

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chapter 2 Worksheet</b> <b>Origins of American Government</b></p>
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**Section 1 - Our Political Beginnings**

- 1) Identify the main differences between ordered, limited, and representative government.
- 2) Identify and explain why the following are landmark English documents:
  - a) The Magna Carta
  - b) The Petition of Right
  - c) The English Bill of Rights

**Section 2 - The Coming of Independence**

- 1) Explain why the colonists felt they should be self-governed and did not need England to rule over them.
- 2) Explain why the colonists were upset about being taxed.  
(**not** because they could not afford it!)
- 3) Identify the different purposes for the colonists meeting in the 1st and 2nd Continental Congress.
- 4) List and **EXPLAIN** the common features of the first State constitutions.

**Section 3 - The Critical Period**

- 1) Explain why Congress was unable to collect taxes or raise an army under the Articles.
- 2) The Articles did not have a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ to enforce the laws nor a(n) national \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Explain why a 9/13 majority requirement to pass laws was a difficult for Congress.
- 4) Identify how many amendments were passed under the Articles.
- 5) Identify the main purpose for the meeting at Philadelphia.  
(**NOT** to write a new Constitution!)

**Section 4 - Creating the Constitution**

- 1) Explain why Thomas Jefferson was unable to influence the writing of the Constitution.
- 2) **Explain why** \_\_\_\_\_ is considered "The Father of the Constitution."
- 3) Explain how the Connecticut Compromise was a combination of the New Jersey Plan and the Virginia Plan.
- 4) Identify the significance of the Commerce and Slave Trade Compromise.
- 5) Identify the sources the framers used as a reference in writing the Constitution.

**Section 5 - Ratifying the Constitution**

- 1) Identify the main difference between the Federalists and Anti-Federalists **AND** identify their leaders.
- 2) List the main two reasons colonists opposed the Constitution.
- 3) Identify the purpose of the *Federalist papers*.
- 4) Explain why the failure of New York and Virginia to ratify the Constitution might have doomed the document.

**Identify and explain the importance of the following:**

- a) 3/5 compromise
- b) New Jersey Plan
- c) Virginia Plan
- d) Alexander Hamilton
- e) Thomas Jefferson
- f) ratification