

American Government: Stories of a Nation for the AP® Course

Guided Reading

Section 2.4: Ratification: Federalists Versus Antifederalists

Name _____
Date _____ Class _____

 **Before you read**

Before reading this section, take a moment to read the Learning Target and vocabulary terms you will encounter.

Learning Target: Compare and contrast the arguments put forth by the Federalists and Antifederalists during the ratification debates.

AP® Key Concepts

Federalists	faction
Antifederalists	<i>Federalist No. 10</i>
Federalist Papers	Brutus No. 1
<i>Federalist No. 51</i>	

 **While you read**

Use the following table to take notes as you read the section.

Group	Views on central government/democracy	U.S. foundational documents
Federalists		
Antifederalists		

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 **After you read**

Once you've finished reading the section, answer the following questions.

1. A Federalist is:
 - A. someone who believes states should retain sovereignty.
 - B. someone who supports the Articles of Confederation.
 - C. someone who supports the Constitution.
 - D. someone who thinks national government should be weak.

2. The group opposed to the new Constitution and believed in strong state governments were known as:
 - A. Federalists.
 - B. Antifederalists.
 - C. Nationalists.
 - D. Constitutionalists.

3. Who would MOST likely be a supporter of the proposed Constitution?
 - A. a rural citizen
 - B. a wealthy merchant
 - C. an educated shopkeeper
 - D. Samuel Adams

4. Which is an issue that divided the Federalists and the Antifederalists?
 - A. How much power the president would have in the new government.
 - B. How states would be represented in the new government.
 - C. How a republic would be successful in such a large nation.
 - D. How slavery would be handled in a new government.

5. The Federalist Papers are:
 - A. a collection of eighty-five essays that outline the theory behind the Constitution.
 - B. a series of newspaper articles that argue in favor of the Articles of Confederation.
 - C. a group of pamphlets that argue in favor of restrictions on slavery.
 - D. a series of essays written to inform people of the Constitutional Convention.

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6. Which statement BEST describes Federalist No. 51?

- A. An essay in which John Jay argued that a Bill of Rights in the Constitution would prevent the government from trampling on the rights of people.
- B. An essay in which Alexander Hamilton argued that the economy under the Constitution would thrive with a stronger national government.
- C. An essay in which James Madison argued that tyranny will be prevented through separation of powers and federalism.
- D. An essay in which George Washington argued that anarchy would be the only option if the Constitution was not adopted.

7. According to James Madison, a faction is:

- A. A group of people with the same political views who campaign for a president that shares similar values.
- B. A group of people with similar interests who use the government to achieve a goal, infringing on the rights of others in the process.
- C. A group of people who protest the government to get certain legislation passed that is in their best interests.
- D. A group of people who organize to overthrow the current government and establish their own government.

8. Jane is reading a Federalist Paper that describes the problem of factions and how the dangers of such groups can be mitigated with a large republic and a republican government. Which of the Federalist Papers is Jane reading?

- A. *Federalist* No. 51
- B. *Federalist* No. 12
- C. *Federalist* No. 10
- D. *Federalist* No. 63

9. How does a republican form of government lessen the dangers of large factions?

- A. By allowing people to vote directly for laws that are in their own interests.
- B. By giving more power to the national government than state governments.
- C. By establishing separate branches of government with checks and balances.
- D. By making it difficult for unqualified candidates to be voted into positions of power.

10. If a faction of majority is widespread throughout one state, a large _____ prevents the interests of that faction from spreading throughout the nation.

11. In a tyranny of the minority:

- A. a small number of citizens takes over the government to pursue their interests.
- B. a small number of citizens tramples on the rights of the larger population.
- C. a small number of citizens influence an entire state's government.
- D. a small number of citizens coordinate an attack on the rest of the population.

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12. The Antifederalist argument regarding the power of the national government was that:
- A. the strength of the national government would give states too much responsibility.
 - B. a stronger national government might infringe on the rights of the states.
 - C. the stronger national government would not accurately represent American citizens.
 - D. the national government would be too large to effectively conduct foreign policy.
13. Brutus No. 1 can be described as:
- A. an Antifederalist Paper that advocated for the Articles of Confederation and outlined the strengths of the Articles.
 - B. an Antifederalist Paper that urged readers to vote against the Constitution in the upcoming ratifying elections.
 - C. an Antifederalist Paper that argued slavery was immoral and should be made illegal in a government that emphasizes liberty and human rights.
 - D. an Antifederalist Paper that argued America was too large to be governed as a republic and the Constitution gave too much power to the national government.
14. Which statement BEST reflects the argument made in Brutus No. 1 regarding the power of state governments?
- A. As state governments and the national government conflict over authority, there will eventually be another war between state militias and the national army.
 - B. The Constitution does not provide any protections for the states and therefore leaves them vulnerable to the national government.
 - C. States will retain power throughout the republic, but it will not be enough power to keep the national government from being too strong.
 - D. Any power retained by the states will be seen as a clog and additional power will be removed from the states and the federal government will grow stronger.
15. According to Brutus No. 1, the tendency of men to increase their power and authority is rooted in:
- A. economic well-being.
 - B. human nature.
 - C. social upbringing.
 - D. environmental influences.
16. According to Madison, how does bicameralism further prevent the possibility of tyranny in a republic?
- A. Each chamber has different authorities and methods of being elected.
 - B. Not all the legislative power is concentrated in one chamber.
 - C. States are represented equally in both houses so one state cannot trample another.
 - D. The terms of congressmen are limited so power must be given up every two years.
17. What key concept was crucial to defending against the dangers of tyranny, according to James Madison?
- A. a democratic government with separation of powers
 - B. a republican government with a bicameral legislature
 - C. a federal system with separation of powers

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D. a system of articles with equal state representation

18. Heather is a political scientist who has thoroughly studied the Federalist Papers, and believes that the most important Federalist is one in which separation of powers and tyranny are discussed. Which Federalist is Heather talking about?

- A. Federalist No. 1
- B. Federalist No. 10
- C. Federalist No. 45
- D. Federalist No. 51

19. A bill of rights is:

- A. a list of rights that the government has over the people.
- B. a list of rights individuals have that are given to them by the government.
- C. a list of rights individuals have that cannot be taken away by the government.
- D. a list of rights that states maintain under the new form of government.

20. Those in favor of a bill of rights argued that it would be necessary so as to:

- A. check the tendency of the government to infringe on the rights of individuals over time.
- B. safeguard against any legislation that might infringe on the rights of the individual.
- C. prevent a tyrannical government from forming and taking away rights.
- D. be updated and changed in the future as the priorities of the nation change.

21. Why did James Madison decide to campaign with the promise of adding a bill of rights during the later part of the ratification campaign?

- A. The Constitution had already been ratified by nine states, so he could risk promising adding a bill of rights.
- B. The possibility of New York and Virginia not ratifying and the country splitting was too real and adding a bill of rights was a sure way of preventing that.
- C. Many of the states would not ratify unless Madison promised to add a bill of rights once the Constitution was law.
- D. He was afraid that the Constitution would not be ratified with a bill of rights, so he proposed one only after most of the states had ratified.

22. Which statement describes a criticism of the Constitution with regards to the motives of the founding fathers?

- A. The Constitution was a way of keeping slavery legal and without restrictions.
- B. The Constitution allowed the founding fathers to increase personal wealth.
- C. The Constitution was designed to give wealthy elites more power in the national government.
- D. The Constitution gave more power to the states with wealthy plantation owners and slaves.

23. Why did the founding fathers generally mistrust pure democracy?

- A. Pure democracy did not work under the Articles of Confederation.

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- B. They did not want to give every person an equal voice in the new government.
 - C. State legislatures based on pure democracy had trampled on the rights of the minority.
 - D. They wanted to prevent uneducated people from having a direct say in important matters.
24. How is the Electoral College an example of the founders' mistrust of pure democracy?
- A. It keeps the wealthy and educated elites in control of the national government.
 - B. It allows for the will of the people to be checked in the election of representatives.
 - C. It prevents the president from being directly elected by American citizens.
 - D. It establishes a way for people to influence elections and have their voices heard.