**Almost Painless Guide: The US Constitution**

**Directions: For each of the following statements, write true or false.**

1. The Constitution is the set of rules or guidelines that organizes our government.

2. A constitutional government limits the powers of the government.

3. In a federal system of government, the federal government shares power and responsibility with the

states.

4. The name given to the individuals who created the Constitution is the “Founding Fathers” or the

“Framers.”

5. There are only ten amendments to the Constitution.

**Directions: For the following questions, choose the best answer.**

6. The first ten amendments to the Constitution are called

a) the “Preamble.”

b) “legislation.”

c) “laws.”

d) the “Bill of Rights.”

**Following is the Preamble to the Constitution. Read it, and then complete the question.**

“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.”

7. Based on the Preamble, what is the purpose of the Constitution of the United States?

a) To insure that the President has the ultimate authority in the government

b) To insure that the people of the United States are the most important part of our country

c) To insure that federal government has more power than the individual states

d) To insure that no dictator ever governs our country

8. The Constitution can only be changed if

a) the President makes the change.

b) Congress passes a law.

c) the Supreme Court declares the law legal.

d) three-fourths of the states approve of the law.

9. Which of the following are methods used to establish the system of checks and balances? Choose all

that apply.

a) veto

b) appointment of justices

c) two-thirds override

d) constitutionality of laws

10. Which of the following statements best defines the Bill of Rights?

a) It establishes the basic rights that all citizens are guaranteed.

b) It expresses to the citizens what they can and cannot do.

c) It states the laws by which the military can control the citizens.

d) It explains the rules by which the government can prosecute citizens.

**Essay Question**

**Directions: Answer the following question in the space provided.**

11. How does the Constitution uphold the idea of “We the people...”?