The Constitution

And You

Primary Document Analysis

High School Edition
This exercise will familiarize students with the United States Constitution through analysis of relevant primary sources from the National Archives Catalog. Review and discuss this collection of primary documents using the following steps:

1. **Meet the document.**
2. **Observe its parts.**
3. **Try to make sense of it.**
4. **Use it as historical evidence.**

Students may also be asked to complete Document Analysis Worksheets provided by the National Archives and Records Administration for each primary document.

For each document, answer these three questions:

1. **Provide document description or title if known.**
2. **What is the Constitutional context (Identify Article/Amendment, when it became law and what event(s) prompted its creation)?**
3. **Is it effective? Why or why not?**
United States Patent

Jackson et al.

METHOD AND MEANS FOR CREATING ANTI-GRAVITY ILLUSION

Inventors: Michael J. Jackson, Los Angeles; Michael L. Bush; Dennis Tompkins, both of Hollywood, Calif.


Appl. No.: 905,479
Filed: Jun. 29, 1992

Int. Cl.: A43B 5/00; A43B 3/00
U.S. Cl.: 36/133; 36/1;
Field of Search: 36/136; 36/132

References Cited
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS
1,059,284 4/1913 Dennis ........................................ 36/114
2,114,790 4/1938 Venables ........................................ 36/132
2,473,099 6/1949 Hinch ........................................ 36/1

Primary Examiner—Steven N. Meyers
Assistant Examiner—M. Denise Patterson
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Drucker & Sommers

ABSTRACT
A system for allowing a shoe wearer to lean forwardly beyond his center of gravity by virtue of wearing a specially designed pair of shoes which will engage with a hitch member movably projectable through a stage surface. The shoes have a specially designed heel slot which can be detachably engaged with the hitch member by simply sliding the shoe wearer's foot forward, thereby engaging with the hitch member.

13 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets
THE PRESIDENT
THE WHITE HOUSE
IMPORTANT YOU TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION IN ALABAMA ONE MORE DAY
OF SAVAGE TREATMENT BY LEGALIZED HATCHET MEN COULD LEAD TO OPEN
WARFARE BY AROUSED NEGROES AMERICA CANNOT AFFORD THIS IN 1965

JACKIE ROBINSON.
YOU ARE ONE OF 50,000,000 AMERICANS WHO MUST FILL OUT AN INCOME TAX RETURN BY MARCH 15TH

USE YOUR WITHHOLDING RECEIPT

You must file an income tax return if your income in 1944 was $500 or more.

FILE YOURS EARLY

UNITED STATES TREASURY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE

Constitutional Context

Is it effective? Why or why not?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Citation/Archives.gov Identifier</th>
<th>Constitutional Context</th>
<th>Is it Effective?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Article I, section 8, clause 3 | Promotes science, arts & humanities, entrepreneurship, innovation  
How would our economy and/or culture change without this protection?  
Adequate on its own to protect patents in the digital age?  
To learn more about current patent/trademark laws and enforcement, see: [https://www.uspto.gov/about-us](https://www.uspto.gov/about-us) |
| Telegram from Jackie Robinson to President Johnson | Telegram from Jackie Robinson to the President; 3/9/1965; HU 2/ST 1: Equality of the Races/Alabama; White House Subject Files on Human Rights, 11/22/1963 - 1/20/1969; Collection LBJ-WHCF: | 1st Amendment (Proposed September 25, 1789; ratified December 15, 1791)  
15th Amendment, sections 1-2 | Freedom of speech, to assemble peacefully; any parallels with current events?  
Your right to vote will not be denied on the basis of race; do problems |
| **White House Central Files** (Johnson Administration); Lyndon Baines Johnson Library, Austin, TX | exist regarding access to voting upon securing right to vote? 
Language was open to interpretation; led to Jim Crow laws (literacy tests, poll tax); created demand for Voting Rights Act of 1965. 
To learn more about the Voting Rights Act of 1965, visit: [https://www.archives.gov/legislative/features/voting-rights-1965](https://www.archives.gov/legislative/features/voting-rights-1965) | 
--- | 
| **Jimmy Carter in the 1940 Census** | Article I, section 2, clause 3 
Congressional representation determined by population 
What does census provide besides population numbers? 
How is it currently carried out? 
What impediments might exist to accuracy or inclusion? What are the ramifications for the country if they do? 
To learn more about the U.S. Census Bureau, visit: [https://www.census.gov/about.html](https://www.census.gov/about.html) | 
--- | 
Available online at: [https://www.archives.gov/research/census/presidents/carter.html](https://www.archives.gov/research/census/presidents/carter.html) |
| Demonstration for Immigrant Rights | Photograph 207-DP-10075_DSC_6744; Demonstration by Hispanics [and other groups] on behalf of immigrant rights, Houston, Texas; 4/11/2006; Demonstration by Hispanics [and other groups] on behalf of immigrant rights, Houston, Texas; Photographs Documenting the Secretary's Headquarters and Field Activities, and Agency Officials and Events, 2001 - 2008; General Records of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Record Group 207; National Archives at College Park, College Park, MD | Article I, section 8, clause 4
Article II, section 1, clause 5
1st Amendment (Proposed September 25, 1789; ratified December 15, 1791)
14th Amendment (Proposed June 13, 1866; ratified July 9, 1868) | Only “natural-born” citizen eligible to be President; status quo justifiable/still relevant, or should there be an amendment?

For deeper discussion on evolution of U.S. Citizenship, see: https://constitutioncenter.org/interactive-constitution/interpretation/amendment-xiv/clauses/700 |

| You Are One of 50,000,000 Americans Who Must Fill Out a Tax Return by March 15. File Yours Early. | YOU ARE ONE OF 50,000,000 AMERICANS WHO MUST FILL OUT AN INCOME TAX RETURN BY MARCH 15. FILE YOURS EARLY.; 1941 - 1945; Records of the Office of Government Reports, Record Group 44. | 16th Amendment (Proposed July 12, 1909; ratified February 25, 1913); first national income tax was a temporary measure during Civil War; made permanent by 16th Amendment

See also: Article I, section 2, clause 3 | What does income tax provide (e.g. national defense, infrastructure)

Most Federal revenue previously from tariffs; would that work today?

How would your life be affected if this amendment was repealed?

To learn more about current federal tax enforcement, visit: https://www.irs.gov/about-irs |
Additional Notes