

## Forming a Government Test Overview Key

Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
John Locke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enlightenment thinker</li> <li>• Believed government existed to protect life, liberty, and property (natural rights)</li> <li>• If government no longer protected natural rights, its the responsibility of the people to rebel</li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
Baron de Montesquieu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enlightenment thinker</li> <li>• Argued that the only way to achieve liberty was through separation of governmental powers.</li> </ul>
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Magna Carta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English document that limited the power of its kings and queens</li> <li>• Encouraged the rule of law - kings and queens were not above the law</li> </ul>
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Enlightenment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Movement that emphasized reason and logic to improve society</li> <li>• Leaders: John Locke, Ben Franklin, Baron de Montesquieu</li> </ul>
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constitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A set of basic principles and laws that stated the powers and duties of the government</li> <li>• Connecticut - first to have state constitution</li> <li>• Purpose: To spell out the rights of citizens; and to set limits to the power of government</li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Declared that no person could be forced to attend a particular church or be required to pay for a church with tax money.</li> <li>• Thomas Jefferson's idea</li> </ul>

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<p style="text-align: center;">suffrage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the right to vote</li> <li>• British Rule: free, white, male, owned land</li> <li>• No right to vote for women or free African Americans</li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
<p style="text-align: center;">Articles of Confederation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One branch of national government</li> <li>• Limited power (to protect the rights of the people)</li> </ul>
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<p style="text-align: center;">ratification</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Official approval</li> <li>• Maryland was the last state to ratify the Articles of Confederation</li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
<p style="text-align: center;">Land Ordinance of 1785</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up a system for surveying and dividing western lands</li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
<p style="text-align: center;">Northwest Ordinance of 1787</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Created a system for bringing new states into the Union (60,000 people)</li> <li>• Protected civil liberties and required public education</li> <li>• Banned slavery in the new territories</li> </ul>
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<p style="text-align: center;">Northwest Territory</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established by the Northwest Ordinance of 1787</li> <li>• States: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Minnesota, and Wisconsin</li> </ul>

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Powers of the National Government under the Articles of Confederation*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National government could               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• settle conflicts</li> <li>• issue coins</li> <li>• borrow money</li> <li>• make treaties with countries and Native Americans</li> <li>• ask the states for money and soldiers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
Strengths and Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengths               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protected individual liberties</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Weaknesses               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No president or national court system</li> <li>• States could refuse requests from the government</li> <li>• Could not regulate tax/trade laws</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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Daniel Shays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmer/Revolutionary War Veteran from Massachusetts               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Led a rebellion to protest high taxes and heavy debt</li> <li>• Shut down the Supreme Court</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
tariffs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taxes on imports and exports</li> <li>• Led to merchants raising prices to cover taxes</li> </ul>
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interstate commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trade between two or more states</li> <li>• Not able to be controlled by national government = each state makes their own = disunity</li> </ul>
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inflation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased prices for goods and services combined with the reduced value of money</li> <li>• Congress did not have any power to stop inflation</li> </ul>

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depression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of trade + inflation = depression</li> <li>• A period of low economic activity combined with a rise in unemployment</li> </ul>
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Trouble with Britain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Britain refused to turn over their forts in the Great Lakes</li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
Trade with Britain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Britain closed their ports to American ships = negatively impacted trade</li> <li>• Forced Americans to pay high tariffs = negatively impacted trade</li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
Trade with Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spain closed the lower Mississippi = negatively impacted trade</li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
Post-Revolution Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inflation</li> <li>• Depression</li> <li>• Increase in prices due to high tariffs</li> </ul>
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Shays' Rebellion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers protested high taxes and heavy debt in Massachusetts</li> <li>• Helped America realize the government needed to be more powerful.</li> </ul>

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Impact of Shays' Rebellion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Showed weakness of the Confederation government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National government was too weak</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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James Madison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nicknames: "Little Jemmy" and "Father of the Constitution"</li> <li>• Arrived 2 week early for the Constitutional Convention - most prepared delegate</li> <li>• Author of the Federalist Papers</li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
George Washington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Named President of the Constitutional Convention</li> <li>• Federalist</li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
Benjamin Franklin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oldest and wisest delegate at the convention</li> <li>• Carried to the convention in a sedan car</li> <li>• Federalist</li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
Roger Sherman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From Connecticut</li> <li>• Proposed the Great Compromise</li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
popular sovereignty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The idea that political authority belongs to the people.</li> <li>• Antifederalists would have agreed with this principle.</li> </ul>

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Federalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharing of power between the central (national) government and the state governments</li> </ul>
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Republic*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A government in which its citizens rule themselves through elected officials.</li> <li>• Representatives are in the legislative branch</li> </ul>
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Legislative Branch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senate = 100 Senators</li> <li>• House of Representatives = 435 members</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Proposes and passes laws</li> </ul>
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Executive Branch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• President <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice President</li> <li>• Presidential Cabinet</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Enforces laws</li> </ul>
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Judicial Branch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supreme Court <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 Justices</li> <li>• Lower federal courts</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Interprets laws</li> </ul>
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checks and balances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set in place to make sure no person or group has too much power <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each branch is separate, but equal = “balanced” power</li> <li>• Each branch can “check” the power of the other branches</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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Separation of Powers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shares power among the three branches (legislative, executive, judicial)</li> </ul>
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veto*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reject or decline</li> <li>• President can veto a bill</li> </ul>
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override*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To decline/reject a veto</li> <li>• Congress can override the President's veto, but it requires a 2/3rds vote</li> </ul>
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bill*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A proposed law</li> </ul>
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case*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How the Supreme Court gets to weigh in on a law</li> <li>• Will be determined as constitutional or unconstitutional</li> </ul>
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Electoral College*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elects the President and Vice President</li> <li>• House of Representatives (435) + Senate (100) + Washington, D.C. (3) = TOTAL 528</li> </ul>

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Constitutional Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May-Sept 1787</li> <li>• Philadelphia, PA</li> <li>• 55 Delegates</li> <li>• President: George Washington</li> </ul>
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Virginia Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong national government</li> <li>• 3 Branches: Executive, Judicial, Legislative (2 houses based on population)</li> </ul>
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New Jersey Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong national government</li> <li>• 3 Branches: Executive, Judicial, Legislative (1 house based on equal representation)</li> </ul>
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Great Compromise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong national government with 3 Branches</li> <li>• Executive, Judicial, Legislative (2 house - upper house (Senate) based on equal representation; lower house (HoR) based on population)</li> </ul>
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Three-Fifths Compromise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement reached to determine who counts towards population</li> <li>• Only 3/5ths of a state's slave population would count.</li> </ul>
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Constitution Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• September 17, 1787</li> <li>• Day the Constitution was ratified</li> </ul>



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George Mason	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anti-Federalist</li> <li>• Believed the Constitution did not have a section that guaranteed individual rights</li> </ul>
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Alexander Hamilton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federalist</li> <li>• Attended the Constitutional Convention as a New York delegate - 6 of 16 weeks</li> <li>• Wrote 51 Federalist papers</li> </ul>
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John Jay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federalist</li> <li>• Wrote 5 Federalist Papers</li> </ul>
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amendments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• official changes</li> <li>• Must be approved by two-thirds majority of both houses of Congress, then ratified by three-fourths of the states before being accepted</li> </ul>
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Bill of Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First 10 amendments of the Constitution</li> <li>• Goal: to protect citizens' rights</li> </ul>
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Federalists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporters of the Constitution</li> <li>• Ben Franklin, George Washington, James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay</li> </ul>

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Anti-Federalists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People who opposed the Constitution because they felt the national government would become too powerful</li> <li>• George Mason, Sam Adams, Patrick Henry</li> </ul>
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The Federalist Papers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essays supporting the Constitution</li> <li>• Written anonymously under name Publius (James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay)</li> </ul>
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Amendment Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be approved by two-thirds majority of both houses of Congress, then ratified by three-fourths of the states before being accepted</li> <li>• Has happened 27 times in history.</li> </ul>
Term/Idea/People/Place/Event	Notes
Total Amendments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 27</li> </ul>