

## The Amending Process Amending the Constitution

### Part A

Read the section of the Constitution below and answer the questions.

#### Article V

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage.

The Constitution of the United States

1. What are the two methods in *Article V* of proposing constitutional amendments?
  - a.
  - b.
  
2. What are the two methods in *Article V* of ratifying constitutional amendments?
  - a.
  - b.
  
3. What is the role of the president in amending the Constitution?

4. What is the role of the Supreme Court in amending the Constitution?
5. Can the Constitution be amended in such a manner so as to completely exclude any role for the national government of the United States? Explain why or why not?

Part B

After reading and studying the amendments, place the letter of the group of amendments that most closely matches the purposes listed. Amendments can be classified into seven groups by function or purpose. These groups are

- I. Those amendments that add power to the national government
- II. Those amendments that deny power to the national government
- III. Those amendments that limit the power of state governments
- IV. Those amendments that expand the electorate
- V. Those amendments that reduce the power of the electorate
- VI. Those amendments that make changes in the machinery of the government
- VII. Those amendments that protect the rights of the individual

Read and study the content of the amendments as grouped below. Then match the amendments as grouped with the seven classifications listed above.

- A. Amendments 15, 17, 19, 23, 24, & 26
- B. Amendments 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11 & 21
- C. Amendment 22
- D. Amendments 16 & 18
- E. Amendments 12, 20 & 25
- F. Amendments 1, 2, 6, 7, & 9
- G. Amendments 13 & 14

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|------------|------------|
| I. _____   | V. _____   |
| II. _____  | VI. _____  |
| III. _____ | VII. _____ |
| IV. _____  |            |