Student Handout 1: Comparing Preambles

The Document	What does the document emphasize?
First Draft: Distributed to Constitutional Convention delegates in August 1787 E the People of the States of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode-Island and Providence Plan- tations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Penn- sylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Caro- lina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, do ordain, declare and establish the following Constitution for the Govern- ment of Ourselves and our Posterity.	
Preamble to the U.S. Constitution, as adopted in 1787 <u>The Preamble</u> 'We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, 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.'	
What are the major differences between the two versions?	In what ways are these differences important?