THE UNITED STATES CONSITUTION #1 Name _____

The United States Constitution

I. Constitutional Convention, 1787

A. The Articles of Confederation were intentionally _____ in order to protect state & individual _____

1. But, the inability of the national gov't to _____ & unify the states led to problems like _____ Rebellion
2. A _____ Convention was held in Philadelphia in 1787 to discuss ways to _____ the power of the _____ government

B. In May 1787, 55 delegates met in Philadelphia, but instead of _____ the Articles of Confederation, they _____ it with the Constitution

C. The new Constitution was very _____ from the Articles of Confederation (AOC):

1. It gave more _____ to the national government
2. It had 3 _____ of gov't, rather than 1 weak _____
3. The _____ government under the Constitution would have _____ features & powers that the Articles of Confederation did not have
   a. Congress would have the power to _____ & _____
   b. The national government would have a _____ & a _____

II. Compromises at the Constitutional Convention:

A. The delegates at the convention had to negotiate a series of _____ in order to agree on a framework for government

B. Many of these compromises dealt with how _____ would be chosen from the _____ to serve in Congress

1. Representation in Congress (*Critical Thinking Question A: Large States vs. Small States*)

   a. Virginia Plan:
   (1). A _____ (two-house) congress
   (2). _____ states have more representatives
   (3). Adding a president as national leader

   b. New Jersey Plan:
   (1). A unicameral (one-house) congress
   (2). States are _____ represented just like the AOC
   (3). No _____

   c. The Great Compromise
   (1) The _____ resolved the differences between the large & small states by creating a _____ Congress:
   (2). _____: Each _____ has 2 representatives who serve ____-year terms
   (3). _____: Number of reps is determined by each state's _____

2. Counting Slaves (*Critical Thinking Question B: Southern Slave States vs. Northern Free States*)

   a. Northern & Southern states could not agree whether or not to count slaves towards _____ size
   b. If _____ are counted, _____ states would have more representatives
   c. The _____ Compromise settled the issue: Three of five _____ would be counted toward _____ in the House of Representatives

3. Compromising with Slavery: (*Critical Thinking Question C: To End Slavery or Not)*

a. Many Northerners wanted to use the Constitutional Convention to _____, but _____ threatened to _____ the USA anytime slavery was discussed

b. As a compromise for the South, the _____ could continue for _____ more years & _____ slaves would be returned to slave masters

C. James _____ helped negotiate many of the compromises that made the Constitution possible & is referred to as the "_____ *of the Constitution*"

III. Key Ideas of the Constitution

A. *Popular Sovereignty*: the _____ have power by _____ for leaders

B. *Limited gov't*: even though the national gov't was _____, citizens' _____ was still protected

C. *Federalism*: the national gov't _____ power with _____ governments

1. The Constitution was a _____ shift from the Articles of Confederation because it gave more _____ to the _____ gov't than to the state governments

2. The _____ clause establishes the Constitution (not the states) as the "the supreme law of the land"

D. *Separation of powers*: three branches with defined _____

1. _____ Branch (_____ = House of Representatives + Senate):

a. Only Congress can make _____, declare war, and create _____

b. The "_____ clause" gives Congress implied powers to make laws seen as "necessary & proper"

c. Only the _____ can approve treaties & only the _____ can create taxes

2. _____ Branch (_____, *Vice-President, Bureaucracy*)

a. The president _____ the laws passed by Congress

b. The president oversees the bureaucracy (departments & federal agencies)

3. _____ Branch (*Federal Courts*) – The only court mentioned in the Constitution is the _____ Court

E. *Checks & balances*: each branch can _____ the power of the others

IV. Ratification of the Constitution: Federalists & Anti-Federalists

A. In order for the Constitution to be legitimate, _____ of the 13 states had to _____ (agree to) it

1. _____

a. Supported ratification of the Constitution

b. Were well-organized & educated

c. Alexander Hamilton & James Madison authored the _____ to argue for ratification

2. Anti-Federalists

a. _____ ratification because they _____ that this gave too much power to the national gov't

b. Argued that the Constitution was an _____ change in government

c. Wanted a _____

B. To win ratification, the _____ agreed to add a Bill of Rights to protect citizens' liberty; all 13 states agreed to _____ the Constitution

C. Constitution became the official the law of the land in _____

D. The Constitution proved to be a _____ form of government; Today, the Constitution is the oldest existing written government in the world & has become a _____ for other nations