



AMERICAN GOVERNMENT



POWER OF THE PURSE 3

1. What does Madison argue is the purpose of Article 1, Section 7, Clause 1?
 - A. To grant unlimited spending powers to Congress
 - B. To place the power of the purse in the hands of the Senate
 - C. To ensure that spending is controlled by the people through the House of Representatives
 - D. To allow the federal government to spend on general welfare issues
2. According to Madison, what is the consequence of misinterpreting the General Welfare Clause?
 - A. Strengthening the federal system
 - B. Increasing state sovereignty
 - C. Transforming the U.S. government into a monarchy or dictatorship
 - D. Balancing the power between federal and state governments
3. What does Jefferson emphasize in his letter to Robert Gallatin in 1817?
 - A. Congress has unlimited power under the General Welfare Clause
 - B. Enumerated powers limit Congress's authority to spend
 - C. States have no role in taxation or spending decisions
 - D. The preamble overrides the enumerated powers
4. What term does Madison use to describe creating meanings in the Constitution that do not exist?
 - A. Forced construction
 - B. Loose interpretation
 - C. Judicial activism
 - D. Broad enumeration
5. How does Madison describe the relationship between Article 1, Section 7, Clause 1, and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1?
 - A. They are independent of each other
 - B. They must be read together to limit federal power
 - C. They expand Congress's authority to raise taxes
 - D. They give the President control over federal spending



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6. According to Madison and Hamilton in the Federalist Papers, what is the purpose of the explicit enumeration of powers in the Constitution?
- A. To expand federal authority as necessary
 - B. To prevent misuse of power and protect liberty
 - C. To centralize government power for efficiency
 - D. To give Congress flexibility in interpreting its duties
7. What is the primary focus of Article 1, Section 8?
- A. Defining powers reserved to the states
 - B. Enumerating specific powers delegated to the federal government
 - C. Outlining the judiciary's role in federal law
 - D. Granting general powers to Congress
8. In Federalist 83, what argument does Hamilton make about listing powers in the Constitution?
- A. The list is unnecessary and redundant
 - B. Enumerated powers ensure Congress cannot act arbitrarily
 - C. Congress should have broader discretion in its powers
 - D. The preamble allows Congress to go beyond the list
9. How does the Tenth Amendment relate to the idea of enumerated powers?
- A. It grants unlimited authority to the federal government
 - B. It reserves undelegated powers to the states or the people
 - C. It overrides state constitutions in areas of conflict
 - D. It centralizes taxation power in Congress
10. What principle underlies the balance of power between federal and state governments in the U.S. Constitution?
- A. The federal government holds authority over all domestic affairs
 - B. The states have no limitations on their powers
 - C. The Constitution ensures distinct roles for federal and state governance
 - D. Federal and state governments share equal power in all areas



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Answer Key:

1. C
2. C
3. B
4. A
5. B
6. B
7. B
8. B
9. B
10. C



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1. ****Why is it important for Congress to have its powers explicitly enumerated in the Constitution? ****

- Consider how this affects the balance of power between federal and state governments and protects individual liberties.

2. ****Madison warned about the misuse of the General Welfare Clause. How might an incorrect interpretation of this clause impact the size and role of government? ****

- Reflect on modern examples where government power might seem to exceed constitutional limits.

3. ****How do Article 1, Section 7, Clause 1, and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1, work together to ensure that the people retain control over government spending? ****

- Discuss whether these mechanisms are still effective in today's political environment.

4. ****Madison and Hamilton emphasized limited and defined powers for the federal government. Why do you think they believed this was necessary for preserving liberty? ****

- Analyze how their views relate to the fears of concentrated power during their time.

5. ****The Tenth Amendment reserves undelegated powers to the states or the people. How does this principle shape the relationship between state and federal governments today? ****

- Debate whether the balance of power has shifted since the Constitution was written and why that might have happened.