

Lesson 16 – A Constitutional Conflict between the Supremacy Clause and 10th Amendment

Directions: Read both excerpts of the U.S. Constitution and answer the questions. Work in small groups to analyze the two parts of the Constitution.

Read the “Supremacy Clause” **Article VI, Section 1, Clause 2:** *This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any state to the Contrary notwithstanding.*

Rewrite the Supremacy Clause into plain language:

Read the **10th Amendment:** *The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.*

Rewrite the 10th Amendment into plain language:

Think carefully how these two parts of the Constitution could result in a power conflict between the national and state powers. Explain your thoughts below. When you are analyzing the conflict, consider what rights and/or powers could be the conflict reason.