

The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution - **Sample Answers**

Directions: Using the Preamble, written below, underline the terms from the table. Then, write your own definition of what you think each term means.

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Preamble Term	Definition in Your Own Words
1. union	something formed by combining parts, such as states into one country
2. justice	a system of establishing what is legal and illegal by fair rules
3. insure [ensure]	to make sure
4. domestic	referring to something at home, not foreign
5. tranquility	peace
6. defence [defense]	method of protecting oneself
7. welfare	well-being
8. posterity	future generations
9. ordain	to establish something by law

The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution

What are the first three words of the Preamble? What does this phrase mean?

We the People
The government gets its power from the people and government exists to serve the people

Goals & Purposes: Complete the chart below by identifying the goals and purposes the Preamble is outlining. Write your own explanation for each of the phrases below.

in Order to form a more perfect Union	establish Justice	insure domestic Tranquility	provide from the common defense	promote the general Welfare	secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity
The goal and purpose of the government is to make things better for all.	The goal and purpose of government is to make a fair and honest system for all.	The goal and purpose of government is to create peace in the country.	The goal and purpose of government is to protect the country from other countries or people that might try to harm us.	The goal and purpose of government is to create a better life for all.	The goal and purpose of government is to secure liberty and freedom for current and future generations.

Using what you have learned from the analysis of the Preamble, explain where the government gets its power and why the six goals and purposes of government are important to include.

The government gets its power from the people. The six goals and purposes of government are important to include because it establishes an outline for what the authors thought would be fair for the government to control and for the government to not have control over. An example of control the government should have is to protect the country from other countries that may be trying to harm us. The government should have some limits so that the right to freedom is available for the people, while making things fair and better for everyone.