

Constitutional Convention

Section 1 Review

2-A) Where did the Constitutional Convention take place?

Answer: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2-B) What was the Constitutional Convention known as in 1787?

Answer: The Federal Convention

2-C) Who was president of the Constitutional Convention?

Answer: George Washington

Section 1 Review

3-A) Why did Rhode Island refuse to send delegates to the Constitutional Convention?

Answer: Their political leaders were opposed to any strengthening of the national government.

3-B) How did the delegates differ from typical Americans of their time?

Answer: They were wealthy and well educated.

Section 1 Review

3-C) What people or groups did not participate in the convention?

Answer: Women, Free Blacks, Native Americans, and Non-Property owning Whites; Also those leaders from the Revolutionary War who were strong advocates for states rights such as Patrick Henry

3-D) Who were some of the most important delegates at the convention?

Answer: George Washington, Convention President; James Madison, Floor leader; Benjamin Franklin, Senior Statesman; Gouverneur Morris, Primary Author of the U.S. Constitution; Alexander Hamilton, advocate for a strong central government

Section 1 Review

- How might the Constitution might have turned out differently if some of the groups missing from the convention had been represented?

Issues to think about: Slavery, Voting, Land Acquisition, Stronger States Rights

Section 2 Review

Events in Chronological Order:

1. Delegates decide to write a new Constitution.
2. Virginia Plan is introduced.
3. New Jersey Plan is introduced.
4. Great Compromise is reached.
5. Three-Fifths Compromise is reached
6. Delegates sign the Constitution

Chronological Order – listing events in the order that they occurred

Section 2 Review

3-A) What important decisions did the delegates reach in the first days of the convention?

Answer: They elected George Washington the president of the convention and adopted rules of procedure, such as holding the meeting in secret

Section 2 Review

3-B) In what ways were the Virginia plans and New Jersey plans similar and different?

Answer: The Virginia Plan: proposed 3 branches of government, a 2 house legislature, representation based on the population of the states only, it gave the national government the power to override state laws, voters would have the power to elect on house of congress and the state legislatures would elect the other branch

The New Jersey Plan: Proposed 3 branches of government, more power for the national government to make laws, all states would have equal representation, legislative branch would only be one house directly elected by state legislature not the voters, Congress would elect members to the executive branch and those people would be responsible for electing the judicial branch

Section 2 Review

3-C) What compromises were the most crucial to the success of the convention?

Answer: The Great Compromise: was a combination of the New Jersey and Virginia Plans; Stated that congress should consist of 2 houses the House of Representatives (which the amount of delegates is determined by the states population) and the Senate (which each state is allowed 2 delegates)

The Three-Fifths Compromise: 3/5 of the slave population was to count towards the amount of people in a state in determining representation and taxes

Section 2 Review

3-D) What did the delegates do to complete the process of writing the Constitution?

Answer: They formed the Committee of Detail to assemble all the resolutions they passed; They made Gouverneur Morris was placed in charge of a committee to revise the final language of the document; They signed the document on September 17, 1787

Section 2 Review

- How would the Constitution and the system of government it created have been different if they had been based on the New Jersey Plan?

Issues to think about: Smaller national government, presidential elections, states rights

Section 3 Review

2-A) Why did some of the delegates want to censure the convention?

Answer: A group of representatives wanted to censure the convention for going beyond their instructions to revise the Articles of Confederation.

2-B) Which three influential Virginians were opposed to the Constitution?

Answer: Yet among those opposed to ratification were such well-known and respected Virginia politicians as Patrick Henry, George Mason, and Richard Henry Lee

Section 3 Review

2-C) Why did the Massachusetts ratifying convention propose that a bill of rights be added to the Constitution?

Answer: When Massachusetts ratified the Constitution, the state convention proposed a series of amendments that would guarantee the rights of citizens.

Section 3 Review

3-A) What was the difference between the Federalists' and Antifederalists' positions on the new Constitution?

Answer: Federalists- supported the constitution and a strong national government

Antifederalists- were opposed to the constitution because they felt it gave too much power to the central government

Section 3 Review

3-B) Why was the support of New York and Virginia so important, even after nine states had ratified the constitution?

Answer: Because they were the last two states that were needed besides to hold out states of North Carolina and Rhode Island to make the ratification successful. Despite a deep struggle with in each state VA and NY both eventually ratified the constitution

Section 3 Review

3-C) What important action did the First Congress take in 1789?

Answer: They approved a series of 12 amendments the first 10 of which were ratified as the Bill of Rights in 1791.

FYI Vocabulary: Framers- the delegates who attended the constitutional convention

Section 3 Review

4. Why did the promise of a bill of rights convince many delegates at the state ratifying conventions to vote in favor of the constitution?

Issues to think about: Guaranty of basic human rights, limits governmental power, prevents treatment as Pre-Revolutionary War governments, always changing