

## THE BIRTH OF THE CONSTITUTION

### *The Preamble*

(See the Preamble)

The Preamble lists the major goals to be accomplished by the United States government under the Constitution. The importance of the Preamble and the Constitution are expressed in the first three words, "We the people . . ." The Constitution was created by the people, not by some king, dictator, or absolute ruler.

The founding fathers had six goals in mind when they set out to create the Constitution. They are:

- (1) to form a more perfect union  
*(set up a stronger government than they had under the Articles of Confederation)*
- (2) establish justice  
*(improve the court system)*
- (3) ensure domestic tranquility  
*(have peace in all states)*
- (4) provide for the common defense  
*(protect the country from enemies)*
- (5) promote the general welfare  
*(have good living conditions)*
- (6) secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.  
*(have freedom for themselves and future Americans)*

The Preamble expresses the hopes of the people for a good and honest government for themselves and their children.

#### PREAMBLE TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION:

*We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, Establish Justice, ensure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common Defense, 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.*



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

### THE BIRTH OF THE CONSTITUTION

## The Preamble Challenges

1. By whose power was the Constitution written? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Fill in the blanks: GOALS OF THE CONSTITUTION:

(Actual words of the Constitution)

(Your own words)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

e. \_\_\_\_\_

f. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Rewrite the Preamble in your own words.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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### PROJECTS:

1. *The Preamble is short, only 52 words. Memorize and recite it to the class. (Extra: do it in only one breath!)*
2. *Bring a copy of a student organization constitution to class. How is it similar to or different from the U. S. Constitution?*