Chapter 2: Origins of American Government

CHAPTER SUMMARY

1. new British policies
2. Possible answer: No, I was not surprised, since it makes sense that a document that controls the structure of the government would be controversial.
3. Answers will vary, but students should discuss how the compromises were necessary to ensure a government with none of the weaknesses that the government under the Articles experienced.

SECTION 1

Taking Notes

Answers will vary, but students should discuss ideas that were part of the colonists' heritage and knowledge, such as representative government and republicanism, in the left column, and events involving these ideas, such as the passage of the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, in the right column.

Section Summary

1. representative government, individual rights, limited government
2. Possible answer: Royal colonies had less independence. Not all members of the legislature were elected by the colonists, as in a charter colony, and the colony was directly controlled by the king through a governor, unlike in a charter colony, where colonists had a say in the charter.
3. ideas about natural rights and economic and civil liberties

SECTION 2

Taking Notes

Answers will vary, but students should list at least three causes of the American Revolution, such as the Intolerable Acts, in the left box, and three effects of the war, such as the colonists gained their independence from Great Britain, in the right box.

Section Summary

1. to help member colonies defend themselves against Native Americans and nearby Dutch colonies
2. Possible answer: Since they did not have representation in Parliament, they did not feel that Parliament had the right to tax them.
3. war and independence
4. legislatures of elected representatives, as well as judicial and executive branches, and legislative and executive branches with limited powers; many also included bills of rights

SECTION 3

Taking Notes

Answers will vary, but students should list advantages of the Articles, allowed Congress to organize the western lands, in the left column and disadvantages of the Articles, such as national government could not raise money or help defend the country, in the right column.

Section Summary

1. when at least nine states had approved it
2. No. It did not have power to raise money, and the states did not contribute much.
3. Shays's Rebellion

SECTION 4

Taking Notes

Answers will vary, but students should discuss in the different circles the various plans and compromises reached during the Constitutional Convention, such as the Virginia and New Jersey Plans, the Great Compromise, and the Three-Fifths Compromise.

Section Summary

1. No. Each state received one vote.
2. how the population of a state would affect it membership in the national legislature
3. Three-fifths of the enslaved people in a state would be counted when determining a state's population.
4. They thought that the Constitution should include a bill of rights.

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SECTION 5

Taking Notes

Answers will vary, but students should discuss in the different circles the groups and decisions that affected ratification, such as the Federalists, the Antifederalists, and the decision to include a bill of rights.

Section Summary

1. They claimed that the national government proposed by the Constitution would become too strong. They also criticized the absence of a bill of rights.
2. to defend the Constitution
3. as a series of amendments proposed by Congress and ratified by the states

Chapter 3: The Constitution

CHAPTER SUMMARY

1. form a more perfect union, establish justice, keep national peace, provide for the country's defense, promote the general welfare, and secure liberties
2. It helps the Constitution to change to meet the needs of the American people.
3. Answers will vary. Possible answer: Popular sovereignty is most important because it gives people a voice in their own government.

SECTION 1

Taking Notes

Students should fill in the six circles with the following phrases: popular sovereignty, limited government, separation of powers, checks and balances, judicial review, and federalism.

Section Summary

1. They were worried that citizens' rights would be suppressed.
2. By voting for who should represent them, people are choosing who should make up the government.
3. The Framers felt that government officials would not misuse their power if they had to follow the same laws as everyone else.
4. The judicial branch can declare legislation unconstitutional. The legislative branch can override vetoes.
5. The Tenth Amendment was necessary to fairly define which powers belonged to the national government and which powers belonged to the state governments.

SECTION 2

Taking Notes

Answer will vary. Possible answers in "Similarities" column: proposing amendment always requires supermajority; ratifying amendment always requires supermajority and action by state legislatures. Possible answers in "Differences" column: proposing amendment can take place only in Congress or at convention involving delegates not in Congress; ratifying amendment can take places inside or outside state legislatures.

Section Summary

1. Answers will vary. Possible answers: Jefferson: forward-thinking; Madison: cautious.
2. An amendment can be proposed by at least two-thirds of each house of Congress or by a national convention called by at least two-thirds of state legislatures; it can be ratified by three-fourths of state legislatures or a convention of at least three-fourths of the states.
3. Once ratified, an amendment becomes an official, permanent part of the Constitution. Therefore, it needs to be amended just like any other part of the Constitution.
4. Answers will vary. Possible answer: amendment that changes voting laws shows how certain groups of Americans have demanded and received fair treatment under the law.

SECTION 3

Taking Notes

Answers will vary. Possible answers: Congress and the president interpret and therefore expand reach of Constitution; Federal courts use judicial review to apply

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