

CHAPTER 2—ORIGINS OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. This man wrote the "textbook of the American Revolution."
a. Benjamin Franklin
b. John Locke
c. Thomas Paine
d. Thomas Jefferson
ANS: B DIF: A STO:
2. Signed in 1620 by the Pilgrims, this colonial plan for self-rule is called
a. the Magna Carta.
b. the Bill of Rights.
c. the Petition of Rights.
d. the Mayflower Compact.
ANS: D DIF: A STO:
3. The first legislature in what became the United States was the
a. Virginia House of Burgesses.
b. Constitutional Convention.
c. First Continental Congress.
d. Annapolis Convention.
ANS: A DIF: A STO:
4. The first battles of the Revolutionary War were fought at
a. Washington, D.C., and Boston.
b. Annapolis and Concord.
c. Boston and New York.
d. Lexington and Concord.
ANS: D DIF: A STO:
5. The Intolerable Acts prompted the colonists to take this action against Britain.
a. an embargo
b. an increased revenue
c. a tax
d. sanctions
ANS: A DIF: C STO:
6. According to the Articles of Confederation, this power was granted Congress.
a. to regulate trade
b. to enforce laws
c. to amend the Articles of Confederation
d. to levy taxes
ANS: C DIF: C STO:
7. Many Americans wanted a strong national government after
a. the economic depression.
b. the Annapolis Convention.
c. the Northwest Ordinance.
d. Shays's Rebellion.
ANS: D DIF: A STO:
8. The Articles of Confederation went into effect in 1781 after all thirteen states
a. ceded them.
b. ratified them.
c. inspected them.
d. legalized them.
ANS: B DIF: E STO:

9. Trade among the states was known as
 a. interstate commerce. c. legislative trade.
 b. extralegal trade. d. anarchy.
 ANS: A DIF: A STO:
10. The compromise made by the Founders on this issue left a terrible burden for future generations.
 a. western territories c. slavery
 b. interstate commerce d. anarchy
 ANS: C DIF: A STO:
11. The Magna Carta was important because it
 a. was America's first legislature. c. established a limited government.
 b. separated church and state. d. gave power to the colonies.
 ANS: C DIF: A STO:
12. America's first formal constitution was the
 a. Northwest Ordinance. c. Fundamental Orders of Connecticut.
 b. Bill of Rights. d. Articles of Confederation.
 ANS: C DIF: E STO:
13. This began as a struggle over lands in western Pennsylvania and Ohio.
 a. British and Indian War c. Northwest Ordinance
 b. Intolerable Acts d. French and Indian War
 ANS: D DIF: A STO:
14. This led to the Boston Tea Party.
 a. Committees of Correspondence c. Intolerable Acts
 b. Britain's increased revenue d. Coercive Acts
 ANS: B DIF: C STO:
15. This man wrote the original draft of the Declaration of Independence.
 a. Thomas Jefferson c. Benjamin Franklin
 b. John Adams d. Samuel Adams
 ANS: A DIF: A STO:
16. According to the Articles of Confederation, this was the purpose of Congress.
 a. to unify the executive branch c. to make laws
 b. to regulate trade d. to levy taxes
 ANS: C DIF: A STO:
17. To establish the Northwest Territory, states did this.
 a. voted for a unicameral Congress c. ratified the Articles of Confederation
 b. ceded territories d. joined the Constitutional Convention
 ANS: B DIF: A STO:

Match each item with the correct statement below.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| a. government without representation | f. states' approval |
| b. Shays's Rebellion | g. Virginia House of Burgesses |
| c. Benjamin Franklin | h. slavery |
| d. anarchy | i. John Locke |
| e. Mayflower Compact | j. amend the Articles of Confederation |

11. first legislature in America
12. Pilgrims' government agreement
13. political philosopher
14. cause for colonists' revolt
15. Albany Plan of Union
16. power of Congress
17. caused by economic depression
18. ratify
19. Founders' compromise
20. absence of political order

- | | | |
|------------|--------|------|
| 11. ANS: G | DIF: A | STO: |
| 12. ANS: E | DIF: A | STO: |
| 13. ANS: I | DIF: A | STO: |
| 14. ANS: A | DIF: A | STO: |
| 15. ANS: C | DIF: A | STO: |
| 16. ANS: J | DIF: E | STO: |
| 17. ANS: B | DIF: E | STO: |
| 18. ANS: F | DIF: E | STO: |
| 19. ANS: H | DIF: E | STO: |
| 20. ANS: D | DIF: E | STO: |

SHORT ANSWER

Critical Thinking

1. **Identifying Central Issues** How did adding the Bill of Rights to the United States Constitution express principles established centuries before in the Magna Carta and the English Bill of Rights?

ANS: These early documents established that the power of government was not absolute and that people had basic rights. The Bill of Rights expressed these principles of limited government and protection by guaranteeing people's rights against the power of government.

DIF: C STO:

2. **Understanding Cause and Effect** Explain why a peaceful settlement of differences was not possible between the colonies and Great Britain by 1776.

ANS: Answers will vary but might cite American grievances with British rule, British refusal to acknowledge colonial arguments, and the colonists' acceptance of Locke's and Paine's ideas.

DIF: A STO:

3. **Identifying Alternatives** What compromises made at the Constitutional Convention helped shape the national government?

ANS: The Connecticut Compromise created the two-house structure of Congress, in which states are represented equally in the upper house and by population in the lower. Other compromises gave Congress power over interstate commerce, created the Electoral College, and set a four-year term for the president.

DIF: A STO:

4. **Expressing Problems Clearly** Explain why many Americans came to desire a stronger central government in the years following independence.

ANS: Answers will vary but should cite problems and weaknesses under the Articles that showed the need for a stronger central government.

DIF: C STO:

Understanding Concepts

5. **Growth of Democracy** In what ways does the Declaration of Independence express the ideas of John Locke?

ANS: Answers will vary but students should realize that in establishing people's right to "life, liberty," etc., and by listing the king's violation of those rights, the Declaration was using Locke's arguments to justify a change in government.

DIF: C STO:

6. **Federalism** For what reasons might some Americans have wanted a weak central government after gaining their independence?

ANS: As colonists many Americans had resisted what they considered the abuse of power by the British government. The state constitutions they wrote all limited the power of government. In addition, the states did not wish to surrender their sovereignty.

DIF: A STO:

7. **Civil Liberties** Explain how the Bill of Rights affects the power of the national government.

ANS: Answers will vary, but students should realize that by outlining the people's basic rights and freedoms, the Bill of Rights establishes limits on government power.

DIF: C STO:

8. **Growth of Democracy** By modern standards, how democratic were the governments of the English colonies in America?

ANS: The colonies were not democratic by modern standards. Although legislatures of elected representatives existed, every colony had a property qualification for voting, and suffrage was denied to blacks and women. In addition, some colonies had official religions and religious freedom was limited.

DIF: C STO: