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| Class Notes / PowerPoint Presentation / Textbook Notes  **American Government**  Name:  Class:  Date:  **Chapter 3: The Constitution / Section 3: Interpreting the Constitution** | |
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| **ESSENTIAL**  **QUESTION** | * **How has the Constitution endured through changing times?** |
| **FOCUS QUESTION** | * **How has Congress impacted & changed our Constitution?** * **What affect have the 3 branches of government & political parties had on the interpretation of the Constitution?** |
| **Objectives** | 1. Identify how basic legislation has added to our understanding of the Constitution over time. 2. Describe the ways in which the executive and judicial branches have interpreted the Constitution. 3. Analyze the role of party practices and custom in interpreting the Constitution. |
| **Key Terms** |  |
| **executive order** |  |
| **executive agreement** | a pact made by the President directly with the head of a foreign state |
| **treaty** | a formal agreement between two or more independent states |
| **electoral college** | the body of electors that makes the formal selection of the President |
| **Cabinet** | a body made up of the heads of the 15 executive departments that advises the President |
| **senatorial courtesy** | the Senate custom of refusing to approve any presidential appointee unless that person has the support of all Senators from the appointee’s home state who belong to the same party as the President |
| **Introduction** | **How have the day-to-day workings of the government affected how we interpret the Constitution?** |
| **The Role of Congress** |  |
| **Powers of Congress** |  |
| **Expanding Executive Power** |  |
| **Presidential Power** |  |
| **The State of the Union** |  |
| **The Courts** |  |
| **Political Parties**  **Political Parties**  **(CONT’D)** |  |
| ***CHECKPOINT!*** | **How have political parties changed the way we interpret the Constitution?** |
| **Customs** |  |
| ***CHECKPOINT!*** | **Which customs did the 22nd and 25th Amendments establish as laws?** |
| ***CHECKPOINT!***  ***The 3 Branches of Government & the U.S. Constitution*** | **A). How has Legislative Branch (Congress) impacted and changed the Constitution? Give an example & explain.**  **B). How has the Executive Branch (the President) impacted & changed the Constitution? Give an example & explain.**  **C). How has the Judicial Branch (the courts) impacted & changed the Constitution? Give an example & explain.** |