

The Constitutional Convention

Answer the following questions as you read the handout, Constitutional Convention Overview.

1. When and where did the convention meet?
2. Who was elected as its president and by what majority was he elected?
3. What did George Washington consider before agreeing to come to the convention?
4. Why was it important that George Washington was there?
5. Who was James Madison?
6. What did James Madison see as the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation?
7. What was Shay's Rebellion and why did it concern upper-class Americans?
8. Who led the effort to call the convention?
9. Why were some people suspicious of what was going to be done at the convention?
10. Collectively, what kind of experience in life did the leading delegates have?
11. Describe the main points of each of the following –
 - a. The Virginia Plan
 - b. The New Jersey Plan
 - c. The Great Compromise
12. How was slavery dealt with at the convention?
13. Describe the compromise that was made concerning how to elect the president.
14. What did Benjamin Franklin declare on September 17th, 1787?