

Chapter 9

The Confederation and the Constitution

A. True or False

Where the statement is true, mark T. Where it is false, mark F, and correct it in the space immediately below.

- ___ 1. The American Revolution created a substantial though not radical push in the direction of social and political equality.
- ___ 2. The movement toward the separation of church and state was greatly accelerated by the disestablishment of the Anglican church in Virginia.
- ___ 3. After the Revolution, slavery was abolished in New York and Pennsylvania, but continued to exist in New England and the South.
- ___ 4. Drawing up a written fundamental law in a special constitutional convention and the submitting the document directly to the people for ratification was an important new idea of the Revolutionary period.
- ___ 5. The state governments after the Revolution stayed mostly under the tight political control of the eastern seaboard elite.
- ___ 6. The United States experienced generally hard economic times and some social discontent during the years of the Confederation (1781-1787).
- ___ 7. The greatest failure of the national government under the Articles of Confederation was its inability to deal with the issue of western lands.
- ___ 8. The Articles of Confederation were weak because they contained neither an executive nor power to tax and regulate commerce.
- ___ 9. The Northwest Ordinance originally attempted to make the western territories permanent colonial possessions of the United States.
- ___ 10. Shays's Rebellion significantly strengthened the movement for a stronger central government by raising the fear of anarchy among conservatives.
- ___ 11. The states sent their delegates to Philadelphia in 1787 for the clear purpose of writing a new Constitution with a strong central government.
- ___ 12. The delegates of the Constitutional Convention were all extremely wealthy slaveholders.

- ___ 13. The “Great Compromise” between large and small states at the convention resulted in a bicameral legislature, with different principles of representation in each house.
- ___ 14. The Anti-Federalists opposed the Constitution partly because they thought it gave too much power to the states and not enough to Congress.
- ___ 15. The Federalists used tough political maneuvering and the promise of a bill of rights to win a narrow ratification of the Constitution in key states.

B. Multiple Choice

Select the best answer and write the proper letter in the space provided.

- ___ 1. Among the important changes brought about by the American Revolution was
 - a. the abolition of slavery in all the states.
 - b. a strong movement toward equality of property rights.
 - c. the increasing separation of church and state.
 - d. full equality and voting rights for women.
- ___ 2. A major new political innovation that emerged in the Revolutionary era was
 - a. the election of legislative representatives capable of voting on taxation.
 - b. the shifting of power from the legislative to the executive branch of government.
 - c. the idea of written constitution drafted by a convention and ratified by direct vote of the people.
 - d. the extension of voting rights to indentured servants.
- ___ 3. Despite the Revolution’s emphasis on human rights and equality, the Founding Fathers failed to abolish slavery because
 - a. they saw it as necessary to maintain American power.
 - b. they feared black rebellion if slavery were removed.
 - c. of the political fear that a fight over slavery would destroy fragile national unity.
 - d. almost none of them believed that slavery was wrong.
- ___ 4. The ideal of “republican motherhood” that emerged from the American Revolution held that
 - a. women should be rewarded politically for having helped establish the American republic.
 - b. women had a special responsibility to cultivate the “civic virtues” of republicanism in their children.
 - c. the government should establish social services to help mothers raise their children.
 - d. mothers should be granted full political and economic rights in the American republic.
- ___ 5. In the new state constitutions written after the Revolution, the most powerful branch of government was
 - a. the legislative branch.
 - b. the executive branch.
 - c. the judicial branch.
 - d. the military branch.

- ___ 6. One way that American independence actually harmed the nation's economic fortunes was by
 - a. ending British trade and investment in America.
 - b. abolishing the stable currency system that had existed under the empire.
 - c. cutting off American trade with the British empire.
 - d. weakening the manufacturing efforts began under the British.

- ___ 7. Attempts to establish strong governments in post-Revolutionary American were especially hindered by
 - a. the lack of strong leadership available in the new nation.
 - b. the revolutionary ideology that preached natural rights and suspicions of all governmental authority.
 - c. the hostility of the clergy toward the idea of separation of church and state.
 - d. the fear that a strong government would suppress economic development.

- ___ 8. The primary political obstacle to the formation of the first American government under the Articles of Confederation was
 - a. disputes among the jealous states over control of western lands.
 - b. disagreement over the relative power of Congress and the executive branch.
 - c. conflict over the right of Congress to regulate trade and manufacturing.
 - d. conflict over slavery between northern and southern states.

- ___ 9. The greatest weakness of the government under the Articles of Confederation was that
 - a. it was unable to deal with the issue of western lands.
 - b. it had no power to regulate commerce or collect taxes from the sovereign states.
 - c. it had no power to establish relations with foreign governments.
 - d. there was no judicial branch to balance the legislative and executive branches.

- ___ 10. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 provided that
 - a. the states should retain permanent control of their western lands.
 - b. money from the sale of western lands should be used to promote manufacturing.
 - c. after sufficient population growth, western territories could be organized and then join the union as states.
 - d. the settlers in the northwest could vote on whether or not they should have slavery.

- ___ 11. Shays's Rebellion contributed to the movement for a new constitution by
 - a. revealing that Revolutionary War veterans like Shays wanted a more powerful federal government.
 - b. raising the fear of anarchy and disorder among wealthy conservatives.
 - c. raising the prospect of British or French interference in American domestic affairs.
 - d. showing that state legislatures could effectively resist the demands of radical farmers.

- ___ 12. Besides George Washington, the most influential figures in the Constitution Convention were
 - a. John Jay, Thomas Jefferson, and John Hancock.
 - b. Samuel Adams, Patrick Henry, and Thomas Paine.
 - c. John Adams, Abigail Adams, and Governor Morris.
 - d. Benjamin Franklin, James Madison, and Alexander Hamilton.

- ___ 13. The “Great Compromise” finally agreed to by the Constitution Convention provided that
- a. the House of Representatives would be elected by the people and the Senate by the state legislatures.
 - b. the large states would be taxed on the basis of population and the small states on the basis of territory.
 - c. there would be separation of powers between the executive and legislative branches of government.
 - d. there would be representation by population in the House of Representatives but equal representation of all states in the Senate.
- ___ 14. Anti-Federalists generally found their greatest support among
- a. small states like Delaware and New Jersey.
 - b. the commercial areas of the eastern seaboard.
 - c. the poorer debtors and farmers.
 - d. the wealthy and well educated.
- ___ 15. The crucial federalist success in the fight for ratification occurred in the states of
- a. Georgia, Maryland, and Delaware.
 - b. Massachusetts, Virginia, and New York
 - c. Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Rhode Island.
 - d. Connecticut, South Carolina, and New Hampshire.

C. Identification

Supply the correct identification for each numbered description.

- _____ 1. New name for the Anglican church after it was disestablished and de-Anglicanized in Virginia and elsewhere.
- _____ 2. The idea that American women had a special responsibility to cultivate “civic virtue” in their children.
- _____ 3. A type of special assembly, originally developed in Massachusetts, for drawing up a fundamental law that would be superior to ordinary law.
- _____ 4. The first constitutional government of the United States.
- _____ 5. The territory north of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi governed by the acts of 1785 and 1787.
- _____ 6. In the new territories, six-mile by six-mile square areas consisting of thirty-six sections, one of which was set aside for public schools.
- _____ 7. The status of a western area under the Northwest Ordinance after it established an organized government but before it became a state.
- _____ 8. A failed revolt in 1786 by poor debtor farmers that raised fears of “mobocracy.”

- _____ 9. The plan proposed by Virginia at the Constitutional Convention for a bicameral legislature with representation based on population
- _____ 10. The plan proposed by New Jersey for a unicameral legislature with equal representation of states regardless of size population
- _____ 11. The compromise between North and South that resulted in each slave being counted as 60 percent of a free person for purposes of representation
- _____ 12. The opponents of the Constitution who argued against creating such a strong central government
- _____ 13. A masterly series of pro-constitution articles printed in New York by Jay, Madison, and Hamilton
- _____ 14. The official under the new Constitution who would be commander-in-chief of the armed forces, appoint judges and other officials, and have the power to veto legislation
- _____ 15. A list of guarantees that federalists promised to add to the Constitution in order to win ratification.

D. Matching People, Places, and Events

Match the person, place, or event in the left column with the proper description in the right column by inserting the correct letter on the blank line.

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|---|--|
| ___ 1. Society of the Cincinnati | A. Group that failed to block the central government they feared but did force the promise of a bill of rights |
| ___ 2. Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom | B. Father of the Constitution and author of <i>Federalist</i> No. 10 |
| ___ 3. Articles of Confederation | C. An exclusive order of military officers that aroused strong democratic opposition |
| ___ 4. Northwest Ordinance of 1787 | D. Wealthy conservatives devoted to republicanism who engineered a nonviolent political transformation |
| ___ 5. Benjamin Franklin | E. Legislation passed by an alliance of Jefferson and the Baptists that disestablished the Anglican church |
| ___ 6. Daniel Shays | F. Revolutionary war veteran who led poor farmers in a revolt that failed but had far-reaching consequences |
| ___ 7. George Washington | G. Elder statesman who lent his prestige to the constitutional Convention and promoted the "Great Compromise" |
| ___ 8. James Madison | H. The only state to allow a direct vote on the Constitution |
| ___ 9. Federalists | I. Frustrated foreign affairs secretary under the Articles; one of the three authors of <i>The Federalist</i> |
| ___ 10. Anti-federalists | J. Legislation that provided for the orderly transformation of western territories into states |

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|---|--|
| ____ 11. Patrick Henry
____ 12. Alexander Hamilton
____ 13. John Jay
____ 14. Massachusetts
____ 15. New York | K. First of key states where federalists won by a narrow margin, overcoming the opposition of anti-federalist Sam Adams.
L. Virginia anti-federalist leader who thought the Constitution spelled the end of liberty and equality
M. Unanimously elected chairman of the secret convention of “demi-gods”
N. Young new Yorker who argued eloquently for the Constitution even though he favored a still stronger central government
O. Document that was put into effect 1781, then put out of business by the Constitution |
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E. Matching Cause and Effect

Match the historical cause in the left column with the proper effect in the right column by writing the correct letter on the blank line.

- | <u>Cause</u> | <u>Effect</u> |
|---|--|
| ____ 1. The American Revolution | A. Forced acceptance of the “Three-Fifths Compromise,” counting each slave as three-fifths of a person for purpose of representation |
| ____ 2. Agreement among states to give up western land claims | B. Made federalists promise to add a bill of rights to the Constitution |
| ____ 3. The weakness of the articles of confederation | C. Nearly bankrupted the national government and invited assaults on American interests by foreign powers |
| ____ 4. Shays’ Rebellion | D. Laid the basis for the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom and the separation of church and state |
| ____ 5. The conflict in the Constitutional Convention between large and small states | E. Brought about somewhat greater social and economic equality and the virtual end of slavery in the North |
| ____ 6. The North-South conflict in the Constitutional Convention over counting slaves for representation | F. Finally brought New York to ratify the Constitution by a narrow margin |
| ____ 7. A meeting in Annapolis to discuss revising the Articles of Confederation. | G. Issued a call to Congress for a special convention to revise Articles of Confederation |
| ____ 8. Anti-Federalist fears that the Constitution would destroy liberties | H. Forced adoption of the “Great Compromise,” which required a bicameral legislature with two different bases of representation |
| ____ 9. <i>The Federalist</i> and fears that New York would be left out of the Union | I. Scared conservatives and made them determined to strengthen the central government against debtors. |
| ____ 10. The disestablishment of the Anglican Church | J. Made possible the approval of the Articles of Confederation and the passage of two important laws governing western lands |