

## Sample Answers Excerpts from Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

| <b>Directions:</b> For each excerpt of Article I, Section 8, summarize the text in your own words.  |  |
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| <b>What it says:</b>  | <b>What it means:</b>  |
| SECTION. 8. The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States; | the power to set taxes, tariffs and other means of raising federal revenue, and to authorize the expenditure of all federal funds    |
| To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;   | The national government borrows money by issuing bonds. This creates a national debt, which the United States is obligated to repay. |
| To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;  | allows Congress to regulate business activities "among the states."  |
| To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;   | Establish rules for naturalization of immigrants becoming citizens   |
| To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;   | Coin money   |
| To establish Post Offices and post Roads;   | Establish post offices   |
| To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;  | Create courts below the Supreme Court  |
| To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;   | Declare war  |
| To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;   | Create and support an Army   |
| To provide and maintain a Navy; To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;   | Create and support a Navy  |
| To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.  | Congress can create laws that are necessary and proper to carry out their powers   |

### Summary of Services:

How do the powers of this level of government translate into services for the country?

Sample response: The services at the national level provide consistency amongst all the states when it comes to money, mail, basic laws and military protection. This in return provides stability and safety for all citizens.