AP US Government & Politics

Exam Review

**Unit 1: Foundations of American Democracy**

**Enduring Understanding: A balance between governmental power and individual rights has been a hallmark of American political development.**

The U.S. government is based on ideas of limited government, including natural rights, popular sovereignty, republicanism, and social contract.

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| --- | --- |
| Principle | Explanation |
| Popular sovereignty |  |
| Limited government |  |
| Separation of powers |  |
| Checks & balances |  |
| Judicial review |  |
| Federalism |  |

The **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (foundational doc)**, drafted by Jefferson with help from Adams and Franklin, provides a foundation for popular sovereignty, while the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** drafted at the Philadelphia convention led by George Washington, with important contributions from Madison, Hamilton, and members of the “grand committee,” provides the blueprint for a unique form of political democracy in the U.S.

Representative democracies can take several forms along this scale:

* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ democracy*, which emphasizes **broad participation** in politics and civil society
* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ democracy*, which recognizes **group-based activism** by nongovernmental interests striving for impact on political decision making
* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ democracy,* which emphasizes **limited participation** in politics and civil society

Different aspects of the **U.S. Constitution**, as well as the debate noted in **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (foundational doc) and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (foundational doc)**, reflect the tension between the broad participatory model and the more filtered participation of the pluralist and elite models.

The three models of representative democracy continue to be reflected in contemporary institutions and political behavior.

Enduring Understanding: The Constitution emerged from the debate about the weaknesses in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as a blueprint for limited government.

Madison’s arguments in **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** focused on the **superiority of a large republic** in controlling the “**mischiefs of faction**,” delegating authority to elected representatives and dispersing power between the states and national government.

Anti-Federalist writings, including **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, adhered to popular democratic theory that emphasized the **benefits of a small decentralized republic** while warning of the dangers to personal liberty from a large, centralized government.

Specific incidents and legal challenges that highlighted key weaknesses of the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** are represented by the:

* Lack of centralized military power to address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Rebellion
* Lack of tax-law enforcement power

Compromises deemed necessary for adoption and ratification of the **Constitution** are represented by the:

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) Compromise
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ College
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Compromise
* Compromise on the importation of slaves

Debates about self-government during the drafting of the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** necessitated the drafting of an amendment process in Article V that entailed either a two-thirds vote in both houses or a proposal from two-thirds of the state legislatures, with final ratification determined by three-fourths of the states.

The compromises necessary to secure the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Constitution left some matters unresolved that continue to generate discussion and debate today.

Some concepts were forbidden under the US Constitution:

* Writ of habeas corpus:
* Bills of attainder:
* Ex post facto laws:

The debate over the role of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ government, the powers of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ governments, and the rights of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ remains at the heart of present-day constitutional issues about democracy and governmental power, as represented by:

* Debates about government surveillance resulting from the federal government’s response to the 9/11 attacks
* The debate about the role of the federal government in public school education

**Enduring Understanding: The Constitution created a competitive policy-making process to ensure the people’s will is represented and that freedom is preserved.**

The powers allocated to Congress, the president, and the courts demonstrate the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ features of the **U.S. Constitution**.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (foundational doc)** explains how constitutional provisions of separation of powers and checks and balances control abuses by majorities.

Multiple access points for stakeholders and institutions to influence public policy flows from the separation of powers and checks and balances.

Impeachment, removal, and other legal actions taken against public officials deemed to have abused their power reflect the purpose of checks and balances.

**Enduring Understanding: Federalism reflects the dynamic distribution of power between national and state governments.**

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(exclusive) and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(shared) powers of the national and state governments help explain the negotiations over the balance of power between the two levels.

The distribution of power between federal and state governments to meet the needs of society changes, as reflected by grants, incentives, and aid programs, including federal revenue sharing, mandates, categorical grants, and block grants.

**Enduring Understanding: Federalism reflects the dynamic distribution of power between national and state governments.**

The interpretation of the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Amendments**, the commerce clause, the necessary and proper clause, and other enumerated and implied powers is at the heart of the debate over the balance of power between the national and state governments.

The balance of power between the national and state governments has changed over time based on U.S. Supreme Court interpretation of such cases as:

* ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** (1819), which declared that Congress has implied powers necessary to implement its enumerated powers and established supremacy of the U.S. Constitution and federal laws over state laws.
* ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** (1995), which ruled that Congress may not use the commerce clause to make possession of a gun in a school zone a federal crime, introducing a new phase of federalism that recognized the importance of state sovereignty and local control

Other constitutional clauses dealing with federalism:

* Full Faith & Credit Clause:
* Supremacy Clause:

Multiple access points for stakeholders and institutions to influence public policy flows from the allocation of powers between national and state governments.

National policymaking is constrained by the sharing of power between and among the three branches and state governments.

Federalism has changed over time:

* Dual federalism (aka \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ cake federalism)
  + Define:
  + Time period:
  + Example:
* Cooperative federalism (aka \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ cake federalism):
  + Define:
  + Time period:
  + Example:
* Competitive federalism:
  + Define:
  + Time period:
  + Example:
* Fiscal federalism:
  + Define:
    - Categorical grants:
    - Block grants:
    - Unfunded mandates:
* Devolution:
* Define:
* Cite at least three examples: