

List and Describe the Six (6) Basic Principles of American Democracy

1. Popular Sovereignty
2. Limited Government
3. Separation of Powers
4. Checks and Balances
5. Judicial Review
6. Federalism

The Six Basic Principles of the *U.S. Constitution*

1. Popular Sovereignty

The **People** are the **legitimate and final** source of **Government Authority**

2. Limited Government

Government may **ONLY** do what the people have **directed** it to do

3. Separation of Powers

The **division** of government **power** among **three** equal **branches**

Legislative- makes law,
Executive- enforces law,
Judicial- interprets law

4. Checks and Balances

Each Branch **limits the powers** of the other two Branches

Executive- veto law of Legislature... Appointment power of Judicial (appoints Federal Judges)

Legislative- impeachment power of the Executive AND Judicial branches

Judicial- Judicial Review of Executive AND Legislative branches (decides constitutionality of the actions of the Executive and Legislative branches)

5. Judicial Review

The **Court's Power** to determine the **constitutionality** of governmental action

6. Federalism

The **division** of government **power** between **National** and **state** governments