how Congress should be organized, tells what qualifications legislators must have, and says how often Congress should hold elections and meet as a group. It also describes other details of operation that each house of Congress gets to decide for itself.



	The Senate	The House of Representatives
Qualifications	You must be at least 30 years old, been a U.S. citizen for at least 9 years, and live in the state you represent.	You must be at least 25 years old, been a U.S. citizen for at least 7 years, and live in the state you represent.
Size	2 senators per state = 100 total	Number per state depends on population = 435 total (in 2011)
They represent...	the interests of the citizens in the entire state for 6 years per term.	the interests of the citizens who live in the district they represent within the state for 2 years per term.
Special Duties	The Senate acts as a court during impeachments.	All bills that raise money must start in the House of Representatives.
Role in Lawmaking	A bill must be approved by BOTH houses of Congress before it can go to the President to become a law.	

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ICIVICS ANSWER KEY SERVES AS A VALUABLE RESOURCE FOR EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS ENGAGED IN THE EXPLORATION OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION AND THE FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY. THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF 1787 WAS A PIVOTAL MOMENT IN AMERICAN HISTORY, WHERE DELEGATES CAME TOGETHER TO ADDRESS THE INADEQUACIES OF THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION AND TO DRAFT A NEW FRAMEWORK OF GOVERNMENT. THIS ARTICLE WILL DELVE INTO THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, THE EDUCATIONAL TOOLS PROVIDED BY ICIVICS, AND HOW THE ANSWER KEY CAN AID IN THE LEARNING PROCESS.

## UNDERSTANDING THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION WAS CONVENED IN PHILADELPHIA DURING THE SUMMER OF 1787. IT AIMED TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES FACING THE FLEDGLING NATION, INCLUDING ECONOMIC INSTABILITY, INTERSTATE DISPUTES, AND THE INABILITY TO ENFORCE FEDERAL LAWS.

## THE NEED FOR CHANGE

1. WEAKNESSES OF THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION:
  - LACK OF A STRONG CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
  - INABILITY TO LEVY TAXES
  - NO NATIONAL JUDICIARY
  - DIFFICULTY IN PASSING LEGISLATION (REQUIRING A SUPERMAJORITY)
2. SOCIETAL PRESSURES:
  - ECONOMIC TURMOIL, INCLUDING SHAYS' REBELLION
  - DISPUTES BETWEEN STATES REGARDING TRADE AND TARIFFS
  - THE NEED FOR A UNIFIED DEFENSE STRATEGY

## KEY FIGURES AT THE CONVENTION

THE CONVENTION BROUGHT TOGETHER SOME OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL LEADERS IN AMERICAN HISTORY, INCLUDING:

- GEORGE WASHINGTON: PRESIDED OVER THE CONVENTION AND PROVIDED ESSENTIAL LEADERSHIP.
- JAMES MADISON: OFTEN REFERRED TO AS THE "FATHER OF THE CONSTITUTION," HE PLAYED A CRUCIAL ROLE IN DRAFTING AND PROMOTING THE CONSTITUTION.
- ALEXANDER HAMILTON: ADVOCATED FOR A STRONG CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN THE FEDERALIST PAPERS.
- BENJAMIN FRANKLIN: PROVIDED WISDOM AND COMPROMISE, HELPING TO EASE TENSIONS BETWEEN DELEGATES.

## THE ROLE OF ICIVICS IN EDUCATION

ICIVICS IS AN INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL PLATFORM FOUNDED BY FORMER U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR. IT AIMS TO PROMOTE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AMONG STUDENTS THROUGH INTERACTIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCES.

## ICIVICS RESOURCES

ICIVICS OFFERS A VARIETY OF RESOURCES THAT COVER ESSENTIAL TOPICS IN CIVICS AND GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING:

- INTERACTIVE GAMES: ENGAGING GAMES THAT SIMULATE GOVERNMENT PROCESSES AND DECISION-MAKING.
- LESSON PLANS: COMPREHENSIVE PLANS DESIGNED FOR EDUCATORS TO TEACH CIVICS CONCEPTS.
- QUIZZES AND ASSESSMENTS: TOOLS FOR EVALUATING STUDENTS' UNDERSTANDING OF KEY CIVICS TOPICS.

## FOCUS ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

ONE OF THE KEY ASPECTS OF ICIVICS IS ITS FOCUS ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. THE PLATFORM PROVIDES VARIOUS ACTIVITIES THAT ALLOW STUDENTS TO STEP INTO THE SHOES OF THE DELEGATES AND UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEXITIES INVOLVED IN DRAFTING THE CONSTITUTION.

## USING THE ICIVICS ANSWER KEY

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ICIVICS ANSWER KEY SERVES AS AN ESSENTIAL TOOL FOR BOTH TEACHERS AND STUDENTS. IT HELPS ENSURE ACCURATE UNDERSTANDING AND APPLICATION OF THE CONCEPTS RELATED TO THE CONVENTION.

## BENEFITS OF THE ANSWER KEY

### 1. GUIDED LEARNING:

- HELPS STUDENTS VERIFY THEIR ANSWERS AND UNDERSTAND THE RATIONALE BEHIND CORRECT RESPONSES.
- PROVIDES A REFERENCE FOR EDUCATORS TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY IN GRADING.

### 2. ENHANCED UNDERSTANDING:

- CLARIFIES COMPLEX CONCEPTS BY PROVIDING DETAILED EXPLANATIONS FOR ANSWERS.
- REINFORCES LEARNING BY ALLOWING STUDENTS TO REVIEW THEIR MISTAKES.

### 3. PROMOTES DISCUSSION:

- ENCOURAGES CLASSROOM DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE DECISIONS MADE DURING THE CONVENTION AND THEIR IMPACT ON MODERN GOVERNANCE.
- FACILITATES CRITICAL THINKING AS STUDENTS ANALYZE WHY CERTAIN CHOICES WERE MADE.

## HOW TO UTILIZE THE ANSWER KEY EFFECTIVELY

TO MAXIMIZE THE BENEFITS OF THE ICIVICS ANSWER KEY, CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING STRATEGIES:

- INTEGRATE WITH LESSON PLANS: USE THE ANSWER KEY AS A SUPPLEMENT TO EXISTING LESSON PLANS, ALLOWING STUDENTS TO ENGAGE WITH THE MATERIAL MORE DEEPLY.
- GROUP ACTIVITIES: ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO WORK IN GROUPS TO DISCUSS THEIR ANSWERS AND THE REASONING BEHIND THEM. THIS COLLABORATIVE APPROACH FOSTERS COMMUNICATION AND TEAMWORK.
- INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION: AFTER COMPLETING AN ACTIVITY, HAVE STUDENTS REFLECT ON THEIR LEARNING AND THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THEIR ANSWERS.

## THE IMPACT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ON MODERN GOVERNANCE

THE OUTCOMES OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION HAVE HAD LASTING IMPLICATIONS ON THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

## KEY PRINCIPLES ESTABLISHED

### 1. SEPARATION OF POWERS:

- DIVIDED GOVERNMENT INTO THREE BRANCHES: EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE, AND JUDICIAL.
- EACH BRANCH HAS DISTINCT POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, PREVENTING ANY ONE BRANCH FROM BECOMING TOO POWERFUL.

### 2. CHECKS AND BALANCES:

- EACH BRANCH HAS MECHANISMS TO CHECK THE POWERS OF THE OTHERS, ENSURING ACCOUNTABILITY AND FAIRNESS.

### 3. FEDERALISM:

- ESTABLISHED A SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT IN WHICH POWER IS SHARED BETWEEN THE NATIONAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS.

### 4. BILL OF RIGHTS:

- THE FIRST TEN AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION WERE ADOPTED TO GUARANTEE INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES AND LIMIT GOVERNMENT POWER.

## CONCLUSION: THE IMPORTANCE OF CIVIC EDUCATION

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION iCIVICS ANSWER KEY PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN HELPING STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS NAVIGATE THE COMPLEXITIES OF AMERICAN GOVERNANCE. BY UTILIZING RESOURCES LIKE iCIVICS, WE CAN FOSTER A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE CONSTITUTION AND ITS LASTING IMPACT ON OUR SOCIETY. CIVIC EDUCATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR PREPARING INFORMED AND ENGAGED CITIZENS WHO CAN ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS. AS WE REFLECT ON THE PRINCIPLES ESTABLISHED DURING THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, LET US COMMIT TO UNDERSTANDING AND UPHOLDING THE VALUES THAT DEFINE OUR NATION. THROUGH EDUCATIONAL PLATFORMS AND RESOURCES, THE LEGACY OF THE CONSTITUTION CAN BE PRESERVED AND PASSED ON TO FUTURE GENERATIONS, EMPOWERING THEM TO UPHOLD DEMOCRACY AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### WHAT WAS THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION?

THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION WAS TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES OF THE WEAK CENTRAL GOVERNMENT UNDER THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION AND TO DRAFT A NEW CONSTITUTION FOR THE UNITED STATES.

### WHO WERE SOME OF THE KEY FIGURES AT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION?

KEY FIGURES AT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION INCLUDED GEORGE WASHINGTON, JAMES MADISON, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, ALEXANDER HAMILTON, AND ROGER SHERMAN.

### WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE VIRGINIA PLAN?

THE VIRGINIA PLAN PROPOSED A STRONG NATIONAL GOVERNMENT WITH THREE BRANCHES AND A BICAMERAL LEGISLATURE, SERVING AS A FOUNDATION FOR DISCUSSION AND DEBATE DURING THE CONVENTION.

### HOW DID THE GREAT COMPROMISE RESOLVE CONFLICTS BETWEEN LARGE AND SMALL STATES?

THE GREAT COMPROMISE ESTABLISHED A BICAMERAL LEGISLATURE WITH PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND EQUAL REPRESENTATION IN THE SENATE, BALANCING THE INTERESTS OF BOTH LARGE AND SMALL STATES.

### WHAT ROLE DID THE THREE-FIFTHS COMPROMISE PLAY IN THE CONVENTION?

THE THREE-FIFTHS COMPROMISE DETERMINED THAT THREE-FIFTHS OF THE ENSLAVED POPULATION WOULD BE COUNTED FOR REPRESENTATION AND TAXATION PURPOSES, HIGHLIGHTING THE CONTENTIOUS ISSUE OF SLAVERY.

### WHAT WAS THE OUTCOME OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION?

THE OUTCOME OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION WAS THE DRAFTING AND SIGNING OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION, WHICH ESTABLISHED THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

### WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FEDERALIST PAPERS IN RELATION TO THE CONSTITUTION?

THE FEDERALIST PAPERS WERE A SERIES OF ESSAYS WRITTEN TO PROMOTE RATIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION, EXPLAINING ITS PRINCIPLES AND THE IMPORTANCE OF A STRONG FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

### HOW DID THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ADDRESS THE SEPARATION OF POWERS?

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ADDRESSED THE SEPARATION OF POWERS BY ESTABLISHING THREE DISTINCT BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT: LEGISLATIVE, EXECUTIVE, AND JUDICIAL, EACH WITH ITS OWN RESPONSIBILITIES AND POWERS.

## WHAT IS MEANT BY 'CHECKS AND BALANCES' IN THE CONTEXT OF THE CONSTITUTION?

CHECKS AND BALANCES REFER TO THE SYSTEM THAT ENSURES NO ONE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT BECOMES TOO POWERFUL, AS EACH BRANCH HAS THE AUTHORITY TO LIMIT THE POWERS OF THE OTHERS.

## WHY IS THE CONSTITUTION CONSIDERED A LIVING DOCUMENT?

THE CONSTITUTION IS CONSIDERED A LIVING DOCUMENT BECAUSE IT INCLUDES PROVISIONS FOR AMENDMENTS, ALLOWING IT TO ADAPT TO CHANGING SOCIETAL NEEDS AND VALUES OVER TIME.

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## Constitutional Convention I Civics Answer Key

### Check Engine Light P0299 - Turbo Underboost - Buick Forums

2013 Encore with 56,000 miles. Got the check engine light last week, took it into the dealer, they inspected the turbo, declared it healthy, reset the...

### **Engine Power Reduced-Limp Mode? - Buick Forums**

May 17, 2013 · Coming home pre-blizzard (no snow yet) on Monday evening the display showed "Engine Power Reduced" (or similar) and the Encore reduced speed to a below walking speed at a traffic light in town (not fun). I wouldn't even call it "limp mode"! We pulled over and started it up a couple of times and...

### *Buick Encore GX — Car Forums at Edmunds.com*

Learn more about Buick Encore GX at the Edmunds.com Car Forums! Read real discussions on thousands of topics and get your questions answered.

### Transmission fluid check - Buick Forums

Oct 1, 2017 · My new 2017 Buick Encore has no provision for checking or adding transmission fluid. The manual says take it to the dealer. Is it possible to check the fluid and is it a good idea to change it at some point?

### **Clearing the water drains - Buick Forums**

Jun 16, 2021 · I've read about the water that may collect in the car if the drains are plugged and how to clean by removing the appropriate rear wheel and the wheel well liner. I'm not a young man, nor would I have the proper car jack etc to do so safely. Anyone try to clear the drains from the top when by...

### Screen in my car is completely black - Buick Forums

Jul 12, 2019 · I have a 2017 Buick LaCrosse and this morning when I turned on my car, the screen in my car remained completely black. The radio turned on, and when I touch the screen I can hear that it's working but it's all black so I can't see anything. I tried restarting my car and that didn't work either...

Oct 2, 2022 · 2017 Buick Encore P0420 Code Hey Y'all, Skimmed the threads I only seen like one other person having the same issue with their 2017 Buick Encore. The check engine light keeps popping up. Last year I noticed the car stalling when idle, and struggling to start when I would refuel. Took it to a GMC dealership and they...

#### *Receiving texts, HELP | Buick Forums*

May 29, 2013 · I have my Android phone paired with my encore GX Essence. I cannot receive texts. I was told by the dealer after a month of trying that texting works through Android auto. It's installed on my phone and is activated on my car. Still no texts? Do I need to un-pair my phone and re-pair it? It's...

#### **"Service All Wheel Drive System" keeps popping up. - Buick Forums**

Hey all. I purchased my 2021 Encore GX in mid-February. It has 2,500 miles on it and today ran into this issue. I was just driving like normal when the display said "All Wheel Drive Off" and then "Service All Wheel Drive System". I went home to work, then had to run out for a ...

#### **Oil leaked completely after dealer service | Buick Forums**

Jul 12, 2021 · I'm hoping to get possible causes of current issue. We have an 2018 encore which gave traction control warning light. Took it to dealer and was told it was bad PVC which is integrated in valve cover and needed to be replaced. We are still under drivetrain warranty and we're told it was not...

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