11th-U.S. History & Government Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***The Constitution of the United States - Key People & Terms***

***1. Constitutional Convention*** – A Meeting of 55 Delegates, in Philadelphia, from May-September of 1787, in order to Amend the Articles of Confederation. These men ended up creating an entirely new Constitution which is still in use today.

***2.*** ***“Founding Fathers”***– The group of delegates who were apart of the Constitutional Convention that created the Constitution. These men were highly educated, wealthy landowners, who were very influenced by the Enlightenment. Some include: George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay, and James Madison

***3. Shay’s Rebellion -*** A rebellion of Farmer’s against tax collectors in Massachusetts during the 1780’s that convinced American political leaders that the Articles of Confederation gave too little power to the National Government

***4. The Great Compromise*** - created our National Congress; a bi-cameral Legislature with equal representation in the Senate, and representation based on State population in the House of Representatives

***5.*** ***The Three-Fifths Compromise*** - Three out of every Five Slaves would count toward a State’s population for purposes of representation and taxation.

***6.******The Tariff Compromise*** - Also known as the Commerce Compromise; Congress can tax imported goods but not exported goods

***7. Imports*** - Foreign goods being brought into the country

***8. Exports*** - Domestic made goods sent to overseas to be sold

***9. Ratify*** - To approve, to accept, to agree upon

***10. Federalists*** - Supporters of the ratification of the new Constitution

***11. Anti-Federalists*** - Opponents of the ratification of the new Constitution because of their fear that it gave too much power to the National Government, and there would be a loss of rights of the People and States

***12. The Federalist Papers*** - A series of pro-ratification essays written anonymously by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay, that helped persuade the American People to support the new Constitution

***13.*** ***The Bill of Rights*** - The first Ten Amendments to the U.S. Constitution; They were added as the final compromise for the creation of the new Constitution in order satisfy the Anti-Federalists desire to protect people’s rights from Government abuse

***14. Preamble -*** The introduction to the U.S. Constitution that states the document’s purpose, goals, and Justification

***15. Popular Sovereignty -*** The people are the source of all power or authority to govern

***16. Federalism*** - The Constitution divides the power to govern between three levels of government; National Government, State Governments, and Local Governments

***17. Separation of Powers*** - The Constitution divides the power to govern among the legislative, executive, and judiciary branches to ensure that no one branch can dominate the government

***18. Checks and Balances*** - Each branch of the government has ways to check, or control, the other branches in order to prevent one branch from gaining too much power

***19. The Elastic Clause*** - Article 1, section 8, clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution states that Congress has the authority to make all laws that are thought “Necessary and Proper” for the government to carry out their responsibilities given to them

***20. The Amendment Process*** - The U.S. Constitution may be formally changed with approval of both Congress and the states

***21***. ***The Supremacy Clause*** - declares that the Constitution, Federal laws and treaties are superior to state laws

***22. Delegated Powers*** - certain powers that have been spelled out, or expressly given to the Federal Government; The Legislative Branch’s power to declare war is an example

***23. Reserved Powers*** - protected by the 10th Amendment, these are powers that were not given to the Federal Government but saved for the states; marriage and divorce laws, and public education are examples

***24. Implied Powers*** - Powers that are not expressly written in the Constitution but are implied by the Elastic Clause; an example is the National Government’s authority to regulate child labor through its Delegated Power to regulate interstate trade

***25. Concurrent Powers*** - Powers that are shared between the Federal and State Governments

***26. Denied Powers*** - Powers, actions, and laws that are forbidden to the Federal and State Governments

***27. The Legislative Branch*** - The U.S. Congress established by Article I; a bi-cameral law-making body made up by the Senate and the House of Representatives

***28. The U.S. Senate*** - The “Upper House” created by Article I; each State receives Two Senators who serve six-year terms; some powers are to ratify all treaties by a ⅔ vote, approve Presidential nominations, and act as the jury during impeachment trials

***29. The House of Representatives*** - The “Lower House” created by Article I; each state receives representatives based on population and they serve two-year terms; they must originate all bills dealing with money and they have the power of bringing impeachment charges on elected officials

***30. The Executive Branch*** - created by Article II, it consists of a President and a Vice-President who serve four-year terms and are responsible for enforcing the laws of the nation; the President appoints judges, diplomats, and officials, can make treaties, recommend and veto legislation, and serves as the Commander in Chief of the military

***31. The Electoral College*** - the system of electing the President; voters cast their ballots for electors who in turn cast their votes for the President; Each State receives the same amount of electors as they have in senators plus representatives; Today a candidate needs to win 270 of a possible 538 electoral votes

***32. The Judicial Branch*** - Article III created the Supreme Court and gave Congress the power to create the lower federal courts; Their role is to interpret laws and settle disputes among the States as well as foreign governments

***33. Zenger Trial*** - John Peter Zenger was arrested for harshly criticizing the New York Colony’s Royal Governor. He was eventually acquitted of any crime and his trial set a precedent for the First Amendment rights of Freedom of Speech and Press