Handout A: Background Essay—A Legacy of Republicanism Answer Key

1. The North American British colonies responded negatively to the Stamp Act and similar laws because they had no representation in Parliament.

2. Principles of government reflected in the debates at the Constitutional Convention and in the ratification debates include limited government, republicanism, consent, and inalienable rights. Accept other well-reasoned answers.

3. The Framers expected the establishment of a republic would avoid the problems of an “excess of democracy” because the people would elect the wisest and most virtuous to be their representatives, rather than being manipulated by “pretended patriots.”

4. Colonial and Revolutionary experience contributed to the Framers’ commitment to faithful representation of the will of the people, and also demonstrated the necessity of closely linking representation to the power to tax. Experience under the Articles of Confederation convinced them that the union needed a stronger central authority than that devised under a “firm league of friendship.”

5. Explain the compromises that settled each of the following central questions regarding representation:

   d. The Framers decided that members of the House of Representatives (the lower house) would be elected directly by the people and that Senators would be elected by state legislatures.

   e. In the Great Compromise, the Framers decided that the Senate would provide for equal representation of the states, and in the House, representation would be based on population.

   f. In the Three-Fifths Compromise, the Framers decided to count three-fifths of “all other persons” (enslaved individuals) in computing population of each state.

6. Anti-Federalists wrote and argued that the new government was too powerful, insufficiently representative, and failed to secure the rights of the people. Federalists wrote essays explaining that the liberty of the people was safe under the new Constitution because of the structural protections built into the complex system. The protections include the Constitution’s enumeration of specific limited powers of Congress, as well as bicameral legislature, and biennial elections. Students should take a position regarding these two viewpoints and be able to defend it with reasoned arguments.
## Handout E: Anti-Federalist Objections to the Constitution Answer Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anti-Federalist Argument</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Federalist Response</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The United States is too big for republican government to work.</td>
<td>Brutus I; Brutus IV</td>
<td>The public voice, refined by passing through wise, patriotic, justice-loving representatives will be better than if pronounced by the people themselves.</td>
<td>Federalist No. 10</td>
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<td>2. The people will not know their representatives.</td>
<td>Brutus I</td>
<td>Representatives are appointed, either directly or indirectly, by the people, for a limited time and for good behavior. (Implies that the people will exercise good judgment in elections.)</td>
<td>Federalist No. 39</td>
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<td>3. The representatives will soon abuse their power to enrich themselves and their supporters.</td>
<td>Brutus I</td>
<td>Elections will be held often enough to maintain proper responsibility to the people. (Implies that the voters will hold representatives accountable.)</td>
<td>Federalist No. 57</td>
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<td>4. Holding elections biennially rather than annually will be too infrequent for the voters to hold their elected representatives accountable.</td>
<td>Cato V</td>
<td>In these critical moments, how salutary will be the interference of some temperate and respectable body of citizens, in order to check the misguided career, and to suspend the blow meditated by the people against themselves, until reason, justice, and truth can regain their authority over the public mind?</td>
<td>Federalist No. 63</td>
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### Critical Thinking Questions

1. Accept reasoned answers based on the primary sources and the current events that have been addressed in class. In general, students may suggest that the Federalists and Anti-Federalists agreed on the importance of such principles as limited government, representation, consent, and inalienable rights. They disagreed on the best way to implement those principles in the new government. Neither group unconditionally trusted government to protect the people’s inalienable rights. The Federalists emphasized the injustices of some laws in the states and had a lower level of distrust of the new general government because of its complex structure, the limitations of the Constitution, and the ability of representatives to guide and refine public opinion when it errs. The Anti-Federalists had a lower level of distrust for the state governments, since state representatives were closer to the direct control of the people. Anti-Federalists believed the new, powerful central government created by the Constitution would soon disregard the Constitution’s limits. Debates regarding the proper relationship between state and national government have continued throughout our history, as have debates about the level of trust we can afford to place in elected representatives. We continue to deliberate whether our representatives are elites who have betrayed us as part of a Washington establishment, or whether the problem is not enough leadership in the government to curb the excesses of democracy. Students should point to specific current events and policies to provide support for their opinions.
2. Analyze and paraphrase the following statements.
   
a. Paraphrase: In a republic, it is important that the electorate reflect the full spectrum of political and economic views in the society, not just a rich and powerful few.

b. Paraphrase: The government will be operate within the rule of law, observing the Constitution and its principles as authoritative and supreme.

c. Paraphrase: Representatives must be wise, virtuous, committed to the common good, and understand that they are accountable to the people. Elections will serve to keep them virtuous, because the people will be observant and will vote based on whether their representatives appropriately protect the liberties and carry out the will of the people.

3. Students should provide evidence and reasoned arguments to support their level of agreement or disagreement with the Madison quotes.

4. Students should provide evidence and reasoned arguments to support their answer to whether the American republic has lived up to Madison's confidence.

5. Students should provide evidence and reasoned arguments to support their opinions regarding the main responsibility of elected representatives and the main responsibility of the electorate.