

**GIS AP U.S. Government and Politics
Summer Enrichment
(Quarter 1 Mandatory Assignment)
2018-2019**

**Read and Respond to Discussion Questions
Due: Monday, September 24th
Must be typed for Submission to turnitin.com**

**The Summer of 1787: The Men Who Invented the Constitution by
David O. Stewart**

Read the book in its entirety (including Appendix 1 and Appendix 2) and respond to the following questions fully, providing details, explanations and specific supporting examples from the reading. **Students MUST cite evidence from the source. Responses should incorporate direct quotes or paraphrasing from the source; students are expected to provide page numbers.**

Question 1:

James Madison is known in history as the “Father of the Constitution.” However, Madison himself hated this nickname, as he felt it discounted the efforts of others who were equally important in crafting the U.S. Constitution.

- a) **Describe three** specific contributions that James Madison made to the creation of the U.S. Constitution and **explain why** these contributions are important, **using specific details and examples from the book. Cite page numbers.**
- b) **Describe** specific contributions to the U.S. Constitution made by these two delegates—**James Wilson and John Rutledge**—and **explain why** these contributions are important, **using details and examples from the book. Cite page numbers.**
- c) **Identify** one other delegate to the Constitutional Convention who made significant contributions to the creation of the U.S. Constitution and **describe his specific contributions** and **explain why** these contributions are important, **using details and examples from the book. Cite page numbers.**

Requirements

- Get a copy of the book.
- Read the book and respond to the discussion questions.
- Prepare for Socratic Seminar. Consider questions & issues other than those provided.

Question 2:

At the start of the Civil War, John Adams' grandson, Charles Francis Adams Sr., wrote of slavery that "We the children of the third and fourth generations are doomed to pay the penalty of the compromises of the first."

- a) **Describe three** compromises over slavery that the delegates made during the Constitutional Convention, **using specific details and examples from the book. Cite page numbers.** *[Note: The Northwest Ordinance was a law created by the Confederation Congress. The compromises that are part of legislation are NOT included in the U.S. Constitution.]*
- b) **Discuss** the arguments presented by the author of this book that, without these compromises over slavery, the Constitution would never have been ratified, **using specific details and examples from the book. Cite page numbers.** *[Note: This question is not asking you to describe arguments that the delegates hold over slavery, but to discuss the arguments presented by the AUTHOR of the book regarding why these compromises might have been necessary.]*
- c) **Discuss** the arguments presented by the author of this book that the northern delegates caved in too easily to implausible southern threats to abandon the Convention and the Union, **using specific details and examples from the book. Cite page numbers.**
- d) **Describe four specific consequences** presented by the author of the Constitutional compromises over slavery, using specific details and examples from the book. **Cite page numbers.**

Question 3:

Although Americans typically describe their form of government as a "democracy," many of the founders actually feared "rule of the people." As a result, in the U.S. Constitution, they included a good number of measures intended to mitigate the dangers of "rule by the many." Some of these limitations on democracy have been removed from the Constitution, but others are still in effect.

- a) **Explain** how the selection of U.S. Senators in the original Constitution (Article I, Section 3) is a limitation on the principles of representative democracy, **using details and specific examples provided in the book. Cite page numbers.**
- b) **Explain** how the selection of the president and vice president in the original Constitution (Article II, Section 1) is a limitation on the principles of representative democracy, **using specific details and examples provided in the book. Cite page numbers.**
- c) **Describe four** reasons why the founders feared the "rule of the many," **using details and specific examples from the book. Cite page numbers.**
- d) **Discuss** whether these reasons still exist in current-day America and whether the Constitution should or should not be further amended to remove the limitations on democracy that remain in the U.S. Constitution.

Question 4:

The founders created a unique system known as the “electoral college”* to choose the U.S. President and Vice President. A number of times in U.S. history, this system has caused surprising results in presidential elections.

- a) **Describe all the steps** in the election of president and vice-president as detailed in Article II, Section 1, of the original Constitution. *[Note: Use your own words. Do not simply copy the text from the Constitution.]*
- b) **Explain** two specific ways that the electoral college addressed concerns of smaller states that every president would come from the more populous states, **using details and examples provided in the book. Cite page numbers.**
- c) **Discuss** arguments in support of retaining the Electoral College system, **using details and examples provided in the book. Cite page numbers.**
- d) **Discuss** arguments in support of eliminating or modifying the Electoral College system, **using details and examples provided in the book. Cite page numbers.**

*** Make sure you carefully read Article II, Section 1, Clauses 2, 3 and 4, in Appendix 2 before attempting to respond to these questions.**

AP U.S. Government and Politics
Scoring Guide for The Summer of 1787 by David Stewart
Due: Friday, September 18th

Question		Possible Points	Earned Points
Question 1			
a.	Describe three specific contributions that James Madison made to the creation of the U.S. Constitution and explain why these contributions are important.	9	
b.	Describe specific contributions to the U.S. Constitution made by these two delegates—James Wilson and John Rutledge—and explain why these contributions are important.	12	
c.	Identify one other delegate to the Constitutional Convention who made significant contributions to the creation of the U.S. Constitution and describe his specific contributions and explain why these contributions are important.	4	
Question 2			
a.	Describe three compromises over slavery that the delegates made during the Constitutional Convention.	9	
b.	Discuss the arguments presented by the author that without these compromises over slavery, the Constitution would never have been ratified.	6	
c.	Discuss the arguments presented by the author that the northern delegates caved in too easily to implausible southern threats to abandon the Convention and the Union.	6	
d.	Describe four specific consequences presented by the author of the Constitutional compromises over slavery.	4	
Question 3			
a.	Explain how the selection of U.S. Senators in the original Constitution (Article I, Section 3) is a limitation on the principles of representative democracy.	4	
b.	Explain how the selection of the president and vice president in the original Constitution (Article II, Section 1) is a limitation on the principles of representative democracy.	4	
c.	Describe four reasons why the founders feared the “rule of the many.”	12	
d.	Discuss whether these reasons still exist in current-day America and whether the Constitution should or should not be further amended to remove the limitations on democracy that remain in the U.S. Constitution.	5	
Question 4			
a.	Describe all the steps in the election of president and vice-president as detailed in Article II, Section 1, of the original Constitution.	13	
b.	Explain two specific ways that the electoral college addressed concerns of smaller states that every president would come from the more populous states.	4	
c.	Discuss arguments in support of retaining the Electoral College system.	4	
d.	Discuss arguments in support of eliminating or modifying the Electoral College system.	4	
Final Score		100	