



# My Personal Constitution Essay

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

“They who can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety.”

-Benjamin Franklin

The Constitution of the United States of America took effect in 1789, replacing the Articles of Confederation. It established the world's first federal system of government and stands today as the longest-surviving written and codified national constitution still in effect. It has an enduring legacy of fighting for freedom and giving power to the people over government.

Our country, like any other, has gone through great changes and development. We have had incredible victories, as well as significant losses. Some of our choices as a nation have provided a beacon of hope for the rest of the world, while other choices have hindered the progress and freedom of our people.

As time passes, our constitution remains a guiding light. We have to remember, as a country, that we prioritize people over politics, freedom over censorship, and liberty over tyranny. Much of our culture of self-expression and personal accomplishment stems from the values outlined in our constitution. The United States of America is meant to be fertile ground for personal accomplishment, rather than a centralized state of conformity.



In this essay, you will write a personal constitution. Select three of your core values, examples being integrity, hope, bravery, compassion, diligence, and accountability.

Core values: fundamental principles, beliefs, and ideals that guide a person's or organization's behavior, decisions, and actions in both their personal and professional lives.

Integrity: the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles; moral uprightness.

Hope: a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.

Bravery: the ability to do something that frightens one.

Compassion: genuine concern for the suffering of others.

Diligence: careful and persistent work or effort.

Accountability: holding oneself responsible for their actions.

Use the outline below to draft your essay. It must be thoughtfully written, genuine, and meaningful.

My values are:

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I chose these values because...

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How these values guide my life and decisions...

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What kind of person I want to be...

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I want others to see me as a person who...

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