Civics in One Day
What do those seven articles really say?
9\textsuperscript{th} Amendment

• The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.
10th Amendment

- The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people
Preamble

- Purpose of Constitution, govt. est. by people
Article I: Legislative

• Separation of powers; Baron de Montesquieu’s *The Spirit of the Laws*
• Art. 1, sect. 2.3 – basis of 3/5 compromise
• Art. 1, sect. 3.1 – originally state leg. Choose senators, amendment 17 made it direct
• Art. 1, sect. 3.4 – Constitution gives VP only 2 responsibilities: pres. of Senate and vote in case of tie
• Art. 1, sect. 3.6 – 2/3 of senate have to vote for conviction of impeachment

The Three-Fifths Compromise of 1787

on the Enumeration of Slaves for Determining a State’s Population and Concordant Number of Representatives

1 Person (6’)

Free

1/2 Person (3’7’’)

Slave

“IT’S EASY BEING VICE PRESIDENT.
YOU DON’T HAVE TO DO ANYTHING.”
- Joe Biden: 2/26/10
• Art. 1, sect. 7 – Revenue bills must begin in House; power of purse strings in lower legislature, grows out of colonial period
• Art 1, sect. 8 – Delegated powers/enumerated powers
• sect. 8.3 – Commerce Clause
• sect. 8.11 – 1973 War Powers Resolution – Gives president power to send troops abroad in emergency cases for 60 days (end hostilities)
• sect. 8.18 – Necessary and Proper Clause – elastic clause/implied powers

“NECESSARY AND PROPER” DOESN’T MEAN “WHATEVER WE WANT...”
tenthamendmentcenter.com/necessaryandproper
• Art. 1, sect. 9 – Powers denied to the Federal govt.
• sect. 9.1 – Importation of slavery illegal after 1808
• sect. 9.2 – Can't be jailed without sufficient evidence; writ of habeas corpus
• sect. 9.3 – No ex post facto laws/no bill of attainder--no punishment w/out jury trial
• sect. 9.5 – No tax on exports
• sect. 9.7 – Limits presidential power by giving Congress appropriations
• sect. 9.8 – No establishment of nobility
Article II: Executive

• Art. 2, Sect. 1.3 – Electoral college est. to safeguard against oligarchy (state leg. originally elected e.c.)
• Art. 2, sect. 2 – Military under civilian control
• Art. 2, sect. 3 – Presidential duties
  – Legislative – Setting agenda, signing/vetoing bills, special sessions of Congress; executive orders
  – Diplomatic
  – Executive – Setting up depts/agencies & filling positions
  – Military – Commander in Chief
Article III: Judicial

• Art. 3, sect. 1 – Only Supreme Court set up in Const.; congress created Court of Appeals and District Courts

• Art. 3, sect. 3 – Treason is the only crime specifically mentioned in the Constitution
Relations Among the States

• Art. 4, sect. 2.3 – Fugitive Slave Law (slaves should be returned to their owners)

• Art. 4, sect. 3 – New states have same rights as the old; no new states created within borders of old (W. VA exception)
Article V: Amendments

- 27 amendments thus far
- Two methods of proposal
  - a. 2/3 vote in both House and Senate
  - b. 2/3 of the state legislatures request congress to call Const. Conv.
- Two methods of approval
  - a. ratified by 3/4 of all state legislatures
  - b. majority vote in 3/4 of state conventions
Article VI: Other Important Stuff

- Art. 6, sect. 1 – Federal govt. assumes debts incurred under Articles of Confederation (Reset Button)
- Art. 6, sect. 2 – **Supremacy clause**; national govt. has more power than state govt.
Article VII: Ratification

- 6/21/1788 by 9 states; VA, NYC, NC, RI follow by 1790.

- Unlike AoC which said all 13 states had to amend it; Rhode Island states Const. was amended by revolutionary means.

- Oldest operating constitution in the world
Bill of Rights

• First 10 Amendments (1791)