

The Preamble and Democracy

In your group:

1. Read the Preamble to the United States Constitution. The Preamble lays out the purposes of the Constitution.
2. Discuss each section of the Preamble numbered in the chart below. Decide as a group whether this section reflects one or more of the following principles of constitutional democracy:
 - belief in the rule of law
 - the Constitution as “supreme law of the land”
 - a commitment to popular sovereignty
 - protection of the rights of the minority
 - assuring order and stability in society
 - accommodating social change
3. Record that value in the chart below. Be ready to briefly explain why that section of the Preamble reflects the value your group has recorded.
4. Choose a spokesperson for your group to share your group’s findings with the class.

Group members:

Full text of the Preamble:	
<i>We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.</i>	
Section of the Preamble	Principle(s) of Constitutional Government
1) We the people of the United States,	
2) in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice	
3) insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare	
4) secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.	