

The Fight For Our New Constitution

Name _____ Date _____

The Creation of the US Constitution

Today you will demonstrate what you know about the creation of the US Constitution by analyzing primary source documents and then using that information to answer a prompt.

Directions

- Analyze the documents using the Document Analysis Sheet. As you do this, think about who created each document and why it was created.
- Write a well-organized essay including an introductory paragraph that includes an argument or claim (basically a thesis statement), three body paragraphs that include at least two documents each to support your answer, and finally a concluding paragraph.
- Use evidence from the documents to support your answer.
- Use any outside information you have learned about to support your answer.

Historical Background

The Constitution of the United States was created in 1787 after the Articles of Confederation, the first attempt at government, proved to be too weak to govern the states. With the ratification, or approval, of the Constitution in 1789, many of the weaknesses were corrected, making the federal government stronger, but also giving the states and the people living in the states power and protections from the federal government through the Bill of Rights. Although the Constitution was an improvement over the Articles of Confederation, it was still not a perfect document.

Essay Question

Using at least FIVE documents and your knowledge of social studies and civics, answer the following question:

How was the US Constitution an improvement over the Articles of Confederation yet, at the same time, not a perfect document?