

Guided Reading

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The Constitution

Lesson 1 *Principles of the Constitution*

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

Why do people form new governments?

Our Constitution

Reading for Accuracy Use your textbook to decide if a statement is true or false. Write **T** or **F** in the blank. If a statement is false, rewrite it to make it true.

1. Popular sovereignty means that the powers of government belong to and come from the people.

2. In a republic, citizens choose other people to represent them.

3. One way to have limited government is to make sure that everyone is subject to the laws and that no one is above the law.

4. The principle of federalism means that the federal, or national, government has all the governmental powers.

5. The Constitution tries to make sure that no one branch of government is more powerful than any other branch by establishing a separation of powers.

6. The term "checks and balances" refers to the way in which Congress controls federal spending.

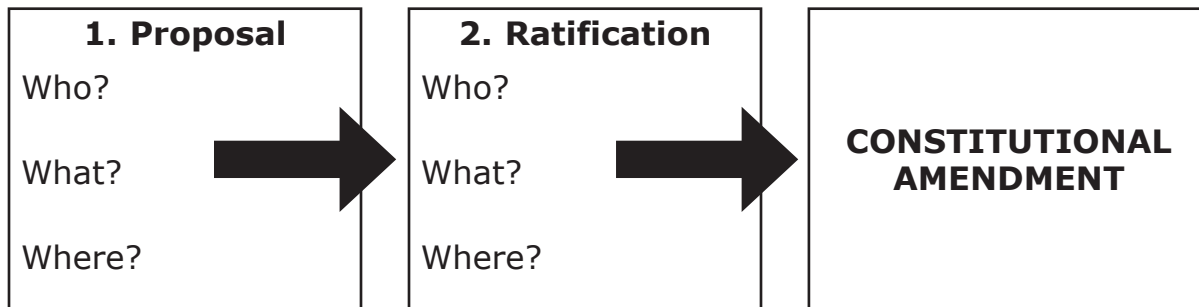
Guided Reading *Cont.*

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Amending the Constitution

Synthesizing Using the information provided in the textbook, describe the two-step process of amending the Constitution. Include who (what group(s) of people) may take action, what sort of action is necessary, and where this may occur.



3. Listing Identify and describe two amendments to the Constitution.

4. Analyzing Why might it be necessary to amend the Constitution?

5. Synthesizing What is the "elastic clause" and why is it important?
