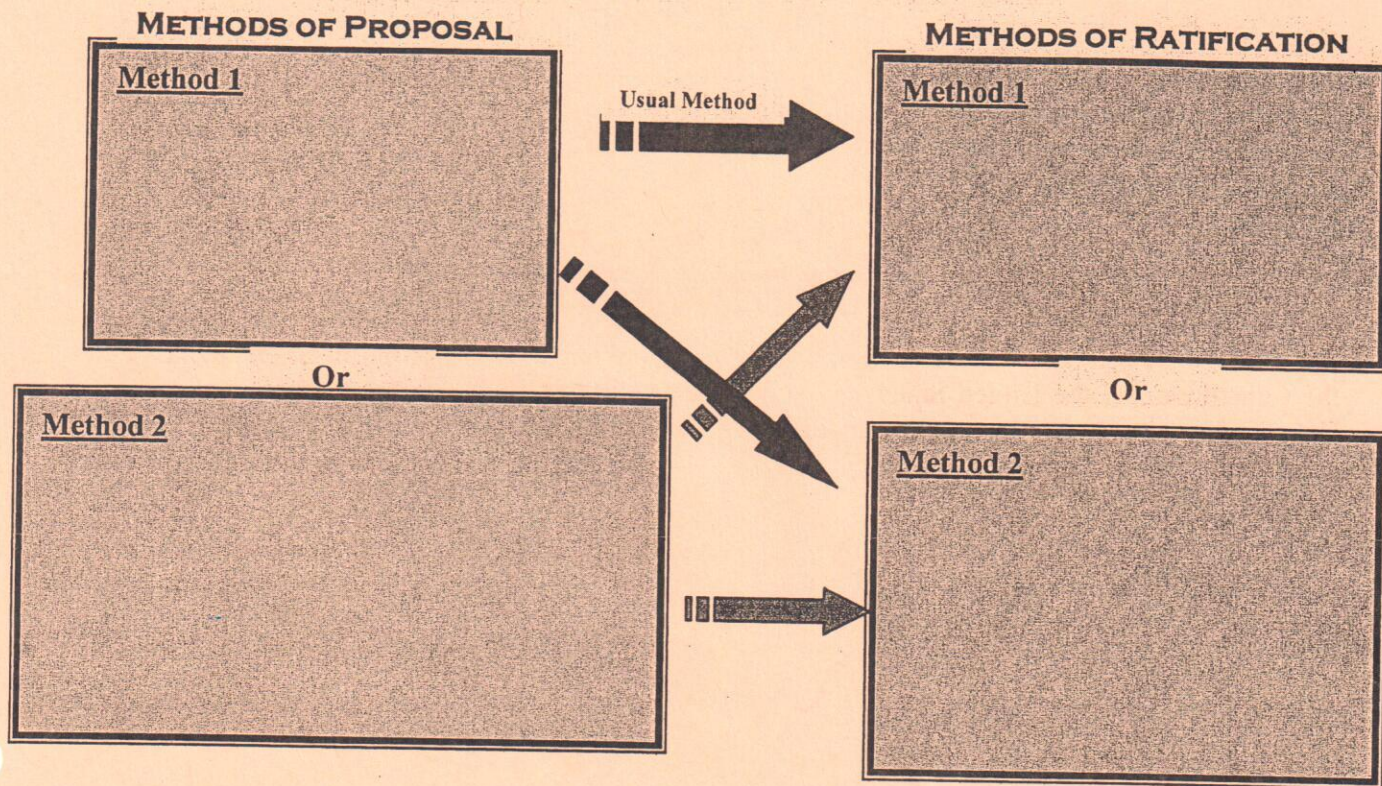


THE CONSTITUTION AND THE AMENDMENT PROCESS

Name _____



Questions for Discussion

1. What is a *constitutional amendment*?
2. Why do you think the Founders built in the amendment process into the Constitution?
3. Since the Constitution's ratification in 1788, there have only been twenty-seven amendments added to the original document. Why is it so difficult to change the Constitution?
4. Do you think the constitutional amendment process needs to be changed? Explain why or why not.

Amending the Constitution

Article V of the Constitution explains how the Constitution can be amended. Decide if each statement about amending the Constitution below is true (T) or false (F). Write the appropriate letter on the line before each statement. Rewrite any false statements to make them true.

- ___ 1. An amendment can make parts of the original Constitution null and void.
- ___ 2. An amendment can be nullified by the Supreme Court.
- ___ 3. An amendment can be proposed by a two-thirds vote in each house of Congress.
- ___ 4. An amendment can be proposed by two thirds of the state legislatures.
- ___ 5. An amendment must be ratified in order to become part of the Constitution.
- ___ 6. An amendment must provide rights to people.