

Lesson Plan – *Standard 5 – Explain the major purposes of the Indiana Constitution, as stated in the Preamble*

Time:

Learning Objectives: By the end of this lesson, students will be able to explain and compare the purposes of governments in both of the Indiana Constitutions and United States Constitution.

Materials:

- Handout titled “Standard 5 – Preamble Comparison Handout”
- Venn Diagram titled “Standard 5 – Preamble Analysis Venn Diagram”

Procedure:

Introduction (10 to 15 minutes)

- Project on the front screen the United Nations Preamble:

United Nations Charter Preamble

WE THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS DETERMINED

- to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and
- to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and
- to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and

[Note this is only the beginning portion of the UN Charter preamble. To see the entire preamble, visit www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/preamble]

- Ask students to think about why governments use a preamble at the front of their constitutions.
- The goal is for students to understand that preambles set the goals of the government much like mission statements in schools and businesses. Feel free to extend the lesson by looking at your school’s mission statement.

Reading and Formative Assessment (50 minutes)

- Put students into small groups of three to four students and give each student the handout titled “Standard 5 – Preamble Comparison Handout”

- Have students work together to explain what each of the aims of the constitutions means.
- Once the students have finished. Go over with the whole class until each group has clarity to the meaning of the bold-faced aims.
- Give each student the Venn Diagram titled “Standard 5 – Preamble Analysis Venn Diagram”
- Have the students complete the Venn Diagram using the previous handout as the source for the information.
- Students will write a quick compare and contrast short writing once they have completed the Venn Diagram. Use the below format structure:
 - Topic sentence.
 - What do the preambles have in common.
 - What are the differences between the preambles and why do you think these differences exist.