

Learning Unit No. 8
"The Constitution"
Note: L.U. 8 involves chapter 11

Unit Outcomes:

1. Describe the situation leading to the Constitutional Convention.
2. Describe the delegates who attended the Convention.
3. Explain the major compromises of the Convention.
4. Identify the problems of ratifying the Constitution.
5. Identify the major concepts found in the Constitution and the reasons for their continued relevance.

Outline:

- I. Background to the Constitution Convention ("Miracle at Philadelphia")
 - A. Learning Unit No. 7
 - B. the delegates ("Founding Fathers")
 - C. initial observations
- II. "a bundle of compromises"
 - A. the Great Compromise
 - B. the Three-Fifths Compromise
 - C. trade
 - D. future of slavery
 - E. executive
- III. the battle over ratification
 - A. the Federalists viewpoint
 - B. the Antifederalists perspective
 - C. final ratification
- IV. major themes of the Constitution
 - A. separation of powers
 - B. checks and balances
 - C. federalism
 - D. Bill of Rights
 - E. flexibility ("a living document")

Key terms and names:

veto	unconstitutional	Electoral College
due process	elastic clause	Virginia Plan
Cabinet	amendment	impeach

Key "Founding Fathers"

George Washington (Virginia)	John Jay (New York)
James Madison (Virginia)	Edmund Randolph (Virginia)
Alexander Hamilton (New York)	William Paterson (New Jersey)
Benjamin Franklin (Pennsylvania)	Roger Sherman (Connecticut)

Readings:

_____ 1. pp. 236 - 239 _____ 3. pp. 244 - 247 *Sections from the Constitution*

_____ 2. pp. 239 - 244

_____ 4. pp. 249 - 255

*(pp. 258 - 289) will be included
in the unit.*

Memorization Opportunity - opening words of the U.S. Constitution (5 bonus pts. on the L.U. 8 test)

We the people of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.