

Democratic Values: Past and Present

Rationale: During this unit, you have explored the foundations and structures of the United States Constitution, including how individuals and groups can influence the Constitution as a living document. For this project, you will be able to show how a value or principle of democracy is reflected in the way in which the Constitution structured the United States government, and how it is applied today. Apply what you know to answer the following essential question:

How have democratic values influenced the past and present?

Task: Create a graphic organizer. Formats may include:

- Poster-sized Collage
- Concept Map (Bubbl.us)
- Online Collage (www.postermymwall.com)
- Online Presentation (<https://www.haikudeck.com/> or www.prezi.com)

Procedure:

1. Identify and explain one or more democratic values or principles that is best reflect the contemporary controversy you researched.
2. Select a specific quote from **Resource Sheet CONPA2**, “Founding Quotes,” that best reflects the value or principle chosen and explain how it influenced the making of the United States Constitution. Include:
 - Explain how the quote reflects chosen democratic principles and values.
 - Cite where the same idea is located in the United States Constitution or Bill of Rights.
3. Describe your contemporary constitutional issue and how it reflects your chosen democratic principles and values. Include:
 - Cite the portion of excerpt of the Bill of Rights of United States Constitution that is being challenged.
 - Explain how the identified democratic principles and values are reflected in the controversy.
 - Discuss the degree to which the issue demonstrates the degree to which your chosen value or principle is upheld today.

Final Project:

Organize your findings in a visual way to demonstrate the connections between founding democratic principles, structures, and contemporary interpretations of American democratic system. Consider including visuals, images, and links to support your discussion. Review the rubric that follows to clarify expectations.

Proficiency Level	Criteria
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> I can take a position on the essential question for the unit, “How have democratic values and principles influenced and been influenced by the United States Constitution?” in the context of topics addressed during the unit. <input type="checkbox"/> I can cite ample evidence to support my position including and beyond the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Founding principles and values influencing the United States Constitution. ○ How the organization of the Constitution reflects democratic principles and values. ○ How contemporary constitutional controversies are influenced by democratic principles and values. <input type="checkbox"/> I can cite ample details and examples to support my position with details about the topics, applying democratic principles and values to multiple contemporary issues; <input type="checkbox"/> I can make predictions regarding their outcomes based upon constitutional structures and the application of democratic values.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> I can take a position on the essential question for the unit, “How have democratic values and principles influenced and been influenced by the United States Constitution?” in the context of topics addressed during the unit. <input type="checkbox"/> I can cite a variety of evidence to support my position from the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Founding principles and values influencing the United States Constitution. ○ How the organization of the Constitution reflects democratic principles and values. ○ How contemporary constitutional controversies are influenced by democratic principles and values. <input type="checkbox"/> I can cite several details and examples to support my position with details about the topics.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> I can take a position on the essential question for the unit, “How have democratic values and principles influenced and been influenced by the United States Constitution?” in the context of topics addressed during the unit. <input type="checkbox"/> I can cite some evidence to support my position from at least two of the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Founding principles and values influencing the United States Constitution.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How the organization of the Constitution reflects democratic principles and values. ○ How contemporary constitutional controversies are influenced by democratic principles and values. <p><input type="checkbox"/> I can cite details to support my position with details about the topics. However, some of the details and examples may be too general to clearly explain the relationship between democratic principles and values and the U.S. Constitution as a living document.</p>
1	<p><input type="checkbox"/> I can take a position on the essential question for the unit, “How have democratic values and principles influenced and been influenced by the United States Constitution?” in the context of topics addressed during the unit.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I can cite a few pieces of evidence to support my position from at least one of the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Founding principles and values influencing the United States Constitution. ○ How the organization of the Constitution reflects democratic principles and values. ○ How contemporary constitutional controversies are influenced by democratic principles and values. <p><input type="checkbox"/> I may need to include more details and examples to clearly explain the relationship between democratic principles and values and the U.S. Constitution as a living document.</p>