

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key: Constitutional Hunger Games: 7th Grade Founding Survival Quiz

Students analyze the high-stakes trade-offs of the 1787 Philadelphia session, focusing on the Electoral College, the Fugitive Slave Clause, and federal supremacy.

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**1. Which specific conflict during the 'Critical Period' demonstrated that the national government under the Articles was unable to protect property or public order?**

**Answer:** D) The rebellion of indebted western Massachusetts farmers

Shays' Rebellion (1786-87) was the primary catalyst for the Constitutional Convention, as it proved the federal government lacked the power to raise an army or stabilize the economy.

**2. True or False: The 'Necessary and Proper Clause' was designed to strictly limit the powers of Congress to only those specifically listed in the Constitution.**

**Answer:** B) False

Also known as the 'Elastic Clause,' this provision (Article I, Section 8) allows Congress to expand its powers to carry out its expressed duties, a major point of contention for Anti-Federalists.

**3. The 'Connecticut Compromise' effectively blended which two competing structural philosophies of the Early Republic?**

**Answer:** A) The New Jersey Plan and the Virginia Plan

Roger Sherman's plan combined the Virginia Plan's proportional representation (House) with the New Jersey Plan's equal representation (Senate).

**4. To satisfy concerns about the 'tyranny of the majority,' the framers created the \_\_\_\_\_ to indirectly choose the President.**

**Answer:** B) Electoral College

The Electoral College was a compromise between the election of the President by a vote in Congress and election of the President by a popular vote of qualified citizens.

**5. Which group argued that a 'bill of rights' was actually dangerous because it might imply that any rights not listed were NOT protected?**

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**Answer:** C) The Federalists

Federalists like Alexander Hamilton argued in Federalist No. 84 that an enumeration of rights was unnecessary and potentially restrictive to individual liberty.

**6. The \_\_\_\_\_ Act of 1789 was the first major piece of legislation to define the structure of the federal court system and create the office of Attorney General.**

**Answer:** B) Judiciary

Article III of the Constitution was brief; the Judiciary Act of 1789 filled in the details by establishing the number of Supreme Court justices and lower district courts.

**7. True or False: The original 1787 Constitution prohibited the international slave trade immediately upon its ratification.**

**Answer:** B) False

Article I, Section 9 of the Constitution protected the international slave trade until 1808, a compromise required to keep Southern states in the Union.

**8. In 'Federalist No. 10,' James Madison argued that the best way to control the 'mischiefs of faction' (political parties/interest groups) was to:**

**Answer:** C) Create a large republic with many competing interests

Madison argued that in a large republic, so many different factions would exist that no single one could easily form a majority and oppress the others.

**9. The 1798 Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions introduced the controversial theory of \_\_\_\_\_, suggesting states could ignore federal laws they deemed unconstitutional.**

**Answer:** A) Nullification

Written by Jefferson and Madison in response to the Alien and Sedition Acts, these resolutions laid the groundwork for future states' rights arguments.

**10. True or False: The Constitution was officially adopted and replaced the Articles of Confederation as soon as a simple majority of 7 states signed it at the Convention.**

**Answer:** B) False

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Article VII required 9 out of the 13 states to ratify the document through special state conventions, not just the signatures of the delegates at the Philadelphia Convention.