

The Constitution:

What is its purpose?

Introduction:

The Constitution is a legal document setting out the **basic laws** for the government of Australia.

It is structured so that the Australian **people** hold the ultimate power.

The fundamental purpose of the Constitution:

is to define how **power** is shared within Australia.

It outlines where the **power** lies, who can use it and how it can be used

Purpose 1:

Federation and the creation of the Commonwealth of Australia

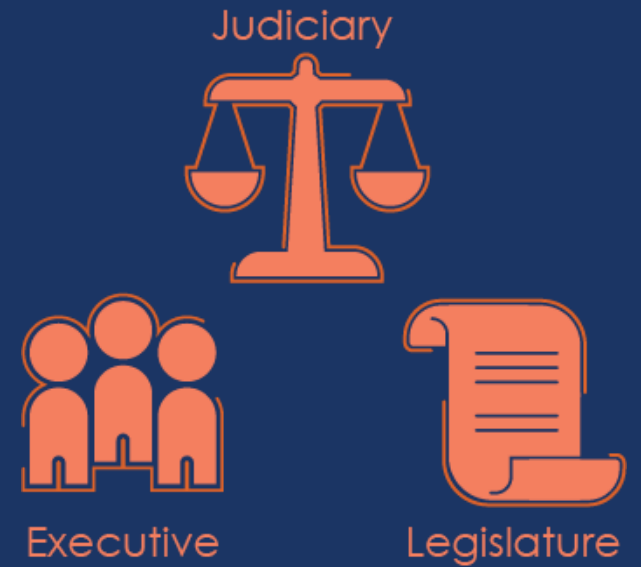


The Constitution established the Commonwealth of Australia, bringing the independent colonies together through Federation.

There is clearly divided **powers** between the Commonwealth and the States known as the **Division of Powers**.

Purpose 2:

Sharing power between the Legislature, Executive and Judiciary



The Constitution is also structured to split and share the **power** between the three branches of the government – the Judiciary, the Legislature and the Executive.

This is known as the **Separation of Powers**.


Purpose 3:

Protects the Australian People

By **putting limits on power**, the Constitution protects the Australian people from arbitrary power and uncontrolled authority.

Checks and balances ensures each body works within their area of responsibility.





**Remember that the
fundamental
purpose of the
Constitution is to
define how **POWER**
is shared within
Australia?**

Quiz:



The divided powers between the Commonwealth and the States is known as the of **Powers**.



The sharing of power between the three branches of the government – the Judiciary, the Legislature and the Executive is known as the of **Powers**



The hold the ultimate **power**



The Constitution protects our rights and ensures that are applied equally



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