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| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION**  **What/Who is it?** | **SIGNIFICANCE**  **Why does it matter?** | **CONNECTIONS**  **What are some related concepts?** |
| 1. Magna Carta | The English Nobleman created the Magna Carta to decrease the power of the King. | This was the first time people came together to limit the King's power. | The American Revolution and the creation of the Constitution. |
| 1. English Bill of Rights | Created by Parliament to give them more power and to limit the power of the King. | The first time a parliament or type of Congress created a document establishing the power of Congress. | The creation of the Constitution, Congress, and Bill of Rights. |
| 1. Enlightenment | A time period in which new ideas about Government were being created and spoken about. Involved John Locke and Thomas Hobbes. | John Locke created the idea of natural rights (life, liberty, and property) and Thomas Hobbes generated the idea about the social contract and the state of nature. | The Declaration of Independence (Thomas Jefferson and his idea of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness), and Human Rights. |
| 1. Mayflower Compact | A treaty created by early colonist who traveled on the Mayflower ship to help govern themselves. | It was the first independently created social contract that was created to help govern it's people involved in a civil manner. | The Articles of Confederation and Constitution. |
| 1. House of Burgesses | Created by the Virginia Company, it was a representative type of assembly designed to improve conditions in the colony, Jamestown. | It is similar to present day Congress as representatives worked together; it was the first of it's kind in the country. | Parliament and future Continental Congress as well as legislative branch. |
| 1. Mercantilism | Adam Smith coined the termed Mercantilism in his book, Wealth of Nations. Mercantilism refers to the idea that a mother country should force it's daughter countries to only trade with it. | Adam Smith generated the idea of the invisible hand and capitalism. Mercantilism was very oppressive and one of the reasons for the American Revolution. | American Revolution and Stamp acts. |
| 1. Stamp Act | A major tax that placed an additional tax/fee on almost everything for the colonist (specifically mail). | Major cause for the American Revolution because the Stamp Act was unnecessary. | American revolution and list of grievances within the Declaration of Independence. |
| 1. American Revolution | When the Colonist revolted against the power of the King and Great Britain. | Resulted in the formation of America and its basic principles. | Declaration of Independence and General George Washington. |
| 1. Declaration of Independence | Document that officially stated the separation of America from Great Britain ("dissolving all ties"); also it listed all of the grievances. | This was considered treason and was punishable by hanging; it officially started the war. | Led to the creation of the Articles of Confederation and Constitution. |
| 1. Natural Rights | Right to life, liberty, and property created by John Locke; it was soon translated by Thomas Jefferson to mean life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. | These rights are born with every person and are the basis for all of our freedoms and rights. | The US Constitution, Declaration of Independence, and the American Dream. |
| 1. Articles of Confederation | The founding document of America; it was the first "constitution". It was a very weak document | This document was very weak and did not unify the states; as a result, they were rewritten. | The US Constitution, Federalist v. Anti-federalist, and the powers of congress. |
| 1. Founding Fathers | The people who created our country Including Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and Alexander Hamilton: | These people embodied the traits of a true American and defined our nations principles as well as ran our country. | Presidents, US Constitution, and Declaration of Independence. |
| 1. US Constitution | The founding document that states how the Government will operate. | The US Constitution is a living document as it can be changed through the Amendment process. | Congress, the Bill of Rights, and the 27 Amendments. |
| 1. Bill of Rights | The first 10 Amendments of the US Constitution. | These amendments protect the rights and powers of the states as well as the people. | English Bill of Rights, democratic principles, and supreme court cases involving civil liberties. |
| 1. Federalists | One of the first parties that believed in a strong central Government (Most were in the south). | They succeeded in building the National Government in addition to a national bank. | Anti-Federalist, National Bank, and Alexander Hamilton. |
| 1. Anti-Federalists | One of the first parties that believed in a weak central Government (Most were in the north). | They did not succeed in preventing the federalist from building a strong Government, and this party quickly fell apart. | Federalist, Thomas Jefferson, and the fight against a National Bank. |
| 1. Federalist Papers | A collection of essays (85) by Hamilton, Madison, and Jay that promote the establishment of a National Government. | Helped get the US Constitution to be ratified. | US Constitution, 2nd Continental Congress, and Federalists. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Alexander Hamilton | A Federalist who wanted to establish a National Bank; a founding father of America. | Alexander Hamilton was able to defeat Thomas Jefferson and create the National Bank for future economic prosperity (thus far been successful). | Federalists, national Bank, and founding fathers. |
| 1. Representative Democracy | A type of Government that involves the principle of a democracy (power from the people) but the Government is made up of elected representatives. | America is a Representative Democracy; however, sometimes it is questions how representative we really are. | Representation, democratic principles, US Constitution. |
| 1. Separation of Powers | The splitting of powers and responsibilities amongst three branches. | The separation of powers prevents one branch from having too much power. | Democracy, checks and balances, and the three branches of government. |
| 1. Checks and balances | The system created to prevent on branch from becoming to powerful. | Each branch has certain checks and powers to prevent another branch from becoming too powerful. | Separation of powers, democracy, and US Constitution Articles 1-3. |
| 1. Rule of law | Everyone is bound by the law. | Even the President is required to conform to laws such as filing taxes on a yearly basis. | Executive privilege and democratic principles. |
| 1. Limited government | The Government is limited to what the US Constitution says it can do. | The Government cannot do something that it does not have any business doing such as creating and running businesses. | Consent of Governed and Democratic principles. |
| 1. Consent of the Governed | The Government cannot do anything without permission from its citizens. | The Government cannot impose unfair taxes on its citizens. | Limited Government and Democratic Principles. |
| 1. Federalism | The belief in a strong central Government. | Helped get the Government started and to become powerful enough to carry out its duties. | Articles of Confederation as well as Federalist and Anti-Federalist. |
| 1. Constructionism | The type of interpretation of the Constitution: loose or strict. | Loose- means that the Government can read between the lines of the Constitution. Strict- the Government can only do what is directly stated in the Constitution. | Federalist, Anti-Federalist, and Elastic Clause. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Elastic Clause | The necessary and proper clause in article of the Constitution that enable to do what is necessary and proper for America. | With loose constructionism, the Government can essentially do what ever it wants with this clause as it is very vague. | Constructionism, Article 1 of the Constitution, and Federalism. |
| 1. Democratic-Republicans | When the Anti-federalist party fell apart, this was the party Thomas Jefferson led. | The Democratic-Republican party (now more similar to the Republican party) was the opposing force to the Federalist. | Federalist, Alexander Hamilton, and Federalism. |
| 1. Thomas Jefferson | Former President and author of the Declaration of Independence as well as a founding father. | Led the Democrat- Republican part and strongly opposed the creation of the national bank. | National Bank, Founding father, and Democratic Republicans. |
| 1. Equal Protection | Having the same rights under law. | Throughout history there has not always been equal protection under the law for minorities. Only after the civil war did the US acknowledge that all people are the same under the law. | Civil rights Movement and civil liberty supreme court cases. |
| 1. Suffrage | The ability to vote. | Throughout history not everyone has been able to vote: women received the right to vote in the early 1900's while minorities did after the civil rights movement. | Civil rights Movement and civil liberty supreme court cases. |
| 1. Structure of the National Government | Three branches: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial. | Executive: President, Legislative: Congressman, Judicial: Justices. | US Constitution, checks and balances, and separation of powers. |
| 1. Structure of NC Government | Three braches: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial. | Executive: Governor, Legislative: General Assembly, Judicial: State Supreme Court. | NC Constitution, checks and balances, and separation of powers. |
| 1. Structure of the Local Governments | Local Governments are made up of counties and municipalities. | Cities and towns make up counties. Cities and towns are operated by councils while counties are operated by commissioners. | Local Public Officials and local elections. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. US Constitution Preamble | States the reasons for the Government and establishes that Government is made by the people. | We the people...create a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessing of liberty. | US Constitution, and Government services as well as duties. |
| 1. “Living Constitution” | The Constitution can always be changed with an amendment. | This helps the Constitution to keep up with needs of the people at the time. | Law making process and the 27 Amendments. |
| 1. NC Constitutions | Similar to the US Constitution and has been changed over time. | After the civil war, NC decided to rewrite its constitution so that it aligned better with the US Constitution. | US Constitution. |
| 1. Types of Powers | The types of powers given to each level of Government. | Enumerated: Powers given to the Federal Government. Concurrent: Powers shared by the State and Federal Governments. Reserved: Powers given to the State Governments. | Checks and balances and separation of powers. |
| 1. Jurisdiction | Power over certain people or region. | Gives the power of the ruling Government to do what they want within their jurisdiction. | Checks and balances and separation of powers. |
| 1. Federal Court System | The apex of the FCS is the national supreme court. Consists of District Courts, Superior Courts, and Appeals Courts. | Highest level of courts and all decisions are mostly final; there is no-where else to go and appeal. | Appeals, civil liberty cases, judicial process. |
| 1. NC Court System | The apex of the NCCS is the state supreme court. Consists of courts that deal with less severe and major criminal cases. | Highest level of courts in the states and all decisions are mostly final; there is no-where else to go and appeal except in federal courts. | Appeals, civil liberty cases, judicial process. |
| 1. Legislation | Also known as laws. | These dictate how the Government should run on a daily basis; these are more easily changed. | Amendments and Congress. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Congress | The Federal Legislative branch of the Government. | They have the sole responsibility of creating laws. In addition, they have certain powers granted only to them; some of these powers include the ability to levy war and wage taxes. | Executive and Judicial branches as well as legislation. |
| 1. President Pro Tempore | Leader of the Senate when the VP is not present. | Has a tremendous amount of indirect power and influence within the senate. | Congress, Parties, and Senate. |
| 1. Speaker of the House | Leader of the House of Representatives. | Has a tremendous amount of indirect power and influence within the house. | Congress, Parties, and House of Representatives. |
| 1. President | In charge of the executive branch. | Acts at the Commander in Chief, party leader, economic leader, Chief Executive, Head of State, and chief diplomat. | Executive branch, enforcing laws, and Article 2. |
| 1. Executive Cabinet | Assist the President in carrying out his duty; consists of the Secretaries of certain departments. | Succeed the President and are appointed by the President. Some positions include Secretary of State, Secretary of Treasury, Secretary of Defense, etc. | Article 2 and executive agencies/ departments. |
| 1. Bureaucracy | People who work in the federal Government but are not elected. | These people are the ones who "run the government" on a daily basis year round. | Elections, appointment, public servants, executive agencies/ departments. |
| 1. Executive Agencies | Includes agencies such as the IRS and CIA. | Help the Government (President) carryout its daily operations. | Internal Revenue Services and the executive cabinet. |
| 1. Governor | The head of the State Executive branch. | Is in charge of carrying out the law for the state; is a mini "President". | President and NC Constitution. |
| 1. General Assembly | The legislative branch of the state. | Is in charge of creating state laws; is a mini "Congress". | Congress and NC Constitution. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Mayor | The head of a city council; responsible for carrying out the laws of the city. | In charge of a city; is like a mini "Governor". | Governor, Town Councils, and executive branch. |
| 1. Judicial Review | The process by which the supreme court decides on whether an action made by the Government conforms to the Constitution. | With this power, the Supreme Court can void any law. | Jurisdiction, US Constitution, and Justices. |
| 1. Supremacy Clause | Sates that the US Constitution is the Supreme Law of the Land and that nothing is above it. | City and State laws must conform to national and public law. | Judicial Review and US Constitution. |
| 1. Symbolic Speech | Freedom of any type of expression. | This freedom of symbolic speech enables people to wear what they want as it is symbolic speech and for corporations to donate money to campaigns within certain restrictions. | Civil liberty supreme court cases and Bill of Rights. |
| 1. Due Process | Discussed in the 5th Amendment. | Rights to remain silent during questioning and the right to a lawyer as well as the right to know what you are being arrested for. | Civil liberty supreme court cases and Bill of Rights. |
| 1. Right to privacy | Each person has a right to privacy and to do what he or she wants without Government interference in private within legal limitations. | This right should prevent the Government from watching you without your permission or without probable cause. | Internet security, NSA, and the Patriot Act. |
| 1. Writ of Habeas Corpus | A criminal must be brought before a judge where they are brought up on charges and they understand what they are being arrested for. | This prevents police officers from randomly arresting people because they feel like it; they must have broken a law and understand which one it is. | US Constitution, Bill of Rights, and Civil Liberty as well as Criminal Judicial Process. |
| 1. States’ Rights | 10th Amendment which states that powers not given the Federal government are reserved by the states. | These rights limit the powers of the Government. | US Constitution and the Bill of Rights. |
| 1. Two-Party System | Democrat and Republican; Two major factions that play an important role influencing the Government. | These two factions dominate the election system as most elected officials are of one of these two parties. Prevents the election process form being too complicated. | Democrat and republicans, minor parties, and political ideologies. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Minor Parties | Smaller parties that are similar to one of the two major parties. | These factions are less significant as the people of these parties are rarely elected to office; however, they can have a major effect on an election. | Green party (Ralph Nader), Two-party system, and political ideologies. |
| 1. Democrat | Liberal party (Want change). | The current President is a democrat. They want Government regulation over the economy. | Republicans and political ideologies. |
| 1. Republican | Conservative power (Opposed to change). | The immediate past President was a republican. They do not want Government regulation over the economy. | Democrats and political ideologies. |
| 1. Qualifications for voting | Must be 18 and a US citizen. | Over time those who can vote has changed. At one time you had to be an older white male who owns land. Now it is more inclusive. | Women's Suffrage and fight for rights as well civil responsibilities and rights. |
| 1. Electoral College | The people who elect the President. Those who make up the electoral college is determined by the popular vote in each state (winner take all system). | This is not the popular vote and is often viewed as undermining the popular vote; this was first put in place to prevent ignorant people from determining who should run the country. | 2000 election, the election process, and the US Constitution. |
| 1. The Political Spectrum | The political spectrum is a range on which a person falls: they can either lean toward conservative or liberal. | Determines what types of views you are likely to have and who you will vote for. | Republican, Democrat, and political ideologies. |
| 1. Straight-ticket | A type of voting ballot in which you vote for all candidates of a certain party. | This is very controversial as people are most likely voting for people they do not even know; they are just voting for them because of their party. | Voting rights and political ideologies. |
| 1. Platform | The views of a party on certain issues. | The platform allows you to see the views of candidates and what they plan on accomplishing in office. | Republican, Democrat, and political ideologies. |
| 1. Precinct | Voting region. | Determines where you can vote and who you can vote for. | Election process and redistricting. |
| 1. Voter Turnout | The amount of voters that go out and actually vote during an election. | Voter turnout often reflects the state of the nation; a high turnout usually translates to bad times and a low turnout usually translates to good times. Voter turnout effects who gets elected into office. | The election process and the electoral college. |
| 1. Incumbent | An elected official who is running for office again and is already in office. | This person usually wins reelections; it is very difficult to beat the incumbent. | Presidents, elected officials, and election process. |
| 1. Campaign Finance Reform | This reform attempts to deal with the issue of corporations giving certain candidates an unfair advantage by providing them with lots of money. | Since this reform has failed, corporations can donate to campaigns as it is their form of symbolic speech. | Citizens United V. FEC, campaign trail, and election process. |
| 1. USA PATRIOT Act | Enables the Government to collect information and surveillance on US Citizens to prevent terrorist attacks. | Very controversial as citizens say it violates their right to privacy. | Homeland Security and privacy rights. |
| 1. Immigration Reform | This reform attempts to make the process of immigration easier. | Democrats are for and republicans against; democrats argue of illegal aliens are going to be in the country anyways, they should have all the responsibilities of a citizen. | Political platforms as well as the process of naturalization and citizenship. |
| 1. Naturalization | The process of becoming a US Citizen. | The process is very long and can take several years. | Citizenship, Immigration reform and illegal aliens. |
| 1. Alien | A person that is in the US but is not a citizen. | Legal aliens are those with valid passports and green cards. Illegal aliens are those without any papers; these people are deported once caught. | Citizenship, naturalization and immigration reform. |
| 1. Demographics | Describes the type of people in an area. | Demographics can be used to help candidates determine the type of people in an area and how to get them to vote for them. | Tolerance and population statistics as well as immigration. |
| 1. Tolerance | The ability for someone to accept others. | Over the years, America has gotten more tolerant for immigrants and minorities. | Demographics and immigration. |
| 1. FBI | Federal Bureau of Investigation. | One of the highest law enforcement agencies in the Nation; in charge of both domestic and international investigations. | CIA and executive agencies. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Homeland Security | In charge of protecting the US from terrorist and other foreign threats. | Provide for the common defense and keep us safe. | FBI, CIA, and executive agencies. |
| 1. Annexation | The process of incorporating unclaimed land. | When land is annexed, those living in it must pay city taxes; however, in return, they gain the services of the city. | Municipalities and taxes. |
| 1. Redistricting | Redrawing lines for voting. | Very controversial as many elected officials will redraw them in favor of their party. | Precincts and elections as well as parties. |
| 1. Zoning | Redrawing lines for residential communities, commercial property, and industrial factories. | This determines whether builders can build what they want in a certain area. This is usually changed during times of great growth. | Municipalities and Redistricting. |
| 1. Health Care | A program that will help you pay for medical bills when you get sick or injured. | Very controversial as many feel that the Government should not be selling a product to the people since they are not a business. | Affordable Care Act, President, and Social Security. |
| 1. Civic responsibility | Responsibilities citizens have in exchange for their rights. | Some people do not follow through with their responsibilities which makes it very difficult for the social contract to work optimally. | Social contract, voting, and rights. |
| 1. Civil Disobedience | Not obeying an "unjust" law because of personal beliefs. | Helps gain attention form the Government, but it is very controversial as it is considered illegal. | Civil Rights movement and the Bill of Rights. |
| 1. Law-Making Process | The long process by which laws are created. | A majority of the House and Senate as well as the President must agree on a bill in order for it to become a law. | US Constitution and Congress. |
| 1. Congressional Committees | Committees within Congress that only handle certain issues; they are very influential as they determine whether a bill makes it to the floor. | Some committees include the appropriations committees, economic committee, defense committee, etc. | US Constitution |
| 1. Earmarking | Tacking on promised money for projects to a bill so that it is more likable. | Very controversial as they promise money for projects before they are even approved. | Congress and pork barreling. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Veto | To reject a bill. | The President has the power to reject a bill forcing Congress to get a super majority to agree on it in order for it to pass. | US Constitution and checks and balances. |
| 1. Filibuster | A long rambling but tactful speech. | This is a tactical method designed to influence people into signing or not signing a law. It is often used to delay a vote. | Congress, Senate, and the US Constitution. |
| 1. Cloture | To stop a filibuster. | Now there must be at least 51 senators who agree that a filibuster must stop before it can be ended. | Congress, Senate, and the US Constitution. |
| 1. Interest Groups | Groups that share a common political interest. | Often influence legislation. | Political ideologies and platforms as well as lobbyist. |
| 1. Lobbyists | People that attempt to influence legislation. | Often influence legislation. | Political ideologies and platforms as well as interest groups. |
| 1. Amendment-Making Process | The difficult process by which an amendment is created. | 2/3 of both houses must agree on an Amendment and 3/4 of state legislatures must agree on an amendment in order for it to be ratified. | Congress and the US Constitution. |
| 1. Public Policy | Public policies often refers to the platforms of candidates for public issues. | A candidates public policy can help determine whether someone wants to vote for them. | Political ideologies and platforms. |
| 1. Public Law | Includes amendments and civil liberties belonging to everyone (public). | Often handled by the Supreme Court. | The Justice System and US Constitution. |
| 1. Criminal Law | Laws between a criminal and the entire United States. | Often handled by a judge. | The Justice System and US Constitution. |
| 1. Civil Law | Laws between two people or organizations. | Often handled by a jury. | The Justice System and US Constitution. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Ex Post Facto Law | A criminal cannot be brought up on crimes that were not considered violations of the law when the crime was committed. | This protects citizens from being oppressed by law enforcement officers and the justice system. | Bill of Rights and Civil Liberties. |
| 1. Early Influences on our Laws | Laws have been around ever since the beginning of civilization; many of the early laws were based off of religious code. | Although we have new and different laws then past civilization, the idea and principle behind them has remained the same. | US Constitution, law making process, and Hammurabi Code. |
| 1. Judicial Philosophy | The judicial philosophy of judges and justices often determines whether or not they uphold a law. | Restraint: Opposed to changing a current law. Activism: Open/willing to changing a current law. | Political ideologies and democrats/republicans. |
| 1. Judicial Opinions | The Judicial Opinions are the explanations of the decisions of the supreme court. | Assenting Opinions: Agree with the majority decision. Dissenting Opinions: Disagree with the majority decision. | Judicial Philosophy and Supreme Court Cases process. |
| 1. Media | Mediums that spread information. | They often influence public opinion. | Public Opinion and Poll Bias. |
| 1. Public opinion | This is the opinion of a public official or what they are doing based off of polls. | Public opinion polls give elected officials an idea of what they should do to make the public happy. | Poll Bias, Media, and Elections. |
| 1. Poll Bias | This is bias at a poll; it may come from being viewed as racist or the poll takers only choosing certain people for the poll. | Poll bias often skews what people believe and can influence public opinion. | Public opinion, media, and elections. |
| 1. Constituents | People that are represented by an elected officials. | Constituents choose their representatives. | Congress, Governor, President, etc. |
| 1. Labor laws | Laws regarding who can work, how long they can work for, and how they work as well as how much they should earn. | These laws prevent employers from gaining too much power over the employees and the Government from interfering too much into the work of employees. | Lochner v. New York, Bill of Rights, and law making process. |
| 1. Civil Rights legislation | This legislation promoted the rights of minorities. | This legislation came from supreme court cases; this legislation was highly controversial at the time. | Voting Rights Act, Equal Housing Acting, and Civil Rights Act. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Environment legislation | Laws that protect the environment. | Help limit the destruction and pollution of the environment. | Natural Resources and Government Regulations. |
| 1. Business regulation | Laws that set the boundaries for what businesses can and cannot do. | Helps limit businesses from becoming overly powerful. | Capitalism and Government regulation. |
| 1. Limited Liability | This mean if a company were to go under, the owners have limited liability. | Encourages entrepreneurs to take risks to help stimulate the economy. | Government Regulation, investing, and debt. |
| 1. Educational policy | Policy regarding education and how much should be spent as well as how the money appropriated for education should be spent. | Impacts the education system and influences how well students can do with the resources they are given. | Government involvement, political platforms, and educational budget. |
| 1. Jury duty | A civic responsibility; this requires you to listen to a case of a peer and make a decision. | Forces you to take part in the community and determine if someone is guilty or not. | Civic responsibilities and the Social Contract. |
| 1. Exclusive jurisdiction | Powers given only to a certain government. | This means only that court can handle the case. | Justice System, Jurisdiction, Criminal Proceedings, and Court Systems. |
| 1. Concurrent jurisdiction | Powers that overlap. | When both the state and national governments can have jurisdiction over a case; this means both can handle the case. | Justice System, Jurisdiction, Criminal Proceedings, and Court Systems. |
| 1. Original jurisdiction | Power given to a certain court at the start of a case. | The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction over conflicts between states and during international disputes. | Justice System, Jurisdiction, Criminal Proceedings, and Court Systems. |
| 1. Defendant | The person being accused. | The defendant has certain rights that protect themselves from self-incrimination and unfair treatment. | Justice System, Jurisdiction, Criminal Proceedings, and Court Systems. |
| 1. Plaintiff | The person bringing the charges. | The plaintiff has the responsibility of finding evidence against the defendant that proves that they are guilty or wrong. | Justice System, Jurisdiction, Criminal Proceedings, and Court Systems. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Pre-Trial Discussions | Part of the judicial criminal justice process. | Occurs before a trial when the prosecution and defense meet to possibly discuss a plea bargain. | Justice System, Jurisdiction, Criminal Proceedings, and Court Systems. |
| 1. Indictment | Part of the judicial criminal justice process. | When a grand jury determines whether there is enough evidence to bring a person to trial. | Justice System, Jurisdiction, Criminal Proceedings, and Court Systems. |
| 1. Sentencing | Part of the judicial criminal justice process. | Occurs after the trial and determines the punishment for the convicted. | Justice System, Jurisdiction, Criminal Proceedings, and Court Systems. |
| 1. Appeal | Part of the judicial criminal justice process. | Occurs after the sentencing when the defendant wants to challenge a punishment. | Justice System, Jurisdiction, Criminal Proceedings, and Court Systems. |
| 1. Plea Bargain | Part of the judicial criminal justice process. | This is often reached during the pre-trial; enables the defendant to receive a lesser penalty and for the prosecution to not have to go through the hassle of a trial. | Justice System, Jurisdiction, Criminal Proceedings, and Court Systems. |
| 1. CIA | Central Intelligence Agency. | In charge of protecting citizens through gathering information. | Executive Agencies, Homeland Security, and defense. |
| 1. IRS | Internal Revenue Service. | In charge of managing all taxes and the filing of taxes. | Executive Agencies and income taxes. |
| 1. War Powers Act | Requires congress to declare war; limits the Presidents ability to send troops overseas for an extended period of time. | This provided a new check on the Presidents power and prevents the President from sending over troops to foreign countries without permission from congress (for long periods of time). | Executive powers, checks and balances as well as the separation of powers. |
| 1. Initiative | Where the people vote on something rather than the state legislature (initiated by the people). | Enables citizens to bypass state legislatures. | Referendum and US Constitution as well as the rights of Citizens. |
| 1. Referendum | A general vote made by the people instead of the legislature (initiated by the state legislature). | Enables citizens to be directly involved with an issue. | Initiative and US Constitution as well as the rights of Citizens. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Recall | A decision a company is forced to make because their product is defective. | This can greatly impact the trust in a company as well as their profits. | Government Regulations, the economy, and trade. |
| 1. Scarcity | Not having enough resources to produce all of the things we would like to have (in terms of economics as well as wants and needs; even the US does not have enough productive resources to produce all of our goods). | Can have an effect on what the US needs to get from other countries such as oil (We are heavily dependent). | Trade, WTO, Government Regulation, and economy. |
| 1. Natural Resources | Resources that come from the environment. | Some of these resources are rare; therefore, they are expensive. | Environment Regulations and the economy. |
| 1. Capital | Previously manufactured goods used to make other goods and services (A factor of production; also referred to as capital goods). | A company's capital can help them succeed and prosper in business. | Entrepreneurship, business management, and profitability. |
| 1. Market economy | An economy based on supply and demand. | A market economy is the driving force behind capitalism and conforms to the idea of an invisible hand. | Capitalism and competition/free enterprise. |
| 1. Free enterprise | The freedom to compete. | Driving force behind a market economy and conforms to the idea of an invisible hand. | Capitalism and Market economy. |
| 1. Competition | Also known as Free Enterprise enables companies to compete to deliver the highest quality product for the lowest price. | Driving force behind the success of the US Economy and conforms to the idea of an invisible hand. | Capitalism and Market economy. |
| 1. Monopoly | Completely owning everything within a market. | This enables a company to drive up prices of products they sell. | Capitalism and competition/free enterprise (Opposites); Government regulations. |
| 1. Adam Smith | Wrote the 'Wealth of Nations". Created the idea of the invisible hand. | His idea of capitalism still exists to day and the invisible hand is the driving force in our economy. | Capitalism and competition/ free enterprise. |
| 1. Supply & Demand | Supply: The amount you have.  Demand: How much is needed. | These concepts can drive prices higher or lower. | Profit, trade, and WTO. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Globalization | The making of a product or idea global. | Spreads ideas and products across the world making us more connected. | Trade, WTO, and NAFTA. |
| 1. Characteristics of the NC economy | NC Economy is similar reflective of the National Economy. | Relies heavily on agriculture; especially tobacco. | Economy, Trade, GDP, and budget. |
| 1. Unemployment rate | The number of people unemployed at any one time. | This rate is often reflective of the economy and state of the nation. | Economy, labor unions, and congress. |
| 1. Social Security | A program designed to help people pay for their retirement by taking out payroll taxes. | This takes up the largest portion of the budget. | Federal Budget, Congress, and Deficit Spending. |
| 1. Medicare/Medicaid | Both are programs designed to help people pay their medical bills. | Both take up a large portion of the budget as many people can afford the services. | Federal Budget, Congress, and Deficit Spending. |
| 1. Federal Budget | The amount of money planned to spent; this is created by congress. | Congress can choose to fund or cut certain programs within the budget, | Congress, appropriations committee, and steps to making the budget. |
| 1. Deficit Spending | The amount by which Government spending exceeds their income. | Deficit spending can result in National debt as well as chaos in the economy. | Congress, the National Bank, and monetary policy. |
| 1. Trade | The exchange of goods for money between countries. | Trade is often a major part of a nations economy. | WTO, trading regulations, and NAFTA. |
| 1. Comparative Advantage | The advantage a country has because of their ability to produce a certain product. | Comparative advantage gives countries an advantage of making a profit of a certain product. | WTO, trading regulations, and NAFTA. |
| 1. Balance of trade | Balancing the amount of imports and exports. | A favorable balance of trade occurs when the number of exports exceeds the number of imports. | WTO and globalization as well as general trade. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Division of Labor | Part of the Government dedicated to maintaining working conditions and increasing pay. | This part of the Government imposes regulation on businesses to make sure they are treating their workers right. | Labor laws and unions. |
| 1. NAFTA | North American Free Trade Agreement. | Designed to decrease the limitations previously set, to increase trade between Canada, the US, and Mexico. | Trade, World Trade Organization |
| 1. Tariff | Tax on imports or exports. | Promote the growth of domestic manufacturing; these can cut the profits of companies. | Taxes and IRS as well as National Budget. |
| 1. Excise Tax | Sales tax. | Increases the price of certain products. | Taxes and IRS as well as National Budget. |
| 1. Subsidy | A Government "loan" for a certain people or project to help promote it. | Subsidies help people pay for insurance as well as help businesses get up on their feet after a set back. | National bank and monetary policy. |
| 1. Embargo | A restriction of trade. | Embargo's are often indicative of relations between countries; embargos can be good and bad for the trade of a nation. | Trade, Globalization, and supply/demand as well as trade policies. |
| 1. WTO | World Trade Organization. | Helps create agreements between countries and tracks trades made all around the world. | Trade, Globalization, and supply/demand. |
| 1. Gross Domestic Product | Market value of all sales within a country. | Helps determine the size and state of an economy. | National bank and monetary value as well as policy. |
| 1. Consumer Price Index | Tracks the price of 400 consumer products. | Helps determine the rate of inflation of general products. | National bank, and monetary value as well as policy. |
| 1. Monetary policy | Government regulation over inflation. | This policy helps maintain the state of a stable economy. | Congress and National Bank. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Interest rates | The amount a person has to payback in addition to the loan amount. | If these amounts are very large, they can put a person into further debt. | Debt, Credit Score, and Loans/Banking. |
| 1. FDIC | Federal Deposit Insurance Company | Insures a certain amount of money for people even if the bank were to go bankrupt. | National Bank and Monetary policy. |
| 1. Labor unions | Workers who come together create groups called labor unions. | Purpose: increase minimum wage and working conditions. | Labor laws and Lochner v. New York. |
| 1. Right-to-Work Laws | The laws regarding how much a person can work. | These laws state that a person is not limited to how much they can work. | Labor laws and Lochner v. New York. |
| 1. Federal Reserve | National Bank. | Controls inflation and prints money. | Monetary policy, CPI, and monetary value. |
| 1. Stock market | A market where people can by share of a company. | This is a very risky investment as the stock market is very volatile. | Retirement, Stocks, and investing. |
| 1. Retirement | These funds enable people to stop working once they reach a certain age. | Up to this point most people have been able to rely on Social Security for retirement. | Social Security and investing. |
| 1. Inflation | The price increase of a product over time. | Inflation decreases the value of the dollar; for this reason, it is regulated by the national bank. | National bank, CPI, and monetary value. |
| 1. Entrepreneur | A person who starts a business. | Entrepreneurs take a great amount of risk in starting a business to make a profit. | Risk, investing, and profits. |
| 1. Mortgage | A type of loan for a house. | Most houses are bought on mortgages; the recent market crash was caused by banks giving too many mortagages. | Loans/Banking, Debt, and Credit Score. |
| **Key Concept** | **DESCRIPTION** | **SIGNIFICANCE** | **CONNECTIONS** |
| 1. Personal Budget | This is your own budget based on your paycheck. | It is important to manage a personal budget to stay out of debt. | Personal budget, debt, taxes, and insurance. |
| 1. Gross pay | The total amount you get paid before taxes. | Depending on which tax bracket you are in, this pay can be very different then the money you actually get to keep. | Personal budget, taxes, and insurance. |
| 1. Fixed & Variable Expenses | These types of expenses influence how much money you can save. | Fixed: Remain the same; Variable expenses: change. | Personal budget, taxes, and insurance. |
| 1. Investing | The process of loaning money to a person or company in exchange for a share in the company. | This type of investing can be risky, but it could also prove profitable. | Loans/Banking, Debt, and Credit Score. |
| 1. Debt management | The managing of you loans. | If you do not manage your debt, you may default which will completely ruin your credit score. | Credit Score, Debt, and Loans/Banking. |
| 1. Creditworthiness | A scale used to determine whether or not you are likely to pay off any money that you borrow. | If you do not have a good credit score, you will have difficulty getting a loan. It is important to start early to build up your credit. | Debt, Credit Score, and Loans/Banking. |
| 1. Insurance | A program designed to help you pay for something. | Insurance can help you get out of tough times and stay out of debt. | Health Insurance, Social Security, and Medicaid/Medicare. |
| 1. Attorney General | In charge of protecting consumers. | At both the national and state level have a big job as they represent the state in cases and must inform consumers of products that could harm them. | Roy Cooper and the legal system. |
| 1. Better Business Bureau | In charge of accrediting businesses and keeping track of complaints. | The BBB often provide awards that help boost a businesses reputation. | Attorney General and civil cases. |