

Articles of confederation	The first plan for government of the United States
Legislative	The branch of government that makes laws; the U.S. Congress
Judicial	The branch of government that interprets the laws; The U.S. Supreme Court and other courts
Executive	The branch of government that carries out the laws; The U.S. President
Ratify	To approve
Inflation	A steady rise in prices that occurs as money loses value and things cost more

Delegates	A representative
Constitution	The written plan for government
Preamble	The introduction to the Constitution of the United States of America
Separation of powers	The plan to divide the powers and duties of government into separate branches
Checks and balances	The separation of powers in democracy that gives each branch of government authority over the others
Veto	To refuse to approve something

Federalist	A person who supported the passage of the U.S. Constitution
Anti-federalist	A person who opposed the passage of the U.S. Constitution
Bill of rights	Amendments to the U.S. Constitution that protect citizens' basic rights
Amendments	A change or improvement
Due process	A citizen's right to fair treatment through the judicial system
Democracy	A government in which citizens have the power to make political decisions

Civic responsibilities	The duties related to being a citizen
Judicial review	The power of the courts to decided whether actions are lawful