

Scholar Exchange: Constitution 101: The Constitutional Convention

Introductory Level Class Outline and Worksheet

INTERACTIVE CONSTITUTION RESOURCES

- Resources for Constitution 101: The Constitutional Convention

OVERVIEW

Part I. Introduction to the Constitution's Text
Part II. The Road to the Convention
Part III: The Connecticut Compromise
Part IV: The Electoral College
Part V: The Debates Over Slavery

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- Why did the Founding generation decide to write a new Constitution?
- How did the U.S. Constitution differ from the Articles of Confederation?
- What were some of the main compromises reached by the delegates at the Constitutional Convention?

BIG IDEA

With the U.S. Constitution, the Founding generation established a new national government. This new government was more powerful than the Articles of Confederation, but also one of limited powers.

NOTES:

PART ONE: INTRODUCTION TO THE CONSTITUTION'S TEXT

Write at least two words to describe each article of the Constitution.	
Article I	
Article II	
Article III	
Article IV	
Article V	
Article VI	
Article VII	

PART TWO: THE ROAD TO THE CONVENTION

What was <u>one</u> weakness of the Articles of Confederation?	
What was one other event or factor that led to the Constitutional Convention?	

PART THREE: THE CONNECTICUT COMPROMISE

Plan Name	Who supported it?	What were two important parts of the plan?
Virginia Plan		
New Jersey Plan		
Connecticut Plan		

PART FOUR: THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

What were two concerns about the creation of the Executive Branch?

How did the Electoral College represent a compromise?	

PART FIVE: THE DEBATES OVER SLAVERY

Clause	What did the clause say?	What were some debates around this clause?
Three-Fifths Clause		
Slave Trade Clause		