

Chapter 2 - The Constitution

1. Which document was written more than two hundred years ago and continues to be the supreme law of the land?
 - a. Constitution
 - b. Madisonian Model
 - c. Mayflower Compact
 - d. Second Treatise of Government
 - e. Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
2. What asset did the Framers of the Constitution bring with them when they met in Philadelphia in 1787?
 - a. Hands-on political experience
 - b. The Bill of Rights
 - c. The principle of separation of powers
 - d. Darwinian views on politics
 - e. Wealth acquired during the colonial era
3. Which of the following is true of the Mayflower Compact?
 - a. It served as a draft of America's first national constitution.
 - b. It declared British colonists' independence from their home country.
 - c. It was a petition to the British Crown to remove taxation.
 - d. It was essentially a bill of rights which became the first ten amendments to the Constitution.
 - e. It was written by the Protestant Pilgrims who went on to settle in the New World.
4. Why did the Pilgrims draw up the Mayflower Compact?
 - a. It established the western boundary of the Connecticut colony.
 - b. They agreed that no form of governmental authority was necessary for the colony.
 - c. They were essentially atheists who established the compact to protect their interests.
 - d. They settled in an area outside the territory assigned to the Virginia Company.
 - e. It established that the British Crown would function as an absolute monarch for the colony.
5. Which of the following is true of the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut?
 - a. It set up the western boundary of the Connecticut colony.
 - b. It consisted of the first ten amendments to the Constitution which codified the inalienable rights.
 - c. It proposed that Connecticut's laws should be made by the British Crown and not the settlers in the New World.
 - d. It called for the civil laws to be made by an assembly of elected representatives from each town.
 - e. It provided the basic architectural layout for Connecticut.
6. What was the earliest colonial legislature in America?
 - a. Virginia House of Burgesses
 - b. Assembly of Freeman
 - c. Massachusetts House of Representatives
 - d. Connecticut House of Representatives
 - e. House of Delegates
7. Which of the following statements is true in the context of the colonists' participation in colonial governments?

Chapter 2 - The Constitution

- a. They became familiar with the practical problems of governing.
 - b. They did not pay taxes to support the costs incurred by the British government.
 - c. They were represented in the British Parliament.
 - d. They resented the Sugar Act more than the Stamp Act.
 - e. They were unable to establish their own constitutions even after their independence from Britain.
8. What was a result of the British victory in the Seven Years' War?
- a. The relationship between the American colonists and the British greatly improved.
 - b. The British government began imposing taxes on the American colonists.
 - c. The American colonists began to enjoy more independence from British control.
 - d. The American colonists convened for the First Continental Congress on September 5, 1774, to discuss an alliance with the French.
 - e. The American colonists strategized for a war against the Native Americans.
9. Which of the following is a reason that contributed to the resentment felt by British colonists in America toward their motherland after the Seven Years' War?
- a. Many colonists were held prisoners in Britain under false allegations of treason during the Seven Years' war.
 - b. The colonists felt that the British did not give them due credits for the victory in the Seven Years' War.
 - c. The British Parliament refused to allow the colonists to trade with other countries after the Seven Years' war.
 - d. The colonists were denied British citizenship after the Seven Years' war.
 - e. The British government used enslaved American colonists in Britain after the Seven Years' war.
10. When did the colonists began using the word American to describe themselves?
- a. After writing the Articles of Confederation
 - b. When the Pilgrims arrived in Plymouth, Massachusetts
 - c. After adopting the Declaration of Independence
 - d. After the conclusion of the Seven Years' War
 - e. When the British Parliament refused to repeal the Stamp Act
11. Which of the following was a result of the Sugar Act of 1764?
- a. The British government started exercising more direct control over colonial trade.
 - b. Representatives of the American colonies prepared a declaration of rights and grievances, which they sent to King George III.
 - c. The British Parliament closed Boston Harbor and placed the government of Massachusetts under direct British control.
 - d. Colonists dressed as Mohawk Indians dumped almost 350 chests of British tea into Boston Harbor.
 - e. Some colonists proposed a boycott of certain British imports.
12. Which of the following statements is true about the Stamp Act?
- a. It imposed a tax on all paper imported into the American colonies.
 - b. It was the second direct tax that the British Parliament imposed on the colonists.
 - c. It was a document prepared by colonial delegates outlining their perceived rights and grievances against the British rule.
 - d. It required that packaged sugar should have the stamp of the British crown.

Chapter 2 - The Constitution

- e. It required that all legal documents use specially embossed paper that was to be purchased from the government.
13. Which of the following was an argument by James Otis, Jr. against the Stamp Act?
- The British government was discriminating against its own people and violating the Magna Carta by imposing the Stamp Act.
 - It was only fair that the British government taxed the aboriginals of America and not the settlers who hailed from England.
 - The colonists were not represented in the British Parliament and so could not be taxed.
 - The colonists were solely responsible for Britain's victory in the Seven Years' War and it was only fair that they were exempted from taxes.
 - The colonists were contributing to British expansion and so should not be taxed.
14. When was the first time a majority of American colonists joined together to oppose British rule?
- During the Second Continental Congress
 - During Shays' Rebellion
 - During the Boston Tea Party
 - During the First Continental Congress
 - During the Stamp Act Congress
15. What was the British Parliament's response to the Boston Tea Party?
- It passed new laws designed to give the colonists in Boston more right to govern themselves.
 - It repealed the Stamp Act and allowed greater representation for the colonists in the parliament.
 - It closed Boston Harbor and placed the government of Massachusetts under direct British control.
 - It imposed additional taxes on glass, paint, and lead that were imported by the colonists in Boston.
 - It wrote the Articles of Confederation to limit the freedom of American colonists.
16. What did the First Continental Congress call for?
- It called for a continued boycott of British goods.
 - It required all thirteen colonies to participate.
 - It immediately assumed the powers of a central government.
 - It named George Washington as the commander in chief of the army.
 - It declared that the militiamen who had gathered around Boston were a full army.
17. In the context of the Continental Congress, which of the following is true of the committees of "safety" or "observation"?
- They were formed after the battles at Lexington and Concord.
 - They conducted paramedical training for the colonists' army.
 - They were responsible for propagating a sense of loyalty to the British Crown among the colonists.
 - They were formed as a result of the Second Continental Congress.
 - They reported to the press the names of those who violated the boycott against Britain.
18. Which of the following is true of the Second Continental Congress?
- It intended to reach a peaceful settlement with the British Parliament.
 - It intended to impose taxes on Native Americans.

Chapter 2 - The Constitution

- c. It decided that the colonies should send a petition to King George III to explain their grievances.
 - d. It named Thomas Jefferson as its commander in chief.
 - e. It was convened with the primary intention of declaring war on Britain.
19. Which of the following is true of the pamphlet *Common Sense*?
- a. It was an Anti-Federalist essay that argued that the Constitution would lead the nation to tyranny.
 - b. It expressed the desire to acquire a strong central government.
 - c. It reflected the Hobbesian view on world politics.
 - d. It argued that America could be economically self-sufficient and did not need its British connection.
 - e. It helped re-establish loyalty to the British monarch.
20. What action did the Second Continental Congress take following Paine's publication of *Common Sense*?
- a. It suggested that all colonies establish state governments separate from Britain.
 - b. It voted for free trade at all American ports with all countries, including Britain.
 - c. It immediately accepted the resolution for independence proposed by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia.
 - d. It appointed Paine as the commander in chief of its army.
 - e. It decided to declare war on Britain.
21. Which document, mostly written by Thomas Jefferson, was adopted on July 4, 1776?
- a. Mayflower Compact
 - b. Bill of Rights
 - c. Declaration of Independence
 - d. Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
 - e. Pennsylvania Charter of Privileges
22. Which of the following statements is true about the Declaration of Independence?
- a. It served as a draft of America's first national constitution.
 - b. It empowered state governments to write their own constitutions.
 - c. It was written by the Pilgrims to serve as a social contract.
 - d. It was issued by the British Government to grant freedom to its American colonies.
 - e. It elevated the dispute between Britain and the American colonies to a universal level.
23. Which body became all-powerful as the American colonies transformed themselves into sovereign states and republican sentiment rose in many of the states?
- a. Legislatures
 - b. Courts
 - c. Executive branches
 - d. State governments
 - e. Bureaucracies
24. How did nationalist ideologies differ from those of republicans?
- a. Nationalists had an antiauthoritarian, localist impulse.
 - b. Nationalists opposed government interference in the lives of citizens.
 - c. Nationalists favored an effective central authority.

Chapter 2 - The Constitution

- d. Nationalists opposed any form of government that resembled monarchy.
 - e. Nationalists were suspicious of national authority as represented by the Continental Congress.
25. Which of the following is true of a confederation?
- a. States are governed centrally so that they can progress in a unified direction.
 - b. It is a party convention held at the local level that elects delegates to conventions at the national level.
 - c. The member states let the central government undertake most state activities.
 - d. It is an involuntary association of states which are annexed by the most powerful state.
 - e. The member states typically govern most state affairs as they see fit.
26. Which document established a national form of government following the American Revolution?
- a. Articles of Confederation
 - b. Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
 - c. Declaration of Independence
 - d. Mayflower Compact
 - e. Pennsylvania Charter of Privileges
27. What did the Articles of Confederation provide?
- a. That each state could send two to seven representatives to the congress
 - b. That the Congress of the Confederation could force the states to meet military quotas
 - c. That a bicameral Congress of the Confederation would act as the central governing body
 - d. That each state, no matter what its size, had two votes
 - e. That a powerful central government would be formed based on the system of monarchy
28. Which statement best describes the Committee of States in the context of the American government under the Articles of Confederation?
- a. It consisted of one delegate from each state, appointed by Congress.
 - b. It needed the approval of at least nine states to exercise most powers.
 - c. It had no executive authority.
 - d. It was formed by Congress to manage general affairs under the direction of Congress.
 - e. It needed the consent of all states to amend the Articles.
29. Which of the following is true of the provisions of the Articles of Confederation?
- a. The Congress of the Confederation was a unicameral assembly of representatives.
 - b. Civil officers could be elected by the public to manage general affairs.
 - c. States were deprived of their independent political authority.
 - d. The Congress of the Confederation needed the consent of at least five states to amend the Articles.
 - e. Each state could send only one representative to Congress.
30. What could the Congress of the Confederation not do in the context of the Articles of Confederation?
- a. It could not enter into treaties and alliances.
 - b. It did not have the power to enforce its laws.
 - c. It could not settle disputes among different states.
 - d. It had no power to declare war on any country.

Chapter 2 - The Constitution

- e. It had no power to establish the armed forces.
31. Within a year of signing which document was the new nation suffering from a serious economic depression?
- a. Mayflower Compact
 - b. Treaty of Versailles
 - c. Treaty of Paris
 - d. Declaration of Independence
 - e. Magna Carta
32. Which of the following is a crisis America faced after the Revolutionary War ended?
- a. The nation was prevented from entering into agreements with foreign powers.
 - b. The nation suffered the loss of many lives due to an epidemic.
 - c. The nation drastically reduced the printing of money.
 - d. The nation was prevented from importing sugar from Britain.
 - e. The nation was suffering from a serious economic depression.
33. Which of the following is true of Shays's Rebellion?
- a. It was an indication to American political leaders that the national government was too discriminating.
 - b. It was one of the series of disruptions that indicated the need for a stronger central government.
 - c. It was a protest against the imposition of a tax on all sugar imported into the American colonies.
 - d. It was a catalyst for the Boston Tea Party in rebellion against the Stamp Act.
 - e. It was an indication of the dependence of American colonists on the British Crown.
34. Which of the following was a consequence of Shays' Rebellion?
- a. Banks started refusing to issue new loans.
 - b. States started printing their own money at dizzying rates, leading to inflation.
 - c. Similar protests, emphasizing the need for a stronger national government, started in many areas.
 - d. It led to the signing of the Declaration of Independence.
 - e. States increasingly taxed each other's imports and at times even prevented trade altogether.
35. The Philadelphia meeting, which became the Constitutional Convention, was called for which sole and express purpose?
- a. Revising the Articles of Confederation
 - b. Drafting the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
 - c. Revising the Mayflower Compact
 - d. Electing a president
 - e. Reviewing the provisions in the Great Compromise
36. The delegates at which event wrote a new constitution, the U.S. Constitution, that established a federal form of government?
- a. Nominating Convention
 - b. Boston Tea Party
 - c. Second Continental Congress
 - d. Constitutional Convention

Chapter 2 - The Constitution

- e. First Continental Congress
37. Who made up the majority of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention?
- a. Representatives of the population as a whole
 - b. Members of the best-educated and wealthiest classes
 - c. Members of the Anti-Federalist group
 - d. Ordinary farmers and merchants
 - e. Native Americans
38. Which of the following proposals was part of the Virginia Plan?
- a. A unicameral legislature with states' representations based on their population
 - b. A national executive branch, elected by a bicameral legislature
 - c. A state court system, created by the legislature
 - d. A committee of states based on their participation in the Constitutional Convention
 - e. A federal court judge elected by the people
39. Which of the following was proposed in the New Jersey Plan?
- a. The legislature would create a national court system.
 - b. A state's population would determine its number of representatives in Congress.
 - c. A bicameral legislature would have two chambers that represented the states equally.
 - d. The Acts of Congress would be the supreme law of the land.
 - e. The state laws would overrule Acts of Congress in matters of conflict between states.
40. What did the Great Compromise at the Constitutional Convention do?
- a. Guaranteed freedom of speech to Americans of all races
 - b. Resolved the small-state and large-state controversy by giving something to both sides
 - c. Resolved the issue of slavery
 - d. Guaranteed land for Native Americans
 - e. Agreed on the establishment of a unicameral legislature that equally represented the states
41. What was the goal of the delegates from the northern states in the context of the Three-Fifths Compromise?
- a. They did not want enslaved people to be counted as part of the population.
 - b. They wanted a legislature with two separate chambers.
 - c. They did not want southern states to have any representation in the upper house.
 - d. They wanted each state to have only one vote.
 - e. They did not want to trade with the southern states.
42. Which of the following statements is true about the settlement that was reached at the Constitutional Convention regarding slavery?
- a. The South secured fifty years of unrestricted trading of enslaved people by agreeing to its prohibition thereafter.
 - b. Enslaved people were not considered as part of a state's population.
 - c. Enslaved people who escaped to the northern states had to be returned to their enslavers.
 - d. The domestic trading of enslaved people was banned immediately after the Convention.

Chapter 2 - The Constitution

- e. Enslaved people who escaped to England were considered free.
43. At the Constitutional Convention, in exchange for a ban on export taxes, the South agreed to let Congress have the power to do what?
- a. Impose import taxes
 - b. Regulate voting rights
 - c. Appoint an independent executive
 - d. Ban slavery
 - e. Regulate interstate commerce
44. Which of the following is one of the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation that was addressed by making the president the commander in chief of the army and navy and of the state militias when called into national service?
- a. Lack of regulation of interstate commerce
 - b. Inability of the Congress to force the states to meet military quotas
 - c. Lack of an independent executive authority
 - d. Absence of a judiciary that was independent of the state courts
 - e. Lack of voting powers of the common people to choose their president
45. The battle over the ratification of the Constitution was fought chiefly by which two opposing groups?
- a. The Nationalists and the Federalists
 - b. The Republicans and the Conservatives
 - c. The Anti-Federalists and the Confederates
 - d. The Federalists and the Anti-Federalists
 - e. The Conservatives and the Libertarians
46. As opposed to their opponents, which of the following is an advantage the Federalists had in the debate over the ratification of the Constitution?
- a. They assumed a positive name, leaving their opposition with a negative label.
 - b. They favored the bill of rights more strongly than their opponents.
 - c. They had the support of ordinary farmers and merchants.
 - d. They wrote brilliantly, attacking nearly every clause of the new constitution document.
 - e. They stood for the status quo, which gave them the support of the working class.
47. Which of the following was a fear expressed by the new Constitution's critics?
- a. Americans would consider themselves superior to other nations and declare war unreasonably.
 - b. The rights of the wealthy upper classes would not be protected because of the principle of equality before law.
 - c. A republican form of government would not work in a nation the size of the United States.
 - d. A slave rebellion would ensue because the problem of slavery in the northern states was unresolved despite widespread disapproval.
 - e. Extensive individual freedom in the hands of the common people would lead to chaos.
48. In an attempt to negotiate with the Anti-Federalists during the Constitutional ratification, the Federalists promised to do what?
- a. Establish a federal court system once the Constitution was ratified
 - b. Add a bill of rights to the Constitution under the new government

Chapter 2 - The Constitution

- c. Guarantee voting rights for women and enslaved people to ensure complete representation
- d. Appoint Anti-Federalists to important positions in the government
- e. Minimize the powers of the judicial branch of government to ensure privileges for aristocrats

49. Kayla, a counselor at a government rehabilitation center, refused to pay a fine for violating a traffic rule. She claimed that she had the right to drive as she pleased because she worked for the government. According to which principle is Kayla obligated to pay the fine?

- a. Representative government
- b. Federalism
- c. Liberty
- d. Separation of powers
- e. Rule of law

50. Which principle did the Constitution incorporate as the solution to the debate over whether the national government or the states should have ultimate sovereignty?

- a. Popular sovereignty
- b. Rule of law
- c. Limited government
- d. Federalism
- e. Partisanship

51. Which principle is the Madisonian Model of government is based on?

- a. Separation of powers
- b. Representative government
- c. Rule of law
- d. Taxation without representation
- e. The Great Compromise

52. A bill is introduced by Congress that proposes the use of electronic surveillance in the homes of all citizens. However, the President of the United States rejects the bill and returns it to the legislature for reconsideration on the grounds of the bill violating the Bill of Rights. Which of the following concepts is illustrated in this scenario?

- a. Federalism
- b. Formal anarchy
- c. Partisanship
- d. Veto power
- e. Absolute authority

53. Which of the following emphasizes effective government rather than limited government?

- a. The parliamentary system
- b. The concept of the separation of power
- c. Federalism
- d. The concept of checks and balances
- e. The concept of the veto power

54. How have all the amendments to the Constitution have been proposed?

Chapter 2 - The Constitution

- a. By a vote by one-third of the state legislatures
 - b. By a vote by three-fourths of the state legislatures
 - c. By a two-thirds vote in the Senate and in the House of Representatives
 - d. By a three-fourths vote in the Senate and in the House of Representatives
 - e. By a three-fourths vote in the House of Representatives
55. What does the "traditional" amendment ratification method involve?
- a. A three-fourths vote in the Senate in favor of the proposed amendment
 - b. A three-fourths vote in the House of Representatives requesting Congress to call a national convention
 - c. A two-thirds vote in the Senate and in the House of Representatives in favor of the amendment
 - d. A vote by two-thirds of the state legislatures requesting Congress to call a national convention
 - e. A vote by three-fourths of the state legislatures in favor of the proposed amendment
56. What document was the first governing document of Plymouth Colony?
- a. Declaration of Independence
 - b. Articles of Confederation
 - c. Magna Carte
 - d. Mayflower Compact
 - e. Constitution
57. What event sparked the Boston Tea Party?
- a. Passage of the Sugar Act
 - b. Passage of the Income Tax
 - c. Shay's Rebellion
 - d. Passage of the Quartering Act
 - e. The monopoly given to East India Company
58. What amendment was added in direct response to the Quartering Act?
- a. Third Amendment
 - b. First Amendment
 - c. Fifth Amendment
 - d. Fourth Amendment
 - e. Eighth Amendment
59. What is one power given to the federal government in Article 1, Section 8?
- a. Educating the citizenry
 - b. Establishing civil rights
 - c. Coining money
 - d. Maintaining health of citizens
 - e. Establishing a police force
60. The judicial branch is established and given power in which part of the Constitution?
- a. Article I
 - b. Article II

Chapter 2 - The Constitution

- c. Article III
- d. Article IV
- e. Bill of Rights

61. Discuss the necessity and significance of the Mayflower Compact.
62. In the context of the history of the American government, explain the structure and benefits of colonial legislatures.
63. Summarize the Constitution's principles of limited government and federalism.
64. Discuss how the system of checks and balances in the Constitutional framework ensures that no one group, or branch of government can exercise exclusive control.
65. Describe the four possible ways for an amendment to be added to the Constitution.
66. Adopted in 1639, what was America's first written constitution?
- a. Pennsylvania Charter of Privileges
 - b. Articles of Confederation
 - c. Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
 - d. New Jersey Plan
 - e. Virginia Plan
67. What pioneered the popular election of a governor and judges?
- a. Bill of Rights
 - b. Mayflower Compact
 - c. Pennsylvania Charter of Privileges
 - d. Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
 - e. Virginia Plan
68. What is the term used for the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution?
- a. Bill of Rights
 - b. Mayflower Compact
 - c. Pennsylvania Charter of Privileges
 - d. Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
 - e. Virginia Plan
69. What is the French and Indian War, which began in 1756, called in Europe?
- a. Shays' Rebellion
 - b. the Whiskey Rebellion
 - c. Tecumseh's War
 - d. The Seven Years' War
 - e. The Revolutionary War
70. What did the British Parliament pass in 1774 in response to the Boston Tea Party?
- a. Bill of Rights

Chapter 2 - The Constitution

- b. Mayflower Compact
- c. Coercive Acts
- d. Articles of Confederation
- e. Stamp Act

71. In which meeting did the congress called for a continued boycott of British goods and require each colony to establish an army?

- a. Annapolis Meeting
- b. Philadelphia Convention
- c. First Continental Congress
- d. Second Continental Congress
- e. Stamp Act Congress

72. What settled states' claims to many of the western lands and established a basic pattern for the government of new territories?

- a. Madisonian Model
- b. Mayflower Compact
- c. Northwest Ordinance
- d. Stamp Act
- e. Shays' Rebellion

73. What was the Madisonian Model of government devised to do?

- a. Create a unicameral legislature
- b. Give the judiciary supreme power
- c. Promote controlling factions
- d. Implement separation of powers
- e. Limit the power of the federal government

74. Who are appointed for life but may be impeached and removed from office by Congress for misconduct?

- a. Federal court judges
- b. Members of the House of Representatives
- c. Members of the Senate
- d. Civil officers
- e. Members of the Executive Branch

75. In the context of checks and balances among the branches of government, who can override presidential vetoes?

- a. Congress
- b. the Parliament
- c. the Supreme Court
- d. Voters
- e. Members of the executive branch