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

**Study Guide for Constitution Test #1**

**Answers for the study guide questions are found in the National Geographic 8th text, Chapters 4, 5, 6, & 7 or any 8th grade history curriculum.** Study guide answers will be correctedduring the Monday afternoon history classes. If not enrolled, then either meet with or call the 8th grade advisor to correct before the test is administered. Test must be taken by date listed in the reference binder.

1. What are the three English political traditions that influenced our Founding Fathers as democracy was developing in America? (pp. 150-151)

2. What freedom or right was established after the John Peter Zenger trial? (p. 153)

3. In 1690, Englishman John Locke proposed that people have natural rights, including life, liberty and property. How did the idea of natural rights help to set the stage for conflict between the colonists and Britain? (p. 149. P. 186)

4. When England imposed the Stamp Act of 1765, frustrated colonists used the slogan, “No taxation without representation!” Explain what the colonists meant by this phrase. (pp. 180-181)

5. Who wrote *Common Sense,* a popular guide that increased support for independence? (p. 207)

6. The main **result** of the British Stamp Act, the Boston Massacre, the Intolerable Acts, and the publication of *Common Sense* was that the colonists decided in 1776 to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. *Use space below to answer. (p. 182, p. 188, p. 194)*

**Directions:** *Use the quotation below to answer questions 11-13.*

**“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”**

7. What is another way to express the main idea of the quotation? (pp. 208-209)

8. From what American document is this important passage taken? (p. 208)

9. Though a committee was formed at the Continental Congress in 1776 to write a document outlining the reasons for separating from Britain, one man from Virginia was largely responsible for this writing. Who was this man? (p. 208)

10. The turning point of the American Revolution was the Battle of Saratoga. Why was

it considered the turning point in our war against Britain? (p. 227)

11. In 1782 representatives from England and the United States met and negotiated an end to the war and recognized American independence. This agreement is known as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (p. 244)

12. As capitalism was developing in America, and around the world, it encouraged exploration and colonization. What is capitalism? (glossary)

13. **Define the following terms:**

a. charter

b. Patriots

c. alliance

d. legislature

e. colony

f. jury

g. Loyalists

h. republic

14. In 1781 the Articles of Confederation were finally approved by the last of 13 states and considered to be the first constitution of the United States. (p. 250, pp. 254-255)

**Who had the most political power under the Articles of Confederation?**

**Explain why the Continental Congress members decided to create a limited central government.**

**Cite one problem our country experienced with its limited central government under the Articles.**

15. How did Shays’ Rebellion encourage a plan to revise the Articles of Confederation? (p. 255)

16. The Constitutional Convention was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in May 1787. Originally, the convention’s purpose was to revise the Articles of Confederation, but delegates agreed to organize a totally new framework with a stronger central government being the goal. (p. 258)

**a. What were the two plans submitted for the structure of Congress that emerged from the debates?**

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b. Roger Sherman proposed an idea he hoped would satisfy both large and small states that submitted the above plans. The members finally resolved this conflict

between the two plans and we now refer to this action as the:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

17. Roger Sherman’s plan included a two-house Congress, with representation being a key component. Review both the Virginia and New Jersey plans in the boxes below, then answer the questions that follow. (pp. 258-259)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Virginia Plan** | **New Jersey Plan** |
| \*three branches of government:  executive, legislative, judicial  \*two houses in the legislative branch  \*representation in legislative branch based on  each state’s population  \*supported by James Madison and Edmund  Randolf | \*three branches of government:  executive, legislative, judicial  \*one house in the legislative branch  \*equal representation for each state in  legislative branch  \*supported by William Paterson |

**Why did the smaller states, like New Jersey, oppose the Virginia plan?**

**In Congress, which plan became our House of Representatives? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Which plan became our Senate? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Which body is considered the “lower house” of Congress? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_;**

**The “upper house”?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

18. Slavery has been called the “unfinished business” of the Constitutional Convention because it postponed the issue of slavery. There were heated debates between the Northern and Southern delegates that resulted in the *Three-Fifths* *Compromise.*

Explain what this compromise entailed. (p. 260)

19. The opening phrase of the Constitution, “We, the people,…” means that the

Constitution gets its power from the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (p. R9 in the back of the text)

20. **MEMORIZE the Preamble to the Constitution (p. R9 in the back of the text)**

21. Which group supported the creation of a strong national government? *Choose one: (p.262)*

1. Federalists
2. Antifederalists

22. What were the reasons that some Antifederalists opposed the Constitution? (p. 262)

23. What is the *Bill of Rights*? (p.263)

What was the goal of the *Bill of Rights*? (p. 262)

24. **Define the following terms: (glossary)**

a**.** compromise

b. constitution

c. ratify

d. amendment

f. executive