

The Constitution

American Government – Chapter 2, Part II (pages 28ff)

Related documents: *Federalist 10*, *Federalist 51*

Define the following terms:

1. republic
2. judicial review
3. federalism
4. separation of powers
5. faction
6. Federalists
7. Antifederalists
8. Federalist papers
9. coalition
10. bill of rights
11. line-item veto

Answer the following questions:

1. Did the Framers intend to create a direct democracy?
2. When Massachusetts's Elbridge Gerry said that the people are "dupes of pretended patriots," to whom do you suppose he was referring? [Gerry was later Governor of Massachusetts and Vice President of the United States (with Madison). Unfortunately, his name is most often associated with the term gerrymander.]
3. Did the Framers intend to create the power of judicial review?
4. What is the method prescribed for amending the Constitution?
5. What are the two major principles on which the American version of representative democracy is based?
6. What was the Framers view of human nature?
7. What did Aristotle believe was the first task of any government?
8. How did Madison hope to harness self-interest to provide unity and secure liberty?
9. How did Madison believe that factions could be a positive thing?
10. How did the Constitution have to be ratified?
11. What was the central concern of the Antifederalists?
12. What changes did the Antifederalists want to be made to the Constitution?
13. What did Montesquieu believe was needed to safeguard liberty?
14. What did Madison view as the strength of an "extended" republic?
15. Why did Madison and the Federalists prevail?
16. Why did the Constitution not contain a bill of rights?

17. What was the argument that a bill of rights might do more harm than good?
[Note that this argument was not logically consistent with the existence of several specific protections in the Constitution.]
18. What was the ninth state to ratify the Constitution and on what date did that occur?
19. Who introduced the Bill of Rights into Congress?
20. How many amendments were in the Bill of Rights proposed to the states?
21. How many amendments were ratified by the states and became the Bill of Rights in our Constitution and when did they go into effect?
22. What level of government was limited by the Bill of Rights?
23. How did the 14th Amendment, as interpreted by the Supreme Court, change the Bill of Rights?
24. What were the three provisions of the Constitution that touched upon the subject of slavery?
25. Why was slavery not eliminated by the Constitution?
26. How, in general, did economic interest affect the Framers actions at the Convention?
27. How have ideas about what constitutes inequality changed over time?
28. How does the textbook author's statement of the relationship between liberty and equality in the second paragraph of page 41 compare with Lincoln's Gettysburg Address?
29. What are the arguments opposed to the doctrine of separation of powers in the modern context?
30. What are the counterarguments of those who support the current separation of powers?
31. What are the arguments for making our system less democratic?
32. What did the Supreme Court decide in *Clinton v. New York* in 1998?

Formal Checks and Balances

		Institution		
		Congress	President	Judiciary
Checks on	Congress		a. b. c. d. e.	a. b. c.
	President			
	Judiciary			