

Hexagonal Thinking

Hexagonal thinking is a visual and interactive method for exploring the connections between ideas. It involves using hexagonal shapes, each containing a concept, term, or idea, to build a web of interconnected thoughts. Students arrange the hexagons, forming relationships and justifying their connections, which fosters deeper understanding and critical thinking.

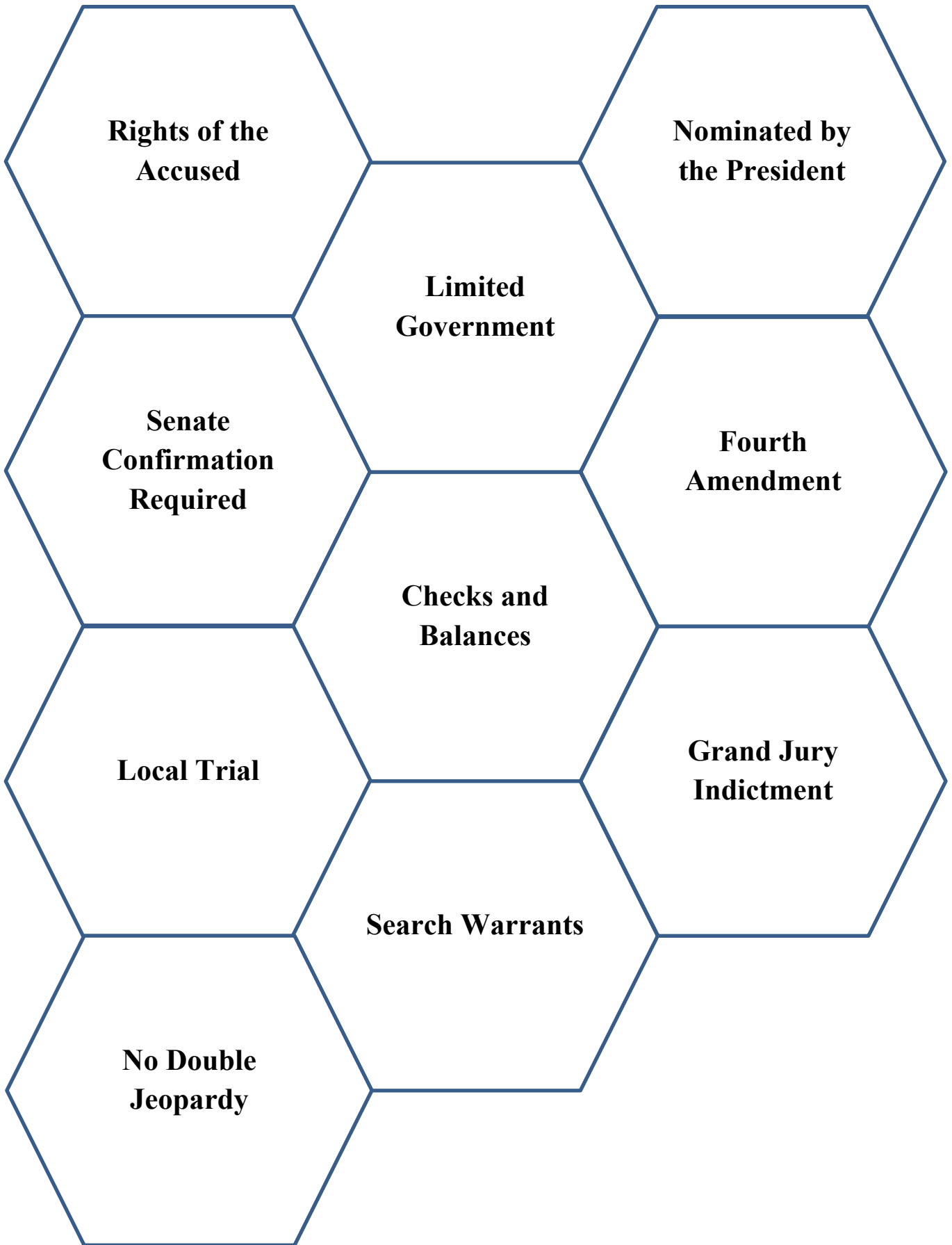
1. This activity focuses on the relationship between the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution. Students will explore how ideas from the Declaration influenced the structure and principles of the U.S. Constitution.
2. Create Hexagons. Generate hexagons with key terms related to both documents. A premade list of terms has been included for this activity. Cut them out and place them into envelopes.

(Use this online hexagon generator to make your job easier! <https://pamhook.com/solo-apps/hexagon-generator/>)

3. Group students and distribute an envelope to each group. Ask students to arrange the hexagons to show connections between the two documents. The hexagons may **only** touch related topics/ideas. You can require students to use a certain number of tiles, incorporate specific tiles, or use all of the tiles. Each hexagon can connect to up to six others. Students may add additional tiles if applicable or necessary, so include a few blanks.
4. Caveat: the hexagon formation cannot not be a straight line.
5. Have students explain the connections they made. This can be informal (e.g., “report out” or an exit ticket) or a formative assessment (e.g., essay). If they created additional hexagons, they must include those in their explanation.
 - a. Option: Give students a sheet of bulletin board paper or posterboard to display their arrangement, and then have them explain presentation-style.
6. Adjust the complexity of the hexagons based on student needs. For example, AP Gov students would receive a different set of hexagons than middle school students. (i.e., For AP students, include hexagons such as “The Magna Carta,” “John Locke,” or “*Federalist*, No. 78.”)







Rights of the Accused

Nominated by the President

Limited Government

Fourth Amendment

Senate Confirmation Required

Checks and Balances

Grand Jury Indictment

Local Trial

Search Warrants

No Double Jeopardy

**No Self-
Incrimination**

**Speedy and
Public Trial**

**Due Process
of Law**

**Right to an
Impartial Jury**

**Right to an
Attorney**

**Confrontation of
Witnesses**

**Right to a Jury
in Civil Trials**

**No Cruel &
Unusual
Punishment**

**Eighth
Amendment**

Rule of Law