

Study Aides

UNIT 3 - Constitution

- All the following vocabulary lists are available www.quizlet.com under “nicolle-clark” (click the USERS tab to more easily find me). The lists correspond with the list numbers on your glossary.
- To study for map quizzes, try www.seterraonline.com and look at their US Map quizzes.

Quiz #7

1. ***constitution** – a document that explains the rules a government must follow and the responsibilities of government. By doing this, constitutions limit the power of a government.
2. ***Republic** – type of government where citizens elect representatives to govern them.
3. ***Articles of Confederation** – the first constitution of the United States, used from 1776 to 1789 when the current constitution (the United States Constitution) was ratified.
4. ***Treaty of Paris, 1783** – the agreement between the United States and Great Britain that recognized the United States as an independent nation and ended the American Revolution.
5. ***Northwest Ordinance** – a 1787 article that set up a government for the Northwest territory, guaranteed basic rights to settlers, outlawed slavery in that territory, AND SET UP THE PROCEDURE FOR ADMITTING NEW STATES TO THE UNION.
6. **Shays’ Rebellion** – a 1786 revolt in MAssachusetts led by farmers in reaction to high taxes.
7. ***Philadelphia (or Constitutional) Convention, 1787** –The delegates got rid of the Articles of Confederation and wrote a new U.S. Constitution.
8. ***United States Constitution** – the rulebook for the United States government. It explains how our government is to be run and its amendments protect the rights of the people in the U.S. It was written in 1787 and ratified (or approved) in 1789.
9. ***Federation** – a type of government where the states of a country are united under a centralized form of government. Example: Modern day US
10. **Confederation** – a type of government where smaller units, like states, govern themselves but occasionally join together for a mutual purpose like defense. Unlike a Federation, there is no strong central authority over the states. Example: US Government immediately following the Revolution, Government of the Southern states during the Civil War.

Quiz #8

1. ***Federalists** – supporters of the new U.S. Constitution, who favored a strong federal or national government.
2. ***Anti-Federalists** – people opposed to the new U.S. Constitution and a strong national government because they feared the government would abuse the rights of the people, just as Britain had abused their rights. Their resistance to a new constitution did not prevent us from getting one, but it did force the addition (by the amendment process) of the Bill of Rights.

3. ***Federalist Papers** – a series of articles written by Hamilton, Madison, and John Jay, to convince Americans to support ratification the U.S. Constitution.
4. ***Virginia Plan** – plan presented by James Madison and Edmund Randolph at the Constitutional Convention (Philadelphia Convention) favored by larger states, that called for a strong national government with three branches and a two-chamber legislature based on population.
5. ***New Jersey Plan** – a plan of government proposed at the Constitutional Convention in 1787, favored by small states, that called for a one-house legislature in which each state got one vote.
6. ***Alexander Hamilton** – wrote Federalists Papers, along with Madison and Jay, which supported the ratification of the Constitution and convinced people to approve it.
7. ***James Madison** - wrote Federalist Papers, along with Hamilton and Jay, which supported the ratification of the Constitution and convinced people to approve it. He was often called the “Father of the Constitution” because his Virginia Plan became the basis for it.
8. ***George Washington** – President of the Philadelphia Convention where he served as a delegate from VA. He was elected unanimously because of his service in the American Revolution.
9. ***Benjamin Franklin** – probably the most famous American of his time, one of his many accomplishments was he helped the delegates move toward compromise at the Convention.
10. ***George Mason** – most influential Virginian, other than George Washington, who was not in favor of ratifying the U.S. Constitution because it did not explicitly protect individual rights.
11. ***Patrick Henry** – famous patriot and supporter of the American Revolution, he boycotted the Philadelphia Convention. He strongly opposed a new constitution because he believed a strong federal government would pull power away from the states, and therefore the people.
12. ***Founding Fathers** – George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Alexander Hamilton, James Monroe, and others who laid the groundwork for the United States.

Quiz #9

1. * **Great (or Connecticut) Compromise** - Roger Sherman’s plan at the Constitutional Convention for a two-house legislature. It settled the differences between large and small states.
2. ***Three-Fifths Compromise** – Agreement of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention that three-fifths of the slaves in any state would be counted in that states’ population.
3. **Limited Government** – PRINCIPLE OF GOVERNMENT STATING everyone, including those in charge, must obey the laws. Constitutions usually define the limits of those in power so they cannot take advantage of their elected, appointed, or inherited position.

4. **Republicanism** - PRINCIPLE OF GOVERNMENT STATING people elect representatives to make laws for them.
5. **Checks and Balances** – PRINCIPLE OF GOVERNMENT STATING that safeguards against abuse of power by giving each branch of government the power to check the other branches.
6. **Federalism** - PRINCIPLE OF GOVERNMENT STATING that government powers will be divided between the federal (national) government and the states in a country.
7. **Separation of Powers** – PRINCIPLE OF GOVERNMENT STATING that power should be divided between the three branches to prevent one branch from abusing their power. A good example of the separation of power is the way we make laws. Congress has the power to write the bill (proposed law), the President has the power to sign it into law, and the Judicial Branch has the power to determine its constitutionality. Therefore, the ability to make laws is divided to prevent one branch from making laws that would benefit only them.
8. **Popular Sovereignty** – PRINCIPLE OF GOVERNMENT STATING that all power ultimately rests with the people. The people can create, alter, or abolish a government that is not protecting their rights. Popular sovereignty was used by Thomas Jefferson to justify the Declaration of Independence and by the Southern states to justify allowing the spread of slavery and even secession.
9. **Individual Rights** - PRINCIPLE OF GOVERNMENT STATING that people are born with rights that must be protected, preferably in writing. Many opposed the U.S. Constitution (remember George Mason) in 1787-1789 because it did not explicitly protect individual rights. Their objections finally forced James Madison to promise to add a Bill of Rights. In 1791, the Bill of Rights became the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution.
10. **Judicial Review** – PRINCIPLE OF GOVERNMENT STATING that the Judicial Branch has the authority to review all acts and laws that are brought before them and determine if they are constitutional or unconstitutional. Under Chief Justice John Marshall, and because of the Marbury v. Madison case, Judicial Review was established.

Quiz #10

1. **Executive Branch** – branch of government headed by the president. It is responsible for enforcing laws.
2. **Legislative Branch** – branch of government headed by Congress, which included the House of Representatives (number of representatives based on population of state) and the Senate (2 senators per state). It is responsible for writing laws.
3. **Judicial Branch** – branch of government headed by the US Supreme Court. When a law is challenged, this branch is responsible for determining the constitutionality of that law.
1. **Veto** – reject, as when the president rejects a bill passed by Congress.
2. ***House of Representatives** – legislative body (1/2 of Legislative Branch) of the United States government with a total of 435 members elected by the states on the basis of population (proportional representation).

3. ***Senate** – legislative body (½ of Legislative Branch) of the United States government with a total of 100 members, with 2 each being elected by the states (equal representation).
4. ***President** – the head of the executive branch and the Chief Executive of the United States.
5. ***Supreme Court** – the highest court in the judicial branch of the United States.
6. ***George Washington** – 1st President of United States from 1789 – 1797.
7. ***Bill of Rights** – first 10 amendments to the United States Constitution.
8. **Amend** – change
9. **Ratify** – approve
10. **Chief Justice** – The head of our Supreme Court and Federal Court System, they are responsible for setting the agenda of the court, presiding over oral arguments, and writing the court’s opinion when in the majority. John Roberts Jr. (born January 27, 1955) is the 17th and current Chief Justice of the United States. He took his seat in 2005, having been nominated by President George W. Bush after the death of chief justice William Rehnquist. This is a lifetime position.
11. **Speaker of the House** – The presiding officer, elected by the majority party, of the US House of Representatives. The current Speaker is Paul Ryan (R) from Wisconsin.
12. **Senate Majority Leader** – the chief spokesperson for the party with the most members in the U.S. Senate. The current majority party in the Senate is the Republican Party, and Mitch McConnell (R) from Kentucky the Senate Majority Leader.

.....

Vocabulary Activities:

MIT (Most Important Thing)

Format:

The MIT about insert vocabulary term is it’s insert underlined portion of definition.

- a. List one additional characteristic.
- b. List one additional characteristic.

BUT...is insert underlined portion of definition.