

The Preamble

MAKING SENSE OF
THE PHRASES WITHIN





Name: _____

The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution

Instructions: Using a dictionary, a thesaurus, or an online source explain what the following phrases mean that are found in the preamble to the U.S. Constitution. The purpose of this assignment is to better understand what the meaning of the U.S. Constitution is all about.

PREAMBLE

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Phrase	What This Phrase Means
<i>“more perfect union”</i>	
<i>“establish justice”</i>	
<i>“domestic tranquility”</i>	
<i>“common defense”</i>	
<i>“general welfare”</i>	
<i>“blessings of liberty”</i>	
<i>“ourselves and our posterity”</i>	
<i>“ordain and establish”</i>	

The Preamble was written using language people used back in 1787. People don't talk that way now so help me out—rewrite the preamble on a separate sheet of paper in a way that your generation would understand it today.