

Name _____

Date _____

Seven Principles of the Constitution - Answer Key

Read each question and circle the correct answer.

1. When did the framers write the Constitution?

A. 1776

B. 1783

☒ C. 1787

D. 1794

2. What are the first words of the Constitution?

A. We hold these truths to be self-evident...

☒ B. We, the People...

C. Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness...

D. The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union...

3. The idea that power belongs to the people is called {}.

A. delegation

B. federalism

C. checks and balances

☒ D. popular sovereignty

4. Which of these is the best description of republicanism?

☒ A. Citizens elect leaders to represent them in government.

B. Citizens attend regular meetings about political matters.

C. The federal government is more powerful than local governments.

D. Local governments are more powerful than federal governments.

5. Powers that are shared between the federal and state governments are called {} powers.

A. reserved

B. delegated

C. constitutional

☒ D. concurrent

6. Which of these is NOT a branch of the federal government?

- A. Judicial
- ☒ B. Libertarian
- C. Executive
- D. Legislative

7. How can the Supreme Court put a “check” on Congress?

- A. By proposing amendments to a law
- B. By enforcing a law
- C. By passing a competing law
- ☒ D. By declaring a law unconstitutional

8. True or False: Congress can pass a law even if the president has vetoed it.

- ☒ A. True
- B. False

9. The principle that a government leader cannot claim new powers is known as { }.

- ☒ A. limited government
- B. separation of powers
- C. reserved powers
- D. republicanism

10. Which of these best describes the Bill of Rights?

- A. The last line of the Preamble to the Constitution
- B. The meeting during which the framers wrote the Constitution
- C. The original 39 signers of the Constitution
- ☒ D. The first 10 amendments to the Constitution