



1. Compare and contrast the structures of government formed under the Articles of Confederation and the U.S. Constitution. How are the colonists' historical experiences reflected in each document? How did the weaknesses of the Articles lead to a different structure in the Constitution?
2. At the Constitutional Convention, several compromises were made to garner the support of various states. Describe these compromises and the debates that surrounded them.
3. The framers of the Constitution established a separation of power between the three branches of government. Explain why the framers wanted an executive branch to be separate from the legislative branch. Indicate the advantages and disadvantages such a separation presents.
4. The Constitution's ratification process included arguments for and against ratification by Federalists and Anti-Federalists. Describe and evaluate the arguments expressed by both of these groups.
5. Discuss how the Bill of Rights reflects the founders concerns with natural rights, specifically those rights mentioned in the Declaration of Independence.
6. The process of amending the U.S. Constitution is an intentionally difficult one. Yet those in each branch of government have found ways in which the Constitution can be changed informally. Describe the methods, both formally and informally, of constitutional change.
7. If the founders had provided for the gradual elimination of slavery in the Constitution, and as a result the Carolinas and Georgia had refused to participate in the union, how might American history in the 1800s have been different?