



RELATIONSHIP OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE AND THE CONSTITUTION

Learning Objective: The student will
Identify how the Constitution addressed the grievances listed in the Declaration
of Independence.

TEKS: 8.15 C & D; 8.29 B; US 1A; Govt 1A

Materials: One set of "Relationship of the Declaration of Independence and the
Constitution" stations; access to the Constitution and Amendments

Vocabulary: Grievance

Teaching Strategy:

1. Write on the chalkboard the chronology shown below. Instruct students to
review dates.
 - * 1775 American Revolutionary War
 - * 1776 Declaration of Independence
 - * 1782 Articles of Confederation
 - * 1787 Drafting of the Constitution
 - * 1791 Ratification of the Bill of Rights
2. Explain to students that although the Constitutional Convention met
almost eleven years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence,
the colonists still remembered the injustices under King George III. Their
solution to avoid such problems (no representation, standing armies
without consent of legislature) in the future are found in the Constitution.
3. Have the students find a partner or a group of three to work through the
learning stations that are posted on the wall. Explain at each station, they
will find a grievance of the Declaration of Independence, the problem it
created, and a citation from the Constitution written to address the
problem.
4. With each station, they should read the grievance and discuss its
meaning; read the problem; locate the citation in the Constitution; and
discuss what it says. Once they have completed these steps, they should
record on their paper how the Constitution solved the problem caused by
the grievance. Continue this process until they have visited all the
stations or the number set by the teacher. If not requiring each group to
visit each station, be sure that all stations have been analyzed.
5. Once the stations have been analyzed, allow a group to explain
their analysis to the class for discussion.

Suggested Key

1. SOLUTION (Article I, Section 7, Clause 2): Congress may override presidential vetoes by a two-thirds vote of both houses.
2. SOLUTION (Article I, Section 2, Clause 3): Every state is entitled to at least one representative to the House.
3. SOLUTION (Article I, Section 8, Clause 17): Congress must meet in the District of Columbia.
4. SOLUTION (Article I, Section 2, Clause 4; Section 3, Clause 2; Section 4, Clause 1; and Amendment XVII): The state governors are in charge of filling vacancies in the Senate and the House until elections are called; State legislatures are in charge of congressional elections; Senators are elected by the voters of the state.
5. SOLUTION (Article III, Section 1) Federal judges hold their offices for life during good behavior.
6. SOLUTION (Article I, Section 8, Clause 12; Article I, Section 10, Clause 3): Only Congress has the power to raise and support an army.
7. SOLUTION (Amendment III): In time of peace, no soldier may be quartered in a home without the consent of the owner.
8. SOLUTION (Article I, Section 8, Clause 3): Only Congress has the power to regulate commerce).
9. SOLUTION (Article I, Section 7, Clause 1; Article I, Section 8, Clause 1): Bills for raising revenue must originate in the House).
10. SOLUTION (Article V): The president has no role, other than influence, in the amendment process. The process is completed by Congress and the state legislatures.

LEARNING STATION ONE

GRIEVANCE: He has refused his assent to laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

PROBLEM: how to prevent the President from stopping passage of laws the people want and need

CONSTITUTIONAL SOLUTION: (Article I, Section 7, Clause 2)

LEARNING STATION TWO

GRIEVANCE: He has refused to pass other laws...unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the Legislature....

PROBLEM: how to prevent the President from denying representation in the Legislature

CONSTITUTIONAL SOLUTION: (Article I, Section 2, Clause 3)

LEARNING STATION THREE

GRIEVANCE: He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable and distant from ...Public Records....

PROBLEM: how to prevent the President from calling a session of Congress in an out-of-the-way place

CONSTITUTIONAL SOLUTION: (Article I, Section 8, Clause 17)

LEARNING STATION FOUR

GRIEVANCE: He has refused...to cause others to be elected....

PROBLEM: how to prevent the President from preventing elections

CONSTITUTIONAL SOLUTION: (Article I, Section 2, Clause 4 OR Section 3, Clause 2 OR Section 4, clause 1; OR Amendment XVII)

LEARNING STATION FIVE

GRIEVANCE: He has made judges dependent on his will alone for the tenure of their offices, and the amount of payment of their salaries.

PROBLEM: how to prevent the President from placing the judges under his control

CONSTITUTIONAL SOLUTION: (Article III, Section 1)

LEARNING STATION SIX

GRIEVANCE: He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies without the consent of our Legislature.

PROBLEM: how to prevent the President from increasing standing armies without the consent of Congress

CONSTITUTIONAL SOLUTION: (Article I, Section 8, Clause 12; Article I, Section 10, Clause 3)

LEARNING STATION SEVEN

GRIEVANCE: ...For quartering large bodies of troops among us.

PROBLEM: how to prevent the President from stationing troops where he pleases

CONSTITUTIONAL SOLUTION: (Amendment III)

LEARNING STATION EIGHT

GRIEVANCE: He has combined with others for cutting off our trade with all parts of the world.

PROBLEM: how to prevent the President from interfering with trade

CONSTITUTIONAL SOLUTION: (Article I, Section 8, Clause 3)

LEARNING STATION NINE

GRIEVANCE: He has combined with others for imposing taxes on us without our consent.

PROBLEM: how to prevent the President from passing additional taxes without the consent of the Legislature

CONSTITUTIONAL SOLUTION: (Article I, Section 7, Clause 1; Article I, Section 8, Clause 1)

LEARNING STATION TEN

GRIEVANCE: He has combined with others for taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering fundamentally the forms of our government.

PROBLEM: how to prevent the President from changing our system of government

CONSTITUTIONAL SOLUTION: (Article V)