

Items marked like this have questions in the test

The **Federalist Papers** led to the Constitution  
They were written by **James Madison, John Jay**, others

# United States Government Structure

Defined in the **United States Constitution** adopted in **1787**  
Primary author: **James Madison**

**We the People** of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

**Article I**  
All **legislative Powers** herein granted shall be vested in a **Congress of the United States**, which shall consist of a **Senate**

**Article II**  
The **executive Power** shall be vested in a **President** of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years

**Article III**  
The **judicial Power** of the United States, shall be vested in **one supreme Court**, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish

**Legislative Branch**  
Congress  
Makes Federal Laws

**Executive Branch**  
President  
Manages operation of the government  
Signs or vetos laws

**Judicial Branch**  
Courts  
decides if laws are against the Constitution

Senate  
100 Senators

House of Representatives  
435 members

**Donald Trump**

**Vice President JD Vance**

Supreme Court  
9 Justices

Other Courts

**Speaker of the House: Mike Johnson**

Cabinet members run their department and **advise the President** about their department's issues. Except for the Attorney General and Vice President, Cabinet members are called "Secretary"  
The members are Secretary of:

**Chief Justice: John Roberts**

- Agriculture
- Commerce
- Defense
- Education
- Energy
- Health & Human Services
- Homeland Security
- Housing and Urban Development
- Interior
- Labor
- State
- Transportation
- Treasury
- Veterans Affairs and Attorney General
- Vice President