

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: A Constitutional Cook-Off: Whipping Up the Early Republic for Grade 12

Recall the structural ingredients and early administrative spices that transformed thirteen colonies into a unified federal flavor profile.

1. Which procedural rule during the 1787 Constitutional Convention was intended to allow delegates to speak their minds freely without fear of public retribution?

Answer: A) The Rule of Secrecy

To encourage honest debate and compromise, the delegates agreed to keep all proceedings secret from the public until the document was finished.

2. True or False: Under the Articles of Confederation, the national government lacked a separate executive branch to enforce acts of Congress.

Answer: A) True

The Articles of Confederation provided for a unicameral legislature but did not establish an independent executive or judicial branch.

3. In his 'Farewell Address,' George Washington famously warned the young nation against the dangers of _____.

Answer: B) permanent foreign alliances

Washington advocated for a policy of neutrality, advising the U.S. to avoid getting entangled in European power struggles.

4. Which early political party, led by Thomas Jefferson, championed a strict constructionist interpretation of the Constitution?

Answer: C) The Democratic-Republicans

Democratic-Republicans believed the federal government only possessed the powers specifically listed in the Constitution.

5. The _____ represented a compromise between those who wanted the President elected by Congress and those who wanted a direct popular vote.

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Answer: C) Electoral College

The Electoral College was designed as a buffer, balancing the interests of high-population states and low-population states.

6. True or False: The Anti-Federalists were the primary supporters of the Constitution's ratification because they wanted a stronger central government.

Answer: B) False

Anti-Federalists opposed the Constitution, fearing it gave too much power to the national government at the expense of the states.

7. The passage of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 was significant because it established a clear process for:

Answer: B) Admitting new states to the Union on equal footing

It provided a template for how territories could become states, ensuring they would have the same rights as the original thirteen.

8. To gain support for his financial plan, Alexander Hamilton agreed to move the nation's capital to the _____.

Answer: A) South (Potomac River)

The 'Dinner Table Bargain' involved Southern leaders supporting the assumption of state debts in exchange for moving the capital south.

9. True or False: The Bill of Rights was originally part of the Constitution when it was signed in Philadelphia in 1787.

Answer: B) False

The Bill of Rights was added later in 1791 as the first ten amendments to satisfy the demands of the Anti-Federalists.

10. Which event most directly demonstrated the federal government's new power to enforce national laws under the Constitution?

Answer: C) The Whiskey Rebellion

When Washington led troops to suppress the Whiskey Rebellion, he proved that the new government could and would enforce its tax laws.

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