

Constitutional Convention

Close Reading Instructions

- Read the article and circle the following words:
 - bicameral
 - unicameral
 - commerce
 - tariff
 - ratification
- Define each of the words above and choose one or two words that could be used to replace each in the article.

- Read the article and highlight the following terms:
 - Virginia Plan
 - New Jersey Plan
 - Great Compromise
 - House of Representatives
 - Senate
 - Commander-In-Chief
 - Commerce Compromise
 - Three-Fifths Compromise
- List and describe the three major issues discussed in this article facing the delegates of the Constitutional Convention.

Virginia Plan

Who wrote it?

Who did it favor? Why?

Who disliked it? Why?

List two other facts about the plan not already mentioned.

New Jersey Plan

Who wrote it?

Who did it favor? Why?

Who disliked it? Why?

List two other facts about the plan not already mentioned.



“The Great Compromise”

Who proposed it?

What was another name for this plan?

What were the upper and lower houses? How would representation in each house be determined?

Why was this plan successful?

Describe the role of the President under this plan.

- Commerce and Tariffs
 - Who favored higher tariffs? Why?
 - Who was opposed to these tariffs? Why?
 - Describe the compromise that was made on the issue.
- Slaves and Slavery
 - How did the views of Northerners and Southerners differ on slaves being counted as part of the population? Why?
 - Describe how a solution was reached that made both sides happy on the issue.
 - Explain why the year 1808 an important year dealing with slavery in the Constitution?

- Left side activity and summary:
 - create a 5 W’s graphic organizer detailing the Constitutional Convention.
 - Summary Question:
 - The Constitution is often referred to as “a bundle of compromises”. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why or why not?