

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION HISTORICAL SNAPSHOT QUIZ

MULTIPLE CHOICE:

Directions: Read each question carefully and select the best answer:

1. Political Development: According to the reading, the Articles of Confederation created by the Second Continental Congress was which of the following?

- A. A third attempt to unite the states
- B. What closed the American Revolution
- C. The start of the American Revolution
- D. The first attempt at outlining a U.S. government

2. Political Development: Which of the following was NOT an indicator that the government under the Articles of Confederation was weak?

- A. It was largely underfunded (did not have enough money)
- B. It was inadequate (not able to) manage conflicts between states
- C. The Articles made it difficult for the national government to tax or collect debts from states because states could refuse to pay.
- D. A, B and C are all indicators of a weak government under the Articles

3. Political Development: Choose the meaning of the word "unanimous" in the following sentence: "Furthermore, as the Articles of Confederation could only be amended by unanimous vote of the states, proposed changes were almost impossible."

- A. Agreed on by all involved
- B. Animalistic responses
- C. Long-term
- D. Short term

4. Political Development: According to the reading, why was the Constitutional Convention of 1787 named such?

- A. Representatives from each state attended
- B. The Articles were revised
- C. The convention resulted in the creation of the U.S. Constitution
- D. None of the above

5. Political Development: According to the reading, the bicameral legislature of the Virginia plan proposed a branch consisting of which of the following?

- A. Bionic arms
- B. Two presidents
- C. Biographic details
- D. Two houses or a two-house legislative branch

6. Political Development: Which of the following was true of the Virginia Plan drafted by James Madison of Virginia?

- A. States would be represented in proportion of their population, or "contribution" quota
- B. Small population states would have more representation
- C. Large states backed the Virginia plan due to their large populations
- D. Both A and C are correct

7. Political Development: Choose the meaning of the word "rallied" in the following sentence: "States that had a large population like Virginia rallied behind this plan."

- A. Turned down
- B. Cursed
- C. Banished
- D. Gathered support

"Smaller states preferred William Patterson's New Jersey Plan which proposed a single-house legislative branch. In the New Jersey Plan, each state, regardless of size, would have one vote. They argued that each state should have equal representation in the nation's lawmaking process."

8. Political Development: Choose the sentence from the excerpt that supports the topic sentence: "States with smaller populations rallied together at the Constitutional Convention in the hopes of ensuring all of their citizens had equal say in the U.S. government."

- A. "Smaller states preferred William Patterson's New Jersey Plan which proposed a single-house legislative branch."
- B. "In the New Jersey Plan, each state, regardless of size, would have eleven votes."
- C. "They argued that each state should have equal representation in the nation's lawmaking process."
- D. None of the excerpts above support the topic sentence

9. Political Development: Which of the following were created in the Connecticut Compromise (Great Compromise)?

- A. House of Representatives, where states were represented according to population
- B. Senate, where each state is equally represented
- C. A bicameral (two-house) legislative branch
- D. Only A and B are correct
- E. A, B, and C are all correct

10. Political Development: Choose the meaning of the word "compromise" in the following excerpt: "They argued that each state should have equal representation in the nation's lawmaking process. In the end, the convention settled on the Connecticut Compromise (or Great Compromise), creating a bicameral (two house) legislative branch."

- A. An agreement made when both parties are flexible and give up some of their demands for the greater good
- B. A disagreement that ends in a stalemate (no one agrees or gives up some of their demands)
- C. A temporary agreement for both parties to further think about and discuss items they are demanding
- D. None of the above

11. Social and Cultural Development: What major topic became a concern when the House of Representatives was established with representation based on population?

- A. Slavery
- B. Large families
- C. Native Americans
- D. None of the above

"Since slaves could not vote, non-slaves in slave states would thus have the benefit of increased representation in the House of Representatives. Those who opposed slavery proposed that only free citizens of each state be counted."

12. Social and Cultural Development: What can you predict from the excerpt above?

- A. Northern states wanted slaves to count toward population of a state in the House of Representatives.
- B. The Southern states would want slaves included in their population count for their benefit in the House of Representatives.
- C. Slaves were asked to come to the Constitutional Convention to speak regarding the House of Representatives.
- E. None of the above can be predicted from the excerpts

"In this compromise slaves counted as three-fifths of a person, which reduced the representation of the slave states relative to the original proposals. On the other hand, Southern states were pleased because taxation for the South was applied with the same ratio, meaning that taxation on the slave states was also reduced."

13. Social and Cultural Development: According to the excerpt above, what did the NON-SLAVE states compromise in the Three-Fifths resolution?

- A. They allowed slavery
- B. Slaves weren't considered a full vote, so larger states weren't being considered as populated, thus giving smaller states more balanced power
- C. The small states could force more taxes on slave states
- D. None of the above

“Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons” (Article 1, Section 2, Paragraph 3 of the United States Constitution).

14. Social and Cultural Development: How does the excerpt above show a struggle to provide full inclusion for all citizens?

- A. Considers a free person bound to service for a term of years as part of a state's population
- B. Excludes Indians and slaves from being citizens or people
- C. States that Native Americans are three-fifths of all other persons
- D. Both B and C show the struggles the delegates had to provide full inclusion for all citizens

15. Social and Cultural Development: Choose the meaning of the word "cautioned" in the following sentence: "On September 7, 1787, the Constitution was signed by 39 of the 55 delegates, even though many cautioned that the new constitution had not yet guaranteed the rights of citizens."

- A. Warn against
- B. Refused
- C. Supported
- D. None of the above are the meaning of "cautioned" from the excerpt

ANSWER KEY

1. D
2. D
3. A
4. C
5. D
6. D
7. D
8. C
9. E
10. A
11. A
12. B
13. B
14. B
15. A