

Principles of the Constitution

Name _____

Application Activity

Directions: Each of the following phrases describes one of the principles of the Constitution. Identify which principle it describes by using the corresponding letters.

PS - **P**opular **S**overeignty

LG - **L**imited **G**overnment

F - **F**ederalism

SP - **S**eparation of **P**ower

CB - **C**hecks and **B**alances

- _____ 1. The people are the source of all government authority.
- _____ 2. Government must be conducted to the rule of law.
- _____ 3. Under the Constitution, this principle is reflected in the division of powers between the national government and the states.
- _____ 4. Each of the branches has a specific field of authority and unique set of responsibilities within the operation of government.
- _____ 5. Under this principle, the branches of government possess the ability to restrain actions of other Branches.
- _____ 6. No one person is above the law.
- _____ 7. People elect representatives to speak for them.
- _____ 8. The writers of the Constitution divided up the power of the national government among three branches of government.
- _____ 9. The national government is in charge of declaring war and the state governments are in charge of setting up schools.
- _____ 10. Each branch has ways to limit the power of the other branches.
- _____ 11. *"The first principle of a good government is certainly a distribution of its powers into executive, judiciary, and legislative."* - Thomas Jefferson, letter to John Adams, 1787
- _____ 12. *The federal and state governments are in fact but different agents and trustees of the people.* - James Madison, Federalist Paper No. 46, 1788
- _____ 13. *"A sacred respect for the constitutional law is the vital principle, the sustaining energy of a free government."* - Alexander Hamilton, letter III to the American Daily Advertiser, 1794
- _____ 14. *"We the People of the United States ..."* - The United States Constitution, 1788
- _____ 15. *"The powers of government should be so divided and balanced among several bodies ... as that no one could transcend their legal limits."* - James Madison, Federalist Paper No.58, 1788