AP Government

The Constitution Study Guide

1. Explain Shays’ Rebellion and its importance in the creation of the Constitution.
2. Describe the Anti-Federalists and identify their objections to the Constitution.
3. Identify three problems experienced under the Articles of Confederation.
4. Evaluate the Articles of Confederation as a guide for successful democracy in the United States.
5. Evaluate the characteristics of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention and the impact of this on the Constitution.
6. Evaluate the Virginia Plan and the New Jersey Plan as alternative models for government discussed at the Constitutional Convention.
7. Define the Three-fifths compromise and identify the disagreement it resolved.
8. Identify the most important compromises achieved by the delegates to the Constitutional Convention of 1787, and the issues that each compromise resolved.
9. Describe the process of the ratification of the Constitution.
10. Define checks and balances and give three examples of checks in the U.S. Constitution.
11. Define judicial review and explain how it is a judicial check on the other branches.
12. Explain the decision of the Court in the *Marbury v. Madison* case.
13. Evaluate Thurgood Marshall’s notion of the “living Constitution.”