

Name: _____ Date: _____

Conflicting Sovereignties: Early Republic Constitutionalism for College Students

Analyze the ideological friction between Mercy Otis Warren and Publius as a primary source analysis or seminar prep activity for elective history courses.

1. The 1780s 'Critical Period' was defined by the transition from republican localism to what political concept, championed by figures like James Wilson?

- A. Vestigial feudalism
- B. Popular sovereignty over state-based sovereignty
- C. Unicameral parliamentary supremacy
- D. The implementation of the 'Divine Right of Legislatures'

2. True or False: Elbridge Gerry refused to sign the final draft of the Constitution due to the absence of a Bill of Rights and concerns over the 'unlimited' power of the Senate.

- A. True
- B. False

3. The ____ of 1798 synthesized the compact theory of government, arguing that states had the right to interpose or nullify unconstitutional federal laws.

- A. Hartford Convention
- B. Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions
- C. Essex Result
- D. Federalist Papers No. 10

4. In the context of late 18th-century fiscal policy, how did Alexander Hamilton's 'Report on Public Credit' intend to use the national debt as a 'national blessing'?

- A. By liquidating all debt immediately to ensure a zero-balance sheet
- B. By shifting the tax burden exclusively to agrarian exports
- C. By tying the economic interests of the wealthy elite to the survival of the federal government
- D. By issuing currency backed solely by Western land claims

5. The ____ of 1800 is often cited by historians as a 'bloodless revolution' because it demonstrated the first peaceful transfer of power between opposing political factions.

- A. Quasi-War
- B. Battle of Fallen Timbers
- C. Election
- D. Treaty of Greenville

6. True or False: The 'Anti-Federalist' papers were a coordinated, single-authored effort designed to mirror the structural systematic approach of The Federalist Papers.

- A. True

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B. False

7. Which specific judicial interpretation in 'Chisholm v. Georgia' (1793) led almost immediately to the ratification of the Eleventh Amendment?

- A. The ruling that state governors could be impeached by Congress
- B. The assertion that individuals could sue states in federal court
- C. The claim that the Supreme Court had no original jurisdiction
- D. The decision to abolish state courts in favor of circuit courts

8. The ____ Compromise served as the foundational agreement regarding the bicameral structure of the legislature, balancing proportional and equal representation.

- A. Connecticut
- B. New Jersey
- C. Missouri
- D. Pickney

9. How did the 'Society of the Cincinnati' factor into the constitutional debates of the late 1780s?

- A. They were a radical group of farmers who started Shays' Rebellion
- B. They represented the hereditary military elite that Anti-Federalists feared would dominate the new government
- C. They were the primary advocates for the abolition of the executive branch
- D. They were a religious sect that successfully lobbied for the Establishment Clause

10. True or False: The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 was passed under the Articles of Confederation and established the precedent that the federal government could regulate the expansion of slavery into new territories.

- A. True
- B. False