

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Constitution or Bill of Rights Primary Source Analysis

Definition “Primary Source”: the raw materials of history—original documents and objects that were created at the time under study (Library of Congress)

Directions:

- Choose either the Constitution or the first ten amendments to the Constitution (Bill of Rights) to study.
- Read the document carefully.
- Respond to the prompts below to analyze various aspects of the document.

Document Information:

1. Authorship

Who are some notable contributors/signers?

2. Date

When was this document ratified so it became the law of the land?

Content Analysis:

3. Purpose

What is the primary purpose of this document?



4. Key Phrases

Identify and list three key phrases or sentences that stand out to you in the document. Explain why you find them significant.



Structure and Language:

6. Structure

How is this document organized? What are the distinct sections and their contents?

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8. Language Complexity

Comment on the complexity of the language used in this document. Do you find it easy to understand, difficult or needing study? Why do you think it was written in this style?

9. What liberties/freedoms are protected through this document? (If there are many, list three that you find most significant.)



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