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## The U.S. Constitution - Vocabulary

<b>Amendment</b>	An official or formal change made to a law or any other legal document.
<b>Articles of Confederation</b>	An agreement among the thirteen original states of the United States that served as the first Constitution.
<b>Bill of Rights</b>	The first ten amendments to the Constitution of the U.S. are collectively known as the Bill of Rights.
<b>Constitution</b>	A document that embodies the laws and principles by which the United States is governed.
<b>Constitutional Convention</b>	A gathering for the purpose of writing a new constitution or revising an existing one.
<b>Bicameral</b>	A two-tier legislative system comprising the Senate and the House of Representatives.
<b>Democracy</b>	A rule by the people. A system of government, where, the citizens elect their representatives by voting.
<b>Monarchy</b>	A form of government in which one person, the monarch such as the king or queen rule the kingdom or empire.
<b>Preamble</b>	The opening statement to the United States Constitution. It explains why the Framers made our government a republic.
<b>Ratification</b>	Ratification is the official way to confirm something, usually by vote. It is the formal validation of a proposed law.

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<b>Impeachment</b>	A process by which a legislative body levels charges against a government official.
<b>Double jeopardy</b>	It is a constitutional clause, that protects a person from being charged twice for the same crime, either be an acquittal or a conviction.
<b>Self-incrimination</b>	The act of being forced or coerced to testify against oneself.
<b>Suffrage</b>	A franchise to the citizens to choose their leader in an election by voting.
<b>Veto</b>	The constitutional right to reject a decision or proposal made by a lawmaking body.
<b>Enumerated powers</b>	Powers that are listed in the Constitution and granted to the Congress.
<b>Judicial review</b>	Power of the courts of a country to examine if the actions of the government are consistent with the Constitution.
<b>Servitude</b>	The state of being a slave or completely subject to someone more powerful.
<b>Senate</b>	The upper house of the United States Congress, to which two members are elected from each state by popular vote for a term of six years.
<b>House of Representatives</b>	The lower house of the United States Congress. It is less powerful than the Senate.