**Creating the Constitution**  Name Mr. McCann

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**Section 8.1**

1. After declaring independence in 1776, Congress had tried to unite the states under one national government.

2. Why did uniting the states prove a difficult task? Most members of Congress were nervous about creating a strong national government.

3. What was our first plan of government called? Articles of Confederation

4. The Articles created “a firm league of friendship”…

5. What was this “league of friendship”? A loose union in which the 13 states cooperated for a common purpose.

6. Each state had one vote in Congress.

7. What powers did Congress have? To make war and peace, raise an army and navy, print money, set up a postal system.

8. What power did Congress not have that proved a major problem? tax

**Section 8.2**

1. Even before the Revolutionary War ended, the states began quarrelling among themselves. Many of their quarrels were about taxes on goods that crossed

state borders.

2. The states also quarreled over boundries.

3. What was one of the key weaknesses of the Articles? The inability of Congress to end such disputes.

4. What was one important issue Congress got the states to agree to? How to develop western lands acquired by the Treaty of Paris.

5. What did Congress pass in 1785 that ended confusion over western land claims? Land Ordinance of 1785

6. How big is a township? 6 miles sq.

7. How many sections in a township? 36 And how many acres each? 640

8. How many acres in a township? 23,040 (640 X 36)

9. Sections were to be sold to settlers except one was set aside for public schools.

10. What is a region designated by Congress and organized under a governor called? territory

11. What law divided the Northwest Territory into smaller territories? Northwest Ordinance of 1787

12. How was each territory governed? territorial governor

13. When the territory had 5000 free adult male inhabitants it could elect its own legislature or lawmaking body.

14. When could the territory apply for statehood? When the population reached 60,000.

15. What was banned by the Northwest Ordinance? slavery

# Section 8.3

1. Did the new nation have serious money problems? yes

2. What was the problem with paper money printed by Congress during the war? worthless

3. Why didn’t Congress just make coins? It lacked gold or silver.

4. What were the problems with the money that states printed? Bills of different sizes and color, no one knew what they were worth-they were not worth much.

5. What group of people was hurt the most by the money problems? farmers Why? They could not earn enough to pay debts and taxes.

6. Who led them to rebel? Daniel Shays

7. What did Shays and his followers do? They closed courthouses to keep judges from taking farms, marched to national arsenal at Springfield, MA, to seize weapons.

8. What is an arsenal? A place where weapons and ammunitions are stored.

9. How was the rebellion ended? MA sent troops.

10. Shays’s rebellion shocked Congress into calling for a convention.

11. Where and when would the convention take place? Philadelphia, PA in May 1787

12. What was the sole purpose of the convention? To revise the Articles of Confederation.

13. What lesson had James Madison learned about government? A nation that was made up of many groups needed a strong national government.

# Section 8.4

1. Where did the Constitutional Convention meet (be specific)? Pennsylvania State House (Independence Hall), Philadelphia, PA

2. Who was elected president of the convention? Geo. Washington

3. 55 delegates from 12 states attended the convention.

4. Which state wasn’t represented? Rhode Island Why? They feared a strong national government.

5. What famous men did not attend and why not? John Adams-he was in Great Britain, Thomas Jefferson-he was in France, and Sam Adams, John Hanncock, and Patrick Henry-they feared a strong national government.

6. The delegates’ average age was 42 .

7. Who was the oldest delegate? Ben Franklin

8. More than 2/3 of the delegates were lawyers. More than 1/3 owned slaves .

9. Who was considered the best-prepared delegate? James Madison

10. He would later be called the “Father of the Constitution”.

11. How do we know what went on inside the convention? Because James Madison took notes.

12. What was the most important rule of the convention and why? Secrecy, because delegates wanted to feel free to speak their minds.

# Section 8.5

1. In most delegates’ minds, what was the business of the convention? To revise the Articles.

2. What state presented a completely new plan? Virginia

3. What is a written plan that provides the basic framework for a government called? constitution

4. After the convention, the delegates became known as framers because they designed a new framework of government.

5. The Virginia Plan called for a strong national government with three branches or parts.

6. The legislative branch, or Congress,would make the laws.

7. The executive branch would carry out the laws.

8. What does execute mean? carry out

9. The judicial branch, or system of courts,would apply and interpret the laws.

10. Under the plan, Congress was to be made up of two houses. What are they called? House of Representatives and the Senate

11. The number of lawmakers a state could send to Congress depended on what? population

12. Would large states like the above method? yes Why or why not? They would have more representatives. How about small the states? No, they would have less say in Congress.

13. Who came up with a rival proposal? Wm. Patterson From what state did he come from? New Jersey

14. What was different about the New Jersey Plan? One house in the legislature and each state would have one vote.

# Section 8.6

1. Who was waiting for the United States to fall apart? Great Britain, France, and Spain.

2. What is an agreement in which both sides in a dispute agree to give up something they want in order to achieve a settlement called? compromise

3. Who proposed a compromise plan? Roger Sherman What state was he from? Connecticut

4. What exactly did this new plan propose? A two-house Congress with the House of Reps. based on population and the Senate being equal (2 per state).

5. This plan became known as the Great Compromise.

# Section 8.7

1. Like everyone else, southerners naturally wanted as many representatives in the House as possible.

2. Who did the South believe should be counted in determining population? slaves

3. The South believed slaves were property, but they should be counted as people when determining population. The North felt slaves should not be counted as people, but they should be counted as property when figuring taxes.

4. After the war, anti-slavery groups were organized in many states.

5. True or False: The North began to end slavery after the war. true

# Section 8.8

1. What compromise was proposed to solve how slaves would be counted? 3/5

2. Who proposed the compromise? James Madison

3. Another question about slavery was raised by a dispute over trade.

4. Who favored giving Congress control of trade? North

5. What was the South afraid of? Taxes on exports and the ending of the slave-trade.

6. Explain the trade compromise. Congress could control trade but could not tax exports, nor could they interfere with the slave trade for 20 years

# Section 8.9

1. What was the main dispute involving a chief executive? Should there be one or three. What was decided? one

2. What would the chief executive be called? President

3. How did the Congress keep the leader from becoming too kinglike? limit to a four-year term of office

4. What was the main dispute involving electing the President? Should Congress appoint the president, should the people elect the president, or should a special group of electors pick the president.

# Section 8.10

1. What is the Electoral College? The group established to elect the President and Vice-President of the United States of America.

2. Electors from each state equal the number of senators and representatives it sends to Congress.

3. Originally, who chose the electors? state legislatures Now, who chooses them? the people

# Section 8.11

1. To formally approve a plan or an agreement is called ratify. The process of approval is called ratification.

2. What fraction of the states was needed to ratify the Constitution? 9/13

3. How would the Constitution be ratified? By special conventions in each of the states.

4. On what date did the delegates declare the Constitution complete? Sept. 17, 1787

5. How many of the 55 delegates signed the Constitution? 38

6. What three important delegates who stayed did not sign the Constitution? Edmund Randolph, Geo. Mason, Elbridge Gerry

# Section 8.12

1. What is a “federal” system of government? A strong national government that shares power with the states.

2. The supporters of the Constitution called themselves Federalists.

3. What is a republic? A country governed by elected representatives.

4. Who were the three big campaigners for ratification? Madison, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay

5. They wrote a series of articles that were later collected and published called The Federalist Papers.

6. Opponents of the Constitution were called Anti-Federalists. What was their main complaint? There was no list of rights of the people (Bill of Rights).

# Section 8.13

1. During the convention Ben Franklin wondered if the sun painted on the back of George Washington’s chair was rising or setting. What did he conclude? It was a rising sun.