



# LESSON PLAN OUTLINE

## LESSON 2.4

# What's in the Constitution

## Overview

**Objective:**

Students will be able to articulate why the Constitution was written, and to list its component parts.

**Essential Question(s):**

According to the Preamble, what are the goals/purposes of the U.S. government? Why was the U.S. Constitution written? What are its contents?

**Standards:**

*From the 2023 Standards:*

- CE.1 The student will apply history and social science skills to explain the foundations of the American constitutional democracy by
- d) describing the purpose of the Constitution of the United States as stated in its Preamble;
  - e) explaining the fundamental concepts of the U.S. government, including but not limited to due process, equal justice under the law, equal protection, elections and a representative government, limited government, right to private property, rule of law, Supremacy Clause, and separation of powers;

*From the 2015 Standards:*

- CE.2 The student will apply social science skills to understand the foundations of American constitutional government by
- c) describing the purpose of the Constitution of the United States as stated in its Preamble;

*National Council for Social Studies Standards:*

NSS-C.5-8.1 CIVIC LIFE, POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

**Vocabulary:**

preamble, union, justice, domestic, tranquility, welfare, posterity

**Essential Knowledge:**

*From the 2015 Standards:*

Purposes of United States government

- To form a more perfect union
- To establish justice
- To ensure domestic tranquility
- To provide for the common defense
- To promote the general welfare
- To secure the blessings of liberty

The Preamble to the Constitution of the United States begins, "We the People," thereby establishing that the power of government comes from the people.

## Engage

**BELLRINGER: QUICK WRITE**

Students will illustrate, write, or outline their response to the following questions:

-Why do governments exist? What is the purpose of governments?

**WARM-UP: DRAFT YOUR OWN CONSTITUTION**

Students will write down the three rules they think are most important to follow while attending school.

# Explain



## SLIDES

The interactive slides in this lesson can be used in multiple ways:

- teachers can direct all students to generate their own copies of the Google Slides on a tablet or laptop, allowing the students to interact directly with the prompts individually.
- teachers can use the deck as a presentation, guiding the entire classroom through the content as a large group.
- by creating their own Google Slides copy, teachers may rearrange or edit the content to suit their own pacing or adaptation needs.

# Explore

## **MATCHING GAME: PREAMBLE SCRAMBLE**

Students will play a matching game with the different parts of the preamble. Can be played individually or in teams.

## **CONSTITUTION SHUFFLE**

Students will work together to sort and put in order the parts of the Constitution.

# Elaborate

## **DRAW IT: PREAMBLE**

Students will illustrate each part of the Preamble.

# Evaluate

## **GAME REVIEW**

Kahoot! Question Set (link to come)  
Quizizz Question Set (link to come)

## **EXIT TICKET**

5-question review students complete before exiting the classroom

