

**Fill the gaps with the words from the box:**

balances – branches - federal - government -  
laws - power - rights - signed

The Constitution of the United States established America's national \_\_\_\_\_ and fundamental \_\_\_\_\_, and guaranteed certain basic \_\_\_\_\_ for its citizens.

It was \_\_\_\_\_ on September 17, 1787, by delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia. At the convention, delegates devised a plan for a stronger \_\_\_\_\_ government with three \_\_\_\_\_ - executive, legislative and judicial – along with a system of checks and \_\_\_\_\_ to ensure no single branch would have too much \_\_\_\_\_.

**Fill in the gaps with ONE suitable word:**

The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution

"We the People of the United States, \_\_\_\_\_ Order to form a \_\_\_\_\_ perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide \_\_\_\_\_ the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure Blessing of Liberty \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish \_\_\_\_\_ Constitution for the United States of America."

**Fill in the gaps with the suitable forms of the word in brackets:**

Forming a More Perfect Union

On May 25, 1787, the Constitutional Convention opened in Philadelphia at the Pennsylvania State House, now known as \_\_\_\_\_ (INDEPENDENT) Hall, where the \_\_\_\_\_ (DECLARE) of Independence had been \_\_\_\_\_ (ADOPT) 11 years earlier. There were 55 delegates in \_\_\_\_\_ (ATTEND), representing all 13 states except Rhode Island, which refused to send \_\_\_\_\_ (REPRESENT) because it did not want a \_\_\_\_\_ (POWER) central government \_\_\_\_\_ (INTERFERE) in its economic business. George Washington, who'd become a \_\_\_\_\_ (NATION) hero after leading the Continental Army to victory during the American Revolution, was selected a president of the convention by unanimous vote.

**Fill in the gaps with ONE suitable word:**

The Bill of Rights guarantees individuals certain basic protections \_\_\_\_\_ citizens, including freedom of speech, religion and the press; the right to \_\_\_\_\_ and keep arms; the right to peaceably assemble; protection \_\_\_\_\_ unreasonable search and seizure; and the right to a speedy and public trial \_\_\_\_\_ an impartial jury. For his contributions \_\_\_\_\_ the drafting of the Constitution, as well as \_\_\_\_\_ ratification, Madison became \_\_\_\_\_ as "Father of the Constitution."

To date, there have been thousands of proposed amendments to the Constitution. However, \_\_\_\_\_ 17 amendments have been ratified in addition to the Bill of Rights because the process is \_\_\_\_\_ easy – after a proposed amendment makes it \_\_\_\_\_ Congress, it must be ratified by three-fourths of the states. The \_\_\_\_\_ recent amendment to the Constitution, Article XXVII, which deals \_\_\_\_\_ congressional pay rises, was proposed in 1789 and ratified in 1992.

## READING COMPREHENSION

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zq78ywx>



### ***Fourth of July: Hot dog facts***

#### *Part of Other Side of the Story*

Independence Day is a huge annual celebration in the USA – a day associated with fireworks, parades and food! But one food in particular takes the top spot on the Fourth of July, and that is the mighty hot dog.

With more than 750,000 posts on TikTok using the #hotdog, this sausage is certainly sizzling on social media. So, to celebrate the Fourth of July, here's some fascinating facts about hot dogs.

#### *How many hot dogs are eaten on Independence Day?*

According to The National Hot Dog and Sausage Council, an estimated 150 million hot dogs are eaten in the USA on the Fourth of July. That's enough to stretch from Washington D.C. on the east coast of the USA to L.A. on the west coast more than five times.

#### *When did hot dogs become popular in the US?*

Sausages have been a popular food in Europe for centuries, with varieties such as Frankfurter and Wiener originating in Germany and Austria. However, there is a lot of debate around who actually introduced the hot dog to the United States. According to Brooklyn native and Coney Island historian Michael Quinn, one of the big players in the American hot dog game was a German immigrant called Charles Feltman who started selling 'Coney Island red hots' from his converted pie cart on the beachfront in 1867. By 1900 Feltman had turned his sausage selling business into an empire that featured the largest restaurant in the world, a movie theatre and even a roller coaster!



#### *Viral food dog eating contests*

The Coney Island hot dog eating contest takes place on the Fourth of July each year, and 2025 sees the return of competitive eating legend Joey Chestnut a.k.a "Jaws". Chestnut is the current world record holder, eating 83 hot dogs in ten minutes in the 2024 Netflix live event, 'Unfinished Beef'.

But eating contests include more than just hot dogs, with videos of food eating challenges being watched by millions on platforms like YouTube.

Online challenges, like extreme food eating, can be dangerous. Ghislaine Bombusa, Content and Digital Director at Internet Matters, says, "We know that online challenges can be really tempting to take part in, especially if it's something that some of your friends seem to be doing or encouraging you to do. However, it's really important to think about your safety, both mental and physical."