C.1.8 Practice Quiz

SS.7.C.1.8 Explain the viewpoints of the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists regarding the ratification of the Constitution and inclusion of a bill of rights.
C.1.8 Practice Quiz

1) Why did the Anti-Federalists oppose ratification of the Constitution?

A. They considered its income taxes to be too high.
B. They feared the new government would threaten individual rights.
C. They thought the nation needed a monarch to provide greater stability.
D. They believed the new government would not be strong enough to overcome its challenges.
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2) Why did the Federalists urge ratification of the Constitution?

A. They wanted to strengthen state governments.
B. They wanted to increase the army to seize Canada from the British.
C. They feared that individual liberties would be threatened if the national government were too strong.
D. They wanted a stronger government to oppose threats from foreign powers, American Indians, and domestic unrest.
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3) Why did the Federalists believe individual liberties were not threatened by the Constitution?

A. State governments would protect individual liberties.
B. Elected officials could be trusted to protect individual liberties.
C. The federal government was given only limited powers by the Constitution.
D. The federal government would use its powers to protect, not threaten, individual liberties.
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4) The passage below is from *Federalist No. 15*, written by Alexander Hamilton in 1787.

We have reached almost the last state of national humiliation. There is scarcely anything that can wound or degrade the character of an independent nation which we do not experience . . . Do we owe debts to foreigners . . . ? Have we valuable territories and important posts in the possession of a foreign power . . . ? Are we in a condition to resent or repel aggression? We have neither troops, nor treasury, nor government.

Based on this passage, why did Hamilton believe the Constitution should be ratified?

A. The United States needed a large army to expand into nearby territories.
B. The current government of the United States was too weak to defend the country.
C. The United States government needed a treasury to buy additional territory from its neighbors.
D. The United States needed a stronger government to promote the interests of wealthy Americans.
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5) Why did the Anti-Federalists urge the addition of a bill of rights to the Constitution?

A. to abolish slavery  
B. to protect individual liberties  
C. to lower the costs of government  
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A. Government power was to be separated into three branches and divided between the national and state governments.
B. State governments would continue to hold the most power and would safeguard individual freedom.
C. The federal government would use its new powers to protect, not threaten, individual rights.
D. Elected government officials would never take steps against individual rights.
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7) Why did the Federalists believe the national government would not become too strong if the Constitution were adopted?

A. The people could only act through their representatives.
B. The Supreme Court had the power to limit government actions.
C. Elected government officials could be trusted to protect individual rights.
D. A system of checks and balances would prevent the government from becoming tyrannical.
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8) The passage below was written by George Clinton, an Anti-Federalist, in 1788.

Whoever considers the immense extent of territory comprehended within the limits of the United States…will [see] that a … republican form of government therein can never form a perfect union …

[C]omposed of interests opposite and dissimilar, [such a republic would be] like a house divided against itself.

Which sentence summarizes Clinton’s views in this passage?

A. The Constitution should be approved because it will unite the country.
B. The best form of government is a republican one with elected representatives.
C. The United States has too many separate interests to form a single uniform republic.
D. The Constitution gives too much power to the state governments for the republic to last.
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9) The arguments below were used in the debate over ratification of the Constitution.

1. A strong central government will give government officials the power to raise a large army.
2. This army can then be used to force citizens to pay excessive taxes.
3. Corrupt government officials might then use this tax money to build an even larger army.
4. Individual liberties will then be threatened.

Which group of Americans made these arguments?

A. Tories
B. Patriots
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[In a republic, government] is delegated to a small number of citizens elected by the rest . . . The effect is to refine and enlarge the public views by passing them through the medium of a chosen body of citizens whose wisdom may best [determine] the true interests of their country . . .

Which conclusion can be reached from Madison’s reasoning?

A. The public should not criticize elected government officials.
B. A representative democracy is superior to a direct democracy.
C. The common people should not be given any voice in running the government.
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Below is a passage from *Anti-Federalist Paper #84* written by Brutus.

> With equal truth it may be said, that all the powers which the bills of rights guard against the abuse of, are contained or implied in the general ones granted by this Constitution.

Based on the passage, why did the Anti-Federalists support the inclusion of a bill of rights?

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