

CONSTITUTION 101

Module 4: The Constitutional Convention

4.1 Activity Guide

FAST FACTS ABOUT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

In this activity, you will learn more about the events of the constitutional convention.

Review the facts below and then answer the questions to check your understanding of the constitutional conventions.

- The original purpose of the Convention—as per the Confederation Congress—was to revise the Articles of Confederation.
- The Convention took place in the old Pennsylvania State House (now known as [Independence Hall](#)) in [Philadelphia](#), Pennsylvania.
- The Convention met from May 25 to September 17, 1787.
- The Constitution was drafted in secret.
- All of the original 13 states except for Rhode Island sent delegates.
- Fifty-five delegates attended the Convention. Some came and left. Thirty-nine signed the final document.
- All were men.
- Almost all participated in the Revolutionary War.
- Almost all served in state government.
- More than half were lawyers. Most were wealthy landowners.
- Twenty-five delegates held enslaved people.
- Benjamin Franklin was the oldest delegate, 81. Jonathan Dayton was the youngest delegate, 26. The average age was 42.
- Thomas Jefferson was serving as minister to France.
- John Adams was serving as minister to Britain.
- Patrick Henry refused to participate.

FILL IN THE BLANK QUESTIONS

1. The original purpose of the Convention—as per the Confederation Congress—was to revise the _____.
2. The Convention took place in the old Pennsylvania State House, now known as _____, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
3. The Convention met from _____ to _____, 1787.
4. All of the original 13 states except for _____ sent delegates.
5. Fifty-five delegates attended the Convention. Some came and left. _____ signed the final document.

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TRUE OR FALSE QUESTIONS

6. Both men and women participated as delegates. _____
7. Many delegates fought in the Revolutionary War. _____
8. No delegates served in the state government. _____
9. More than half of the delegates were lawyers. _____
10. Most of the delegates were wealthy landowners. _____
11. Twenty-five delegates held enslaved people. _____
12. The average age of the delegates was 29. _____

MATCHING QUESTIONS

Benjamin Franklin

Patrick Henry

Jonathan Dayton

John Adams

Thomas Jefferson

13. The oldest delegate at 81 _____
14. The youngest delegate, 26 _____
15. Did not attend, as was serving as minister to France _____
16. Did not attend, as he was serving as minister to Britain _____
17. Refused to participate _____