



Dunwoody H.S.
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Name: _____
Date: _____
Class: _____

PBS Documentaries Presents: Constitution USA

(Ep#4: Built to Last)

Directions: Answer the questions below while following along with the video on the creation of our U.S. Constitution! Record your answers below.

1. Explain the dire situation in Iceland concerning their political and economic crisis at the start of 2008. What are leaders there doing to prevent a catastrophe such as the one you just described from happening again?
2. What did the framers of the U.S. Constitution believe concerning the longevity of the document?
3. What must happen if an amendment were to be added to the U.S. Constitution?
4. What happened to the Equal Rights Amendment that was to be added to the Constitution?
5. Name several examples of women's opportunities that were expanded thanks to the three branches of federal government.
6. Checks and balances mean that the three branches of government have to _____ in order to conduct business.
7. How did the concept of checks and balances play out during the 1970s Watergate scandal?
8. One of the reasons the U.S. Constitution has endured is because _____ is expected to obey the laws.
9. Who are the ultimate deciders when it comes to interpreting the U.S. Constitution?
10. Name several examples of how war has tested our commitment to the U.S. Constitution?

11. Describe Adama Bah's experience with the Patriot Act here in the United States.
12. Why has the Asian Carp crisis surrounding the Great Lakes region not been solved?
13. Who is Representative Barney Frank? Why does he blame James Madison for the modern gridlock of opinions in our Congressional system?
14. Who is P.J. O'Rourke? Unlike Barney Frank, why does he believe that Congressional deadlock is actually to our benefit?
15. Define **gerrymandering**. How does gerrymandering diminish democracy?
16. How does Larry Lessig believe our government has been "corrupted" by private money?
17. Explain Kurk Lash's solutions to the problems within our "corrupt" government.
18. In all, why has the U.S. Constitution endured over time?

One Last Thought: The new Iceland Constitution begins with: _____