

Presentations & Writing in class 10/8/15 & 10/13/15

Teaching/Ratifying the Constitution

AP Government 2015

Essential Questions: *What were the major ideas behind the founding documents and how do they still impact the government today? Why did the Articles of Confederation fail and how did that impact the decisions and compromises made by the Constitutional Convention? What were the major issues regarding the ratification of the Constitution?*

Purpose: As AP Government students and good citizens, it is essential that we know about our Constitution. It is also important to be critical of the Constitution and understand that it has never been a universally supported document. We will engage in a simulation in which you both learn a part of the Constitution and assume the role of an individual in 1787 and provide your opinion on it.

Assignment:

-You will be placed in an "expert group" and assigned a part of the Constitution. You will, **AS A GROUP**, create a PowerPoint or Prezi to present to the class. Part of your job will be "selling" your portion of the Constitution to the class; you want to convince them that ratifying the Constitution is a good idea and your section is flawless. (40 points)

-You will take notes while the rest of the class presents. THEN you will assume one of four roles **INDIVIDUALLY** (assigned at random): (1) property owner from VA, (2) merchant from CT, (3) farmer from MA, (4) recently freed slave from DE. You will write from this perspective about whether or not you would ratify the Constitution based on each section you heard. (20 points)

Constitution Topics:

1. Article I
2. Article II
3. Article III
4. Article IV & V
5. Article VI & VII

Your PowerPoint/Prezi should include:

- 5-10 slides
- First slide is your topic + names of group members
- Quotes from the Constitution relevant to your topic followed by a clear explanation of what they mean
- Visuals

Group Members: _____

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Presentation (Group)

	<i>Exceeds Expectations 10 points</i>	<i>Meets Expectations 8 points</i>	<i>Below Expectations 6 points</i>	<i>Little to No Effort 0-4 points</i>
Requirements (10)	PPT/Prezi has 5-10 slides, numerous quotes referenced correctly from their Article, and many engaging visuals.	PPT/Prezi includes 5-10 slides, quotes from the Constitution, and visuals.	PPT/Prezi does not have at least 5 slides, Constitution is barely referenced or referenced incorrectly, little to no visuals.	No PPT/Prezi.
Content Knowledge (10)	Students thoroughly and correctly explain the content and importance of their section of the Constitution to the rest of the class. Students are able to answer questions from peers.	Students present the information that is in their section of the Constitution.	Students have a tenuous grasp of the information in their assigned section and do not adequately inform their classmates.	Students have no idea what is going on in the Constitution.
Presentation (10)	All group members are involved in presenting & articulate themselves so that their classmates can learn from them.	Most to all of the group members speak, and the important information is relayed.	The presentation is dominated by 1-3 of the group members and/or the information is not presented in an attainable manner.	The presentation makes little to no sense and the group members have clearly not collaborated.
Persuasion (10)	Students present their Article in a convincing manner explaining why it would be beneficial to the country.	Students explain their article to the class.	Students talk about their article, not very convincingly, and it receives little support from their classmates.	No attempt to persuade the group.

Writing (Individual)

	<i>Exceeds Expectations 10 points</i>	<i>Meets Expectations 8 points</i>	<i>Below Expectations 6 points</i>	<i>Little to No Effort 0-4 points</i>
Content Knowledge (10)	Students address all the Articles correctly from the perspective assigned.	Students address most of the Articles from their perspective.	Students address few Articles.	Student lack specifics and barely address the Articles
Application of role (10)	Students clearly understand and explain reasons why they would/would not ratify.	Students mostly understand why they would/would not ratify.	Understanding of their role and relation to the Articles is unclear.	Students show very little understanding of how their role would impact their opinion on the Constitution.

