PrepUS History

Unit 2 – The Constitution and Voting

Study Guide

At the end of each unit you have the choice to take a comprehensive exam that includes matching, true or false, fill-in, document-based, and essay questions OR complete a project and a 20-question multiple-choice exam. The following study guide and project option will allow you to make an informed decision about whether you will take the exam or complete the project.

***Suggestions for studying for your exam:***

1. Find a quiet place to study without distractions.

2. Review the handouts and notes you completed during this unit.

3. Go through the list of information on this study guide, identifying those things you understand and writing out an identification of each item you needed to look up.

4. Quiz yourself or have someone else quiz you on these items at least once before the exam.

5. ***PLEASE TAKE NOTE:*** If you write out identifications of the study guide items, you will most likely earn a higher score on your exam AND you may turn this in on the day of the exam to earn up to 5 extra credit points. This additional point opportunity is available to both students who take the comprehensive exam and students who complete the project.

6. The exam or due date for the project is **Tuesday, November 21st.**

You should be able to identify/describe/explain the following:

***Articles of Confederation***

fears of a strong central government

the main weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation

state representation under the Articles of Confederation

the Land Ordinance of 1785

the Northwest Ordinance of 1787

Shays’ Rebellion

***Constitution***

the House of Representatives

 term length, minimum age

citizenship and residency requirements

 how their numbers are determined

 their leader: name and selection process

 their powers and role in impeachment

the Senate

 term length, minimum age

citizenship and residency requirements

 how their numbers are determined

 their leader: name and selection process

 their powers and role in impeachment

the President

 term length, minimum age

citizenship and residency requirements

 their powers

 how they are chosen (Electoral College)

the Supreme Court

 term length, powers, and appointment process

when elections are held

the house of Congress tax bills originate in

how a bill becomes a law

writ of habeas corpus, bill of attainder, ex post facto

the 27 Amendments

the Philadelphia (Constitutional) Convention

the Virginia Plan/the New Jersey Plan

the Great Compromise/Three-Fifths Compromise

the Ratification Struggle

Federalists/Anti-Federalists/Federalist Papers

the Bill of Rights: why was it added, what they are

separation of powers/checks and balances

***Other***

the names of Maine’s Senators and Representatives

voting information

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Project Option

**Part I: Letter to the Editor**

You will write a letter to the editor expressing the viewpoint of a citizen regarding the problems with the Articles of Confederation and why a new constitution needs to be written. Your letter should:

> identify who the citizen is (and be sure it is historically correct – no computer salesmen, etc.)

*“I am a merchant from Connecticut.”*

> clearly state a problem with the Articles of Confederation

*“Shays’ Rebellion could not be handled by the national government because....”*

> suggest a change that would solve the problem

*“I think our government would work better if…*”

**> (Look in a newspaper for examples of the format of Letters to the Editor)**

**Part II: On the Campaign Trail**

Imagine you are running for office and wish to become a Representative or Senator and complete the following:

1. Write a biography that exhibits how your age, citizenship, and residency status meet the criteria for the position.

2. Create a public service announcement that explains the house of Congress you are campaigning for, including:

 the term length of this position how their numbers are determined

 the name and duties of their leader their role in impeachment

3. Develop a short campaign speech that includes your opinions of the Virginia Plan, the New Jersey Plan, and counting slaves as part of state populations.

4. You may write or record this portion, but you must have a written rough draft of anything you’ve recorded.

**Part III: Poster**

Create an accurate, creative, and colorful poster that is at least 11 x 14 and is pleasing to the eye and exhibits good effort on **ONE** of the following:

 1. how a bill becomes a law

 2. the system of checks and balances/separation of powers

 3. the Bill of Rights

**What You Must Hand In**

1. a rough draft of all pieces edited and signed by a proofreader

2. a final draft (handwritten or typed) of all written pieces (-10 points if missing)

**Due Date: Tuesday, November 21st.**

***YOU MUST HAVE ALL REQUIRED ELEMENTS TO PASS IN THE PROJECT ON THE DUE DATE INSTEAD OF TAKING THE COMPREHENSIVE EXAM!***

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Project Rubric

#####  Possible Points

##### Basic Requirement Points Earned

includes signed, proofread copy of all written portions \_\_ √\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Letter to the Editor***

accurately identifies citizen of that time period \_\_\_5\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

clearly states a problem with the Articles of Confederation \_\_10\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

suggest a viable change that would solve the problem \_\_10\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

uses appropriate format for a letter to the editor \_\_\_5\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

***On The Campaign Trail***

*Biography*

biography states an age appropriate for the position \_\_\_5\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

biography states a citizenship status appropriate for the position \_\_\_5\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

biography states a residency status appropriate for the position \_\_\_5\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

*Public Service Announcement*

accurately explains the term associated with this position \_\_\_5\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

accurately states this house’s representation type (proportional or equal) \_\_\_5\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

accurately identifies the name and duties of the leader of this house \_\_\_5\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

accurately identifies this house’s role in impeachment \_\_\_5\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

*Campaign Speech*

includes a detailed explanation of your opinion of the Virginia Plan \_\_\_5\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

includes a detailed explanation of your opinion of the New Jersey Plan \_\_\_5\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

includes a detailed explanation of your opinion of the 3/5ths Compromise \_\_\_5\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

***Poster***

*(how a bill becomes a law* ***or*** *the system of checks and balances/separation of powers* ***or*** *the Bill of Rights)*

accurate, creative, colorful, exhibits good effort and is at least 11 x 14 \_\_20\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Points Earned on Project: \_\_\_\_\_\_

 x .80: \_\_\_\_\_\_

 +

 Multiple Choice Test Grade: \_\_\_\_\_\_x .20: \_\_\_\_\_\_

 **Overall Assessment Grade:**  \_\_\_\_\_\_