Government and politics of the USA





Worksheet 4 - The Constitution and Federalism

Draw lines to match the parts of the Constitution with how they uphold federalism.

Part of the Constitution	How it upholds the principle of federalism
Article 4 section 1	Each state has 2 Senators regardless of the size of the state. The role of the Senate is to uphold the interests of the states.
Article 2 section 1	Each state has its own method of elections to Congress.
Article 1 section 4	The Elastic, Commerce, and Necessary and Proper Clauses allow flexible judgements about what is the jurisdiction of the federal government and what is the jurisdiction of the states.
Article 5	Statements of what the individual states cannot do - powers reserved to the federal government and not to the individual states.
Article 1 section 3	The Electoral College (representing the states) elects the President, not the straight forward popular vote.
Article 2 section 2	The Senate has to ratify treaties by a supermajority.
Amendment 10	The 'full faith and credit clause' – each state must respect the others equally.
Article 6	Both procedures for formally amending the Constitution require the approval of a supermajority of the states.
Article 1 section 8	Laws and treaties made by the federal government take precedence over those of the individual states.
Article 1 section 10	Any powers not specifically granted in the Constitution to the federal government are reserved to the states and the people, i.e. the federal government has enumerated rights and powers whereas the states and people have unenumerated rights and powers.