

What Constitutes the Constitution?

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I chose to write about the US Constitution because I was recently in a show called School House Rock LIVE! and one of the songs we sang was about the constitution, and it just so happened to be in between the assigned timeline I was given which was 1775 - 1800. I figured if I used something I already knew, the project would have been easier.

Without the constitution we wouldn't have the laws that gives immigrants and american citizens their rights to live here in America. Also, without the constitution we wouldn't have a better home. It allowed us to have freedom of speech and gave us the rights to live peacefully. The Constitution is]there in order to form a more perfect union, which means to keep balance in our country, establish justice by keeping the peace, meaning to enforce the laws against murder, rape, drug dealing, robbery, etc., and to insure domestic tranquility to our country meaning keeping a balance of peace and prosperity. Now that we have a stable constitution, there are times where we wonder, "how did this life changing piece of history come about?"

Before there was the Constitution, there was the Articles of Confederation. Originally the first writing of the constitution was weak, and was a huge stepping stone towards a better constitution. They need to write out the articles of confederation so that they have a set plan of how to write out the constitution. First, it was King George III who had control over all the states (and did a disappointing job. He had a lack of respect for his people, so they kicked him to the curb), then America's government began to write out the Articles of Confederation, because King George kept taxing everyone and was very controlling, the memory of him burned in the back of everyone's mind. "The Federal Convention convened in the State House (Independence Hall) in Philadelphia in May of 1787, to revise the Articles of Confederation. Because the delegations from only two states were at first present, the members adjourned from day to day until a quorum of seven states was obtained on May 25. Through discussion and debate it became

clear by mid-June that, rather than amend the existing Articles, the Convention would draft an entirely new frame of government. All through the summer, in closed sessions, the delegates debated, and redrafted the articles of the new Constitution.” So we can see that the constitution is now the result of something better for society, meaning we now have a balance in the order, also in our government.

The constitution was written so that everyone, especially immigrants, can earn that freedom of speech and wouldn't have to worry about immediate deportation, when they can get a permit for living in the United States. No constitution, no free will. No freedom of speech, no anything, we would just end up paying for everything. It's important to our society, we have the constitution so that we can keep a constant balance of peace and equality in America. The perspective I chose for my poem was from the eyes of Benjamin Franklin, who I felt was a good figure of American history. I chose him because he is a familiar figure, unlike John Hancock or John Adams, who are people who are important in different aspects of history, just not as specific as of this one piece of recorded history. I mean, if you think about it for a minute Benjamin Franklin was a cool cat, he was rocking the Harry Potter glasses and had the long flowing hair of one of the Beatles, he could have been a rock star back in the day and we just didn't know all the true facts right off the back. Now back to the actual essay. Benjamin Franklin was my choice of perspective for many reasons, one he discovered electricity which is something we used every day, two he wrote the Bill of Rights, and three he's just such an awesome person! How often do you get a \$100 bill with your face on it?! You must be really important to get your face on a piece of green paper that people use every day. All in all, he was an incredibly intelligent person, all the founding fathers would come up to him and beg for his guidance. At the end of the Convention, Benjamin Franklin asked “What have you wrought?” He answered “...a Republic, if you can keep it.”