

Article II

The second article of the Constitution of the United States of America describes the executive branch. "Executive" comes from the word "execute," which means "to carry out." This means that the executive branch makes sure that the laws Congress passes are enacted and enforced. The executive branch is made up of the president, vice president, and anyone the president appoints to serve the country. Article II has four sections. These four sections explain who can be president, how the president will be elected, what duties and powers the president has, how the president will be paid, and how anyone in the executive branch can be removed from office.

Article III

The powers of the judicial branch of government are listed in Article III, which has three sections. The judicial branch is the court system. Section 1 establishes both the Supreme Court and the lower courts and explains how they will work. Section 2 says that the power of the courts applies to everyone in America, even to those who aren't citizens, and that all trials will be jury trials and will be held in the state in which the crime was committed. Section 3 explains what actions will be considered to be treason (the crime of betraying the country or trying to overthrow the government).

Article IV

Article IV of the Constitution has four sections. These sections describe how the states will work together and how new states will be admitted to the United States of America. Article IV also explains what protection the national government will give to the states.

Article V

Article V explains how the Constitution can be amended (changed).

Article VI

Article VI describes how elected and appointed members of all three branches are bound by an oath of office to uphold the Constitution. Article VI also states that no religious test (such as proving one's faith) will ever be required in order to hold a government office.

Article VII

Article VII explains how the Constitution will go into effect (how it will become the governing document of America). Article VII also lists the names of the men who signed the Constitution and which state they were from. The first man to sign the Constitution was George Washington, the president of the United States of America.

Answer the Following

1. What two things does Section 2 of Article III state? _____

2. What article says that elected and appointed officials must uphold the Constitution? _____
3. Which article explains how new states can be admitted to the United States? _____