

# CONTENT

Fill in the circle before the correct answer.

- The group of people appointed to help the President is called the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (a) Cabinet
  - (b) legislature
  - (c) Congress
  - (d) confederacy
- An agreement in which each side gives up something is a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (a) constitution
  - (b) compromise
  - (c) political party
  - (d) ratification
- The first ten amendments to the Constitution are known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (a) Northwest Ordinance
  - (b) Bill of Rights
  - (c) Articles of Confederation
  - (d) Preamble
- Who is known as the Father of the Constitution?
  - (a) George Washington
  - (b) Thomas Jefferson
  - (c) James Madison
  - (d) Benjamin Franklin
- In 1786 farmers in Massachusetts who could not pay taxes protested by taking part in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (a) the Northwest Ordinance
  - (b) the American Revolution
  - (c) the Constitutional Convention
  - (d) Shays's Rebellion

Write the phrase from the box that best completes each sentence.

Constitutional Convention	New Jersey Plan	Articles of Confederation
Great Compromise	Virginia Plan	

The country's first central government was set up under the (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

This weak government resulted in conflicts among the states. A meeting known as the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ was held to discuss this problem. A plan known as the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ first suggested three branches of government. It also stated that representation in Congress should be based on a state's population. Another idea, the (9) \_\_\_\_\_, suggested giving all states the same number of representatives. Parts of both plans were combined under the (10) \_\_\_\_\_.

# SKILLS

Read these statements on slavery from two delegates to the Constitutional Convention. Then answer the questions.

It gives me great pleasure that so much was done. . . . I consider this [*the Constitution*] as laying the foundation for **banishing** slavery out of this country. . . though the period is more distant than I could wish.

—James Wilson

Slavery discourages arts and manufacturing. . . . Every master of slaves is born a **petty tyrant**.

—George Mason

*banishing*: getting rid of

*petty*: unimportant

*tyrant*: evil ruler

Source: *From Colonies to Country* by Joy Hakim, Oxford University Press, New York, 1993

1. What is Wilson's point of view on slavery?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is Mason's point of view on slavery? Tell how you know.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Is Wilson's statement a fact or an opinion? Tell how you know.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. How are both men's points of view alike?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. How can you tell someone's point of view on a subject?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

Write a short paragraph to answer each question. If you need more room, continue writing on the back of this page.

1. The Constitutional Convention struggled to find a fair way to decide how many representatives would come from large and small states. How did the Great Compromise solve this problem? Who came up with this compromise?

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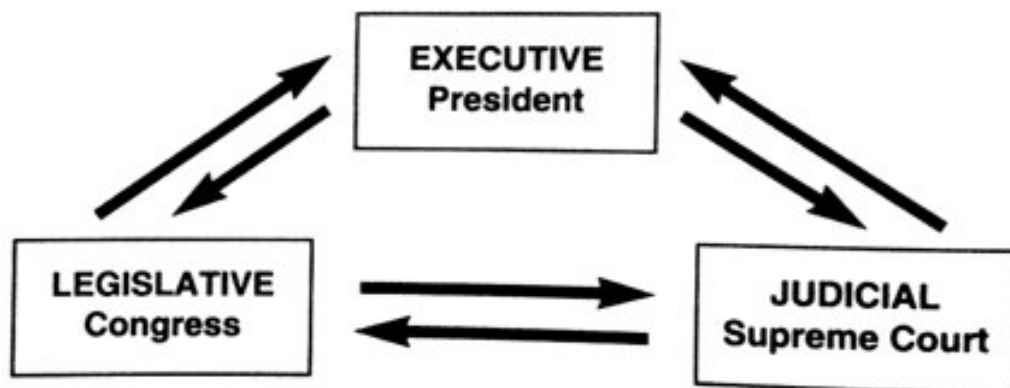


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2. The diagram below shows the three branches of the federal government. An important feature of the Constitution is the system of checks and balances it calls for among these branches. Describe this system and tell how it works.




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