

**GUIDED READING****CHAPTER 1: AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENSHIP****Section 2: Shaping American Government**

**Directions:** Use the information from pages 24-29 to complete the following statements.

**Our First Constitution**

1. The \_\_\_\_\_, adopted in 1781, intentionally established a \_\_\_\_\_ national government.
2. The new (1781) government consisted of a \_\_\_\_\_ (one house) legislature in which each state had one vote. There was no chief \_\_\_\_\_ or national \_\_\_\_\_ system.
3. In 1786, \_\_\_\_\_ asked for a meeting in Annapolis, Maryland, to discuss the continuing \_\_\_\_\_ problems among the states. The meeting accomplished little.

**The Constitutional Convention**

4. In May 1787, delegates met at Philadelphia's present-day \_\_\_\_\_.  
Seventy delegates had been named by their state legislatures, but only \_\_\_\_\_ attended.
5. \_\_\_\_\_, who attended as one of Virginia's representatives, was elected to preside over the meeting.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ Plan called for a strong national government. The national government would have the power to collect \_\_\_\_\_, make \_\_\_\_\_, and enforce the laws in its own \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The Virginia Plan also called for representation in Congress based on \_\_\_\_\_, an idea known as \_\_\_\_\_ representation.
8. The New Jersey plan was proposed to protect the interests of the \_\_\_\_\_ states. Each state would have the same number of \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The convention reached a compromise, the \_\_\_\_\_ Compromise or, as it is sometimes called, the \_\_\_\_\_ Compromise.
10. The Great Compromise called for a \_\_\_\_\_ (two-house) Congress. The \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_ would be based on proportional representation; the \_\_\_\_\_ would have equal representation.

11. The \_\_\_\_\_ Compromise solved the debate over whether to include slaves in a state's population.
12. In the creation of an Electoral College, each state's legislature was allowed to select as many "\_\_\_\_\_" as it had members of \_\_\_\_\_. These electors would vote for \_\_\_\_\_ people. The person with the highest number of votes would be named \_\_\_\_\_; the person with the second-highest number of votes would be named \_\_\_\_\_.
13. The new U.S. Constitution was approved by the delegates on \_\_\_\_\_.
14. People who supported the strong national government called themselves \_\_\_\_\_; those who opposed a strong central government were called \_\_\_\_\_.
15. To gain support of the Antifederalists, the first ten amendments to the Constitution were proposed and approved. They are called the \_\_\_\_\_.
16. \_\_\_\_\_ states had to ratify the document before it could become the official Constitution.
17. \_\_\_\_\_ was the first state to ratify the Constitution on December 7, \_\_\_\_\_. On June 21, 1788, \_\_\_\_\_ became the ninth state to approve it. \_\_\_\_\_ became the tenth state to ratify the document.
18. The U.S. Constitution contains about \_\_\_\_\_ words, and it has been amended only \_\_\_\_\_ times.
19. An amendment may be proposed by a \_\_\_\_\_ vote in both houses of \_\_\_\_\_ or by a national \_\_\_\_\_ convention called for by \_\_\_\_\_ of the state legislatures. A proposed amendment must be approved by \_\_\_\_\_ of the state legislatures.