

Handout A: Civic Virtues and the Constitution

Directions: Read each of the following quotations and decide what civic virtues it requires of citizens. Consider the following virtues: Courage, Initiative, Honor, Justice, Moderation, Perseverance, Respect, Responsibility, Resourcefulness, and Vigilance. Some quotations may have more than one answer.

1. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several states. (Article I)

Civic Virtue(s): _____

2. Congress shall have the power to promote the progress of science and useful arts by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries. (Article I)

Civic Virtue(s): _____

3. The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it. (Article I)

Civic Virtue(s): _____

4. No bill of attainder or ex post facto law shall be passed. (Article I)

Civic Virtue(s): _____

5. Neither shall any person be eligible to [the office of President] who shall not have attained to the age of thirty five years. (Article II)

Civic Virtue(s): _____

6. Before [the President] enter on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation:—"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." (Article II)

Civic Virtue(s): _____

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7. The trial of all crimes, except in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury. (Article III)

Civic Virtue(s): _____

8. The citizens of each state shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states. (Article IV)

Civic Virtue(s): _____

9. The United States shall guarantee to every state in this union a republican form of government. (Article IV)

Civic Virtue(s): _____

10. The Congress, whenever two thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution. (Article V)

Civic Virtue(s): _____

11. No religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States. (Article VI)

Civic Virtue(s): _____

12. Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances. (Amendment I)

Civic Virtue(s): _____

13. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted. (Amendment VIII)

Civic Virtue(s): _____

14. The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

Civic Virtue(s): _____