



CIVIL DISCOURSE

An American Legacy Toolkit

■ **Module:** Principles of the Constitution

Beyond the Legacy: Video Guide

1. Why did we need a new government in the 1780s?
2. What were some of the challenges with the unicameral congress under the Articles of Confederation?
3. What were some of the major compromises that needed to be made at the Constitutional Convention in 1787?
4. What problems was Madison trying to solve in his proposal for a new government?
5. How did the compromises made at the Philadelphia convention affirm the constitutional principles we have today? What were these principles?
6. What type of government did the new constitution create? What were some of the criticisms of it?
7. Describe how Shays's rebellion underscored the need for a stronger national government.
8. How does Madison distinguish between a republic form of government and a direct democracy? What form of government does the Constitution provide?
9. Describe the roles and arguments of the Federalists and Anti-Federalists in the battle for ratification of the Constitution.
10. What is the significance of Federalist 10?
11. What is the significance of Federalist 51?
12. What were the main arguments the Anti-Federalists made for a Bill of Rights?
13. How are some of the Anti-Federalists' arguments still relevant today?