

Name: _____

Comparing Plans of the Constitutional Convention




The Virginia Plan

- I. Proposed by James Madison
- II. Called for A Legislative Branch with **2 houses**
- III. Number of representatives is based on each state's population
- IV. One house elected directly by the people & members of that house elect members the 2nd house
- V. There will be 3 branches of government
 - a. Legislative – make laws
 - b. Executive – enforce laws
 - c. Judicial – interpret laws



The New Jersey Plan

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- I. Proposed by William Patterson
 - II. Called for a legislature with **1 house**
 - III. Each state, regardless of population or size, would send the same number of representatives to Congress
 - IV. Small states would have **the same amount of votes** as larger states

Analysis Questions

1. According to the Virginia Plan, what should the national government be made up of? _____

2. How many houses does Congress have under the Virginia Plan? How are they elected? _____

3. What are examples of states that would support the Virginia Plan? _____

4. How is the New Jersey Plan different from the Virginia Plan? _____

5. What states might support the New Jersey Plan? _____

6. Why do you think small states were against the Virginia Plan? _____

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Analysis Questions

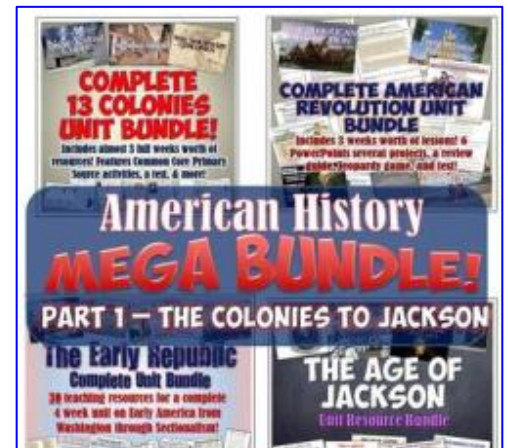
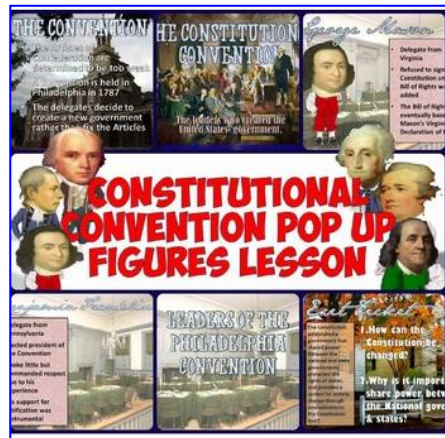
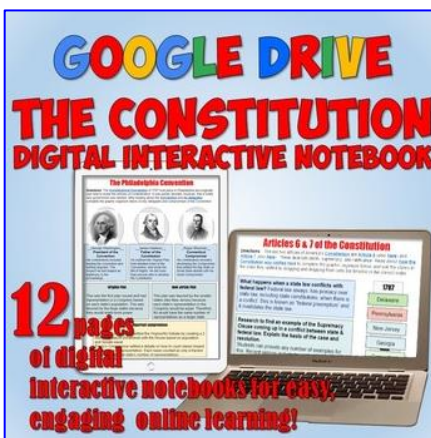
1. According to the Virginia Plan, what should the national government be made up of? The government would be made up of 3 branches of government (executive, judicial, and legislative).
2. How many houses does Congress have under the Virginia Plan? How are they elected? There will be 2 houses of Congress, one elected by the people and the second chosen by the first house.
3. What are examples of states that would support the Virginia Plan? Larger states like Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New York would support it because they would have more power.
4. How is the New Jersey Plan different from the Virginia Plan? Small states would have the same amount of votes as larger states, therefore people there would have more power than in larger states, where the number of electors is based on population.
5. What states might support the New Jersey Plan? Smaller states like New Jersey, Delaware, and Connecticut would favor the NJ Plan.
6. Why do you think small states were against the Virginia Plan? They thought that the government would not be responsive to their needs because the larger states could always outvote them.

GOOGLE DRIVE

Are you in a paperless classroom? You can access the [Google Drive Version of this resource here!](#) This link will have you make a copy of the Google Doc, so be sure to be signed in to your Google account. The answer key is not included there, so you can share directly with your students.

If you are interested in more Google Digital Resources, check out my [Digital Interactive Notebooks here.](#)

Here are some additional resources that you might enjoy as well:

The image is a screenshot of the Students of History website homepage. The header includes the logo "STUDENTS OF HISTORY" and navigation links for "ABOUT", "AMERICAN HISTORY", "WORLD HISTORY", "SIGN IN", and "REGISTER". The main content area features the text "ENERGIZE YOUR CLASSROOM WITH STUDENTS OF HISTORY" and "YOUR HOME FOR INNOVATIVE AND ENGAGING HISTORY LESSON PLANS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY CLASSROOM!". There is a "Join Now" button and a "LEARN MORE ABOUT US" link. Below this, there are two curriculum packages: "Complete US History Package" and "Complete World History Curriculum". A testimonial section is also visible, featuring a quote from a teacher about the quality and detail of the resources.

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TESTIMONIALS
THIS IS TRULY INSPIRED!!! This changed the way my students thought of and interacted with their community, and it changed the way I thought of myself as their teacher. One of my students even ended up on the news for raising over \$500 for the local homeless shelter because of this assignment! What a great way to teach citizenship! Not to mention, this package is so complete and detailed.

You can also get EVERY Students of History resource for World or US History through a subscription at [StudentsofHistory.org!](http://StudentsofHistory.org)