**Comparing the U.S. and Florida Constitutions: Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_ Pd. \_\_\_\_\_\_**

After the U.S. Constitution was ratified (approved by the states), the states wrote or amended their own state constitutions because Article IV of the U.S. Constitution gives states the power to create their own Republican form of government. Because the U.S. Constitution served as a guideline, many state constitutions look very similar to the national constitution, including the Florida Constitution.

The U.S. and Florida constitutions both have a **preamble** (an introduction that states the purpose and goals of government), **articles** (sections that describe the powers and functions of the government), and **amendments** (changes that have been made to the constitution). While the basic outline of the U.S. Constitution and the Florida Constitution are the same, the contents of the two documents have major differences. Below is a brief comparison of the major similarities and differences of the two documents:

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| ***U.S. Constitution*** | ***Florida Constitution*** |
| * Begins with “We the People” – shows that the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** government gets its power from the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | * Begins with “We the People” – shows that the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** government gets its power from the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| * **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**than the Florida Constitution * **\_\_\_\_\_\_** (large) page | * **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** than the U.S. Constitution * **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** pages |
| * **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** articles | * **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** articles |
| Contains a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (enumerated list of rights for the people) | Contains the Florida **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (a list of the rights of the people that includes many of the same rights as those in the U.S. Bill of Rights) |
| * **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  amendments | * **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** amendments |
| * **\_\_\_\_\_** Specific | * **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** specific: Addresses public **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, motor vehicles, and elections (and more) |
| * Creates **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** government | * Creates **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** government |
| * Has an \_**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Process: People don’t vote on amendments | * Has an **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Process: The **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** step of the amendment process allows the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of FL to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** on the amendment |

**Exit Ticket: In 5 sentences, compare the two constitutions. Re-state the question in your answer.**

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