National Supremacy



Name _____ Date _____

1 Recall, then make a connection.

Start from memory. Write a meaning or quick example for each term.

supremacy	conflict	constitutional authority

Explain how supremacy applies to a conflict between legal rules. Why must the analysis establish constitutional authority before assuming that any federal statement controls?

Context for the task

Article VI identifies the Constitution, federal laws made pursuant to it, and treaties made under U.S. authority as supreme law. This means a state cannot make a conflicting rule controlling simply by declaring that it prefers its own policy. The phrase made pursuant to the Constitution matters: supremacy is not a claim that any action labeled federal is automatically constitutional. A proper analysis identifies authority and the actual conflict.

2 Build the sequence.

Put the reasoning steps in order

The conflict desk uses this explicit review procedure for the fictional files.

Arrange the procedure.

A. Check the supplied constitutional authority and any stated limits.

B. Determine whether the requirements conflict or can operate together.

C. Explain which rule controls the conflict, or identify the unresolved question.

D. Identify the actual federal and state rules and the situations each covers.

Sequence: _____ -> _____ -> _____ -> _____

Explain one connection between two neighboring steps.

Evidence, application & transfer.



3 Read the evidence closely.

Explain the 1819 holding

The historical question is why Maryland's tax could not control the valid federal bank in McCulloch.

Select every proposition needed for the explanation taught here.

A. Congress had constitutional authority to create the bank as a means of carrying out granted powers.

B. The state tax impermissibly interfered with that federal institution under the Court's reasoning.

C. Maryland's objection automatically removed every state power to tax anyone.

D. The bank's public popularity alone determined the constitutional result.

Selections: _____ Explain your reasoning:

4 Apply the idea.

Federalism survives the decision

A classmate concludes, "National supremacy means states have no governing role."

Which response fits the sources?

A. States retain governing responsibilities, while conflicting state rules must yield to constitutionally valid supreme federal law.

B. Every state law is merely a suggestion that can never be enforced.

C. The Constitution gives each state an unconditional veto over federal law.

My choice: _____ Explain why it fits:

5 Carry the idea forward.

Choose one fictional conflict file and write a legal-reasoning summary. Name the rules, identify the supplied authority, explain the conflict or compatibility, and state one limit on your conclusion.