

Name: _____

Hour: _____

AMERICAN STUDIES: Unit Two Study Guide

1. List the four “influences” on our Core Democratic Values:

2. The four “influences” all were examples of the CDV _____
_____ and the only CDV not depicted was
_____ because they didn’t think in those terms yet.

3. The U.S. is a _____ democracy. This means that we vote on
many things but elect _____ to _____ us
on the local, state, and national levels of government.

4. John _____ was the “author” of the Social Contract Theory of
government.

5. According to the Social Contract theory, the relationship between government and
citizens is like a _____ and if the government violates that
agreement the citizens have a _____ to _____.

6. When writing the Constitution some compromises were necessary. You should know the
following major compromises:

The Great Compromise solved the problem of how the states would be
_____ in Congress. In the Senate, each
state has _____ representatives. This made the _____
states happy. In the House of Representatives, a state’s representation is
based on _____. This made the _____
states happy.

The 3/5’s Compromise addressed the problem of how _____
would be counted in a state’s population. It said that _____’s of a
state’s slaves would be counted.

7. Define the following:

Popular Consent: _____

Separation of Powers: _____

Checks and Balances: _____

Federalism: _____

8. Our FIRST try at governing ourselves was set up in the _____ of

_____ .

9. The four MAIN weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation were

(a) each state was too _____

(b) there were no _____ courts

(c) each state had its own _____

(d) there were no _____ taxes

10. Our SECOND try at governing ourselves as a democracy was set up in the U.S.

_____ in the year _____ .

11. The two MAIN purposes of the Constitution are to describe the _____ (set

up) and _____ (job descriptions) of the national government.

12. The FORM of the national government under the Constitution includes 3 branches:

BRANCH

WHO SERVES US THERE

13. What is the FUNCTION of the national government's three branches you identified above in #21 in relation to U.S. LAWS?

BRANCH

MAIN JOB

14. Although power is shared between the states and the federal government, NATIONAL LAWS _____ - _____ STATE LAWS IF THEY DISAGREE.

This is an example of _____.

15. When making laws in the U.S., a _____ can be introduced in either the _____ or the _____ but must go through _____ before being sent to the _____ who either _____ or _____ it.

16. When the President vetoes a bill, Congress can _____ the veto with a _____ vote in BOTH the House and Senate.

17. What is meant by the term “impeachment”? _____

18. Impeachment is a _____-step process. The _____ of _____ officially “impeaches” a government official (accuses of _____-doing). The _____ puts the person on _____.

19. In the space below, draw and label the U.S. “Power Pyramid.” **Be sure to know how it shows the principles of Federalism and Separation of Powers.**