

## CRYPTOGRAM OF THE PREAMBLE TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

Learning Objective:       The student will

Decode with deductive reasoning the Preamble to the United States Constitution;

TEKS:                   7.23 A; 8.31 C; Govt. 2 A & B; US Hist. 18 C

TAKS:                 8.4 D, 8.16 C & D

Materials Needed: Copies of cryptogram

Vocabulary:           Cryptogram

Teaching Strategy:

1.     Read aloud to the class the following directions:

A Test your powers of reasoning and try to decipher this famous passage from an American document. Three clues have been provided to help you get started. @

2.     Recognize the first student(s) who correctly complete(s) the cryptogram.
3.     Read chorally the Preamble.

Extension for Advanced Placement: Ask students to analyze what exactly the Preamble contains (purposes for writing the Constitution). List those purposes on the board as students call them out orally (In order to: 1. Form a more perfect union; 2. Establish justice; 3. Insure domestic tranquility; 4. Provide for the common defense; 5. Promote the general welfare; and 6. Secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity).

# CRYPTOGRAM

Test your powers of reasoning as you try to decipher this passage from a famous American document. Three clues have been provided to help get you started. Follow the steps listed below and you'll have the puzzle decoded before you can say AJames Madison@!

L = P

Y = A

D = T

1. First, go through the entire puzzle and fill in all the letters that you know;
2. Combine your knowledge of the English language with your common sense to figure out other letters;
3. Keep a list of each new letter you decode;
4. Don't give up!

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ ? \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ ? \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_    & \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ? \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ ? \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ ? \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ A ? \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ ,

\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ ,

\_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_ ? \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

Z G 9 & & B + S &      ? V G B Z 9 C D 7

D ?      ? M C & 9 G 3 9 &      Y + X

? M C      L ? & D 9 C B D 7 ,      X ?

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_  
? C X Y B +      Y + X      9 & D Y Z G B & T

D T B &      W ? + & D B D M D B ? +

V ? C      D T 9      M + B D 9 X

& D Y D 9 &      ? V      Y A 9 C B W Y