

# U.S. Constitution Test Study Guide

Please use this guide, your SS Notebook, and TCI Lessons 14.1-14.6 to study!

**Test Date:** Friday, March 29th

**Vocabulary.** This will be fill-in-the-blank with a word box.

- **Articles of Confederation** - the document that set up the first government of the United States; the government had limited power
- **Cabinet** - a group of advisors to the president, including the heads of important departments in the executive branch
- **Checks and balances** - the system under which each branch of government limits, or checks, the powers of the other branches
- **Compromise** - an agreement in which each side gives up some of what it wants
- **Constitution** - a document that describes how a government will work
- **Constitutional Convention** - the meeting called by the states in 1787 to improve the Articles of Confederation that instead wrote a new constitution
- **Executive Branch** - carries out, or executes, the laws
- **Impeach** - to accuse or charge a government official, such as the president, with a crime or misconduct
- **Judicial Branch** - interprets laws and settles disagreements about them
- **Legislative Branch** - creates laws

## Things to Know for Multiple Choice & Open-Ended Questions:

- Why were the Articles of Confederation weak? (Know at least 3 reasons)
- What is the purpose of a constitution?
- How did the small states want to be represented in Congress? How did the large states want to be represented?
- What was the Great Compromise? What did it do?
- How is the number of representatives sent to the Senate and the House of Representatives decided?
- What was the Three-Fifths Clause? How did it allow the Northern and Southern states to reach a compromise on the issue of slavery?
- Be able to explain how each of the three branches help our government follow a system of checks and balances. (How does one branch check the power of another?)

Good luck on your last test in social studies! I am so proud of all you have learned this year :)