

# Vocabulary

## Vocabulary

*Study the vocabulary words and definitions below.*

- amendment** ..... change made to the Constitution
- Antifederalists** ..... a group who opposed Constitution during the ratification debate in 1787
- ban** ..... to prohibit or stop
- bill** ..... suggestion for a new law
- Bill of Rights** ..... the first 10 amendments to the Constitution
- blockade** ..... the act of using warships to surround an enemy's harbor and prevent persons or supplies from entering or leaving
- checks and balances** ..... the power of each of the three branches of government to check or limit the actions of the other branches
- concurrent powers** ..... powers shared by national and state governments
- Constitution** ..... the second constitution or written plan of government for the United States that explains the powers and duties of the government
- delegated powers** ..... powers given to the national government by the Constitution

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- democracy** ..... system of government in which power comes from the people
- denied powers** ..... powers that the federal system or Constitution expressly forbids either the national or state governments
- embargo** ..... an enforced halt on trade imposed by one government on another government
- executive branch** ..... the body of government that carries out laws
- Federalists** ..... a group who supported the Constitution during the ratification debate in 1787; favored a strong national government
- federal system** ..... a form of government that divides power between a central national authority and state levels; also called *federalism*
- government** ..... a political organization through which public policy is made and enforced
- impressment** ..... the forcible seizure of men for military service
- judicial branch** ..... the body of government (the courts) that interprets laws
- judicial review** ..... the power of the courts to declare laws unconstitutional
- laws** ..... written rules of behavior that can be enforced by a government

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<b>legislative branch</b> .....	the body of government that makes laws
<b>limited government</b> .....	government that can do only what the people say it can do
<b>neutral</b> .....	not taking sides in a quarrel or war
<b>popular sovereignty</b> .....	rule by the people
<b>Preamble</b> .....	the beginning of the Constitution
<b>prosper</b> .....	to be successful; to achieve economic well-being
<b>ratification</b> .....	official approval by the states of the Constitution or an amendment
<b>republic</b> .....	type of government in which people choose their leaders through regular elections
<b>reserved powers</b> .....	powers given to state governments
<b>seize</b> .....	to get control of
<b>separation of powers</b> .....	division of government so that no one branch becomes too powerful; a system of checks and balances
<b>Treaty of Ghent</b> .....	peace treaty in 1814 between the United States and Britain that ended the War of 1812

# Vocabulary

**veto** ..... to vote against something; to refuse to approve

**War Hawks** ..... members of Congress who wanted war with Britain in 1812

## Who's Who in the Constitution and Early National Period

John Adams	Francis Scott Key
Samuel Adams	Richard Henry Lee
Benjamin Franklin	Thomas Macdonough
Alexander Hamilton	John Marshall
Patrick Henry	James Madison
Andrew Jackson	James Monroe
John Jay	Oliver Perry
Thomas Jefferson	George Washington