

Federalists & Anti-Federalists

Name: _____

Who Would Say That? Read each statement. If it sounds like something a Federalist would have said to support the Constitution, write **F** in the box. If it sounds like something an Anti-Federalist would have said to complain about the Constitution, write **A** on the line

___ 1. The Constitution gives the federal government enough power to overpower the states.

___ 2. It will not be possible for the federal government to overpower the states, because the states are a necessary part of the federal government.

___ 3. The Constitution contains no Bill of Rights to protect individual liberties like freedom of speech, trial by jury, and the right against searches and seizures.

___ 4. The Constitution says federal laws are "the supreme law of the land," so the federal government could just take complete control.

___ 5. Nothing in the Constitution says the federal government has power to limit peoples' freedoms in the first place.

___ 6. The Constitution gives the federal government just a few powers that are very well defined.

___ 7. The President created by the Constitution is really just a king.

___ 8. A strong President is necessary to protect the country against foreign attack and make sure laws are carried out properly.

___ 9. The Constitution creates a Supreme Court that is too powerful because the judges don't answer to anyone.

___ 10. The Constitution already contains a few rights, so we may as well add a whole Bill of Rights.

___ 11. The Supreme Court is the weakest branch of government because it doesn't control the military and can't pass laws.

___ 12. The Constitution forbids creating titles of nobility like "Duke" or "King," so the government will always belong to the people.

___ 13. The United States is too large to have a central government. People won't know their leaders and will lose control over the government.

___ 14. The Constitution is a Bill of Rights because it guarantees citizens a role in government.

Sound Off: Do We Need the Bill of Rights? Explain whether you agree with a famous federalist:



Alexander Hamilton

The Preamble (opening) of the Constitution says, "We the People...do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." The people created this Constitution. That is enough to make sure the government will never violate peoples' rights. We don't need an extra Bill of Rights!

If the Bill of Rights was REMOVED from the Constitution, would you feel secure that the "We the People" preamble protects your rights?

Sure! I would feel secure because... No way! I'd be worried because...

Bill of Rights

- Freedom of speech
- Freedom of religion
- Freedom of the press
- No unreasonable searches
- Right to due process of law
- No cruel punishments
- Right to a lawyer
- Right to a fair trial

George Washington

Name: _____

Setting the Precedent

Washington wanted to form an executive branch that reflected republican and democratic ideals. Match the precedents that Washington established with the democratic principle that it represents.

It is devoutly wished on my part, that these precedents may be fixed on true principles.

— George Washington

Gave State of the Union address in person.

Consulted with a Cabinet of advisors

Title shall be "President" instead of "Your Highness"

Stepped down after two terms in office.

Limit the power of any one person in office

Reject the fancy ways of royalty

Interact with other branches of government

Share the decision-making with others

All the President's Men. Washington knew he wasn't going to be able to do the job of the President alone. Good thing each member of his cabinet specialized in the duties of their individual office. Read the responsibilities of the different executive departments below. Use the word bank to help you label the responsibility with the correct cabinet title.

TREASURY WAR STATE ATTORNEY

SECRETARY OF _____:

Handles the relationships between the United States and other countries.

SECRETARY OF _____:

Creates and recommends new approaches to dealing with the economy.

SECRETARY OF _____:

Provides strategies needed to protect and defend the United States.

_____ GENERAL:

Enforces Federal law by preventing and controlling crime.

The Reluctant President. It seemed like everyone was happy to have Washington as the executive except for Washington himself. Yet he took the job anyway. Knowing what you know about Washington's past, what do you think he meant by this quote: "the office chooses the man"?

Lined writing area for student response.