

Answers for Quiz 2 (Chapters 5 and 6)

Multiple-Choice Answers

1. (E)
Saratoga marked the doomed ending to a British three-pronged campaign to split New England from the other colonies. With the surrender of Burgoyne's army, the Americans had won a major victory and captured an entire British army. This victory gave the French the evidence they needed that the Americans could actually win the war, and gave them a chance to avenge their loss to the British in the Seven Years' War. The French now recognized the American government and declared war on England. The entrance of France into the war steadily turned the tide in favor of the Americans. England now found itself fighting not only its American colonists, but a global struggle against its chief European rival. Of the remaining battles, only Yorktown rivals Saratoga in significance because it marked the end of active large-scale hostilities in the war and led the British Parliament to request peace negotiations.
2. (D)
The ratification of the Articles of Confederation was delayed while some states, such as Maryland, refused to approve until others, such as Virginia, agreed to give up their extensive Western land claims. Disagreement about the nature and composition of the national legislature (A) was present but was less significant in delaying ratification. There could be no disagreement on the powers of the president under the Articles (B), since they provided for none. State treaties with other countries (C) did not exist, and the slavery issue (E) was not yet heated enough to prevent union.
3. (C)
The shots fired at Lexington have been labeled "the shots heard round the world." Up until this time, many colonists and English rulers still believed some type of compromise short of violence could be worked out. Many Englishmen believed just a strong show of force by the British military would send rebellious colonists scurrying back to their farms. The British rout at Concord proved that however ragtag the colonial forces looked, they were willing to fight and die for their cause and could even beat the British in the right circumstances. While the British at this point considered the debacle at Concord to be a fluke, the violence marked the end of any hope of a nonviolent settlement to the British-American conflict. Britain would now have to attempt to militarily crush the colonies, and the colonists were committed to open rebellion from the motherland.
4. (A)
Thomas Paine wrote several pamphlets before and during the American Revolution. *Common Sense* was the most significant because it carefully documented abuses of the British parliamentary system of government, particularly in its treatment of the American colonies. Paine portrayed a brutish monarchy interested only in itself and pointedly argued how independence would improve the colonies' long-term situation. His argument

was directed at the common man, and it struck a chord unlike anything previously written in the colonies. Its publication in 1776 was perfect in reaching the public at just the moment that their questions and concerns regarding British rule were peaking. The answers provided in Paine's essays were pivotal in the subsequent behavior of many colonists who, until that time, had been unsure of what they believed regarding independence and British rule.

Answer (B) is incorrect. Paine wrote another essay series called *American Crisis*, first published during the winter of 1776. This essay, not *Common Sense*, helped rally American spirits during that long, demoralizing winter during Washington's retreat across the Delaware. The opening line of Essay No. 1 reads: "These are the times that try men's souls: The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands it NOW, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

Answers (C) through (E) are incorrect. Paine wrote to an American, not a British audience. *Common Sense* actually laid some groundwork for the Declaration of Independence but was published before American independence was achieved and constitutional issues became relevant.

5. (A)
Edmund Randolph and James Madison made the first proposal to the Constitutional Convention—the Virginia Plan. They encouraged not a revision of the Articles of Confederation but a completely new government with separate legislative, executive, and judicial branches. The Virginia Plan called for a bicameral Congress in which representation in both houses would be based upon population. The lower house would elect the members of the upper house, and the two houses combined would elect an executive and judges for the courts.
6. (C)
The Enlightenment philosophy embraced by some influential thinkers—Thomas Jefferson, among them—stressed that human reason was adequate to solve and improve the human condition. Much less faith was needed in the central role of God as an active force in the universe.
7. (D)
The Federalists' name implied that they did not support a strong national government. However, the leaders of the Federalist movement believed strongly in the necessity of a relatively strong central government. They strongly supported ratification of the Constitution and believed that discussion of a bill of rights should be delayed until after the Constitution was ratified. Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay wrote a series of essays contained within *The Federalist* which brilliantly argued the Federalist position and captured support of all the nation's major newspapers. This campaign made the difference in the battles for ratification in several key states.

The chief opponents of ratification, the Antifederalists, argued against ratification primarily on the basis of choice (B), that a bill of rights needed to be in place before ratification of the Constitution. Many Antifederalists opposed the Constitution entirely based on the belief in choice (E), that no strong national government could or should ever exist. They believed that a strong national government would become corrupt and lose touch with the needs of the local people. They believed that the best path was for the states to govern themselves within the framework of an extremely limited national government. Few people wanted either choice (A), a return to the Articles of Confederation, which had clearly not worked, or (C), a new constitutional convention.

8. (A)
The Northwest Ordinance of 1787, like the previous ordinances of 1784 and 1785, ignored the Indian tribes' claims to the land contained within the Northwest Territory. The Shawnee, Delaware, and Miami, armed with weapons supplied by the British, attacked Whites who settled north and west of the Ohio River and prevented settlement of the region for nearly 10 years.

While the Northwest Ordinance was a progressive document for its time, it was meaningless until the Indian problem was resolved and settlement of the area was achieved. Contained within the Northwest Ordinance were the provisions listed in choices (B) through (E). The antislavery prohibition is particularly notable because it reflected a growing concern, particularly in the North, about the institution of slavery. It marked the first regional limitation of slavery in the U.S. beyond individual state boundaries.

9. (E)
When the framing of the Constitution was completed, 39 of the 55 original delegates approved and signed the document. The next step was ratification by the states. Opposition came from the Antifederalists who were generally the radicals of the Revolutionary period. They feared a strong central government and objected to (a) the lack of a federal bill of rights, (b) the enlarged powers of the executive, (c) the lessening of the powers of the states; and (d) the concept of dual taxation, i.e., by both state and federal governments.

10. (D)
The paternalistic view of slavery, held by most Southern plantation owners, held that Blacks were inferior, mentally weak and ignorant, requiring "protection" from the evils that could befall them if they were left on their own. In this view, slaveowners were benevolent protectors who took care of their black slaves almost as parents take care of children. This was a comforting myth that most slaveholders really appear to have believed. It was comforting in that if they were really protectors of their poor black "children," then holding slaves wasn't sinful at all. It was, rather, a social service providing a good for everybody involved. Unfortunately, this twisted rationalization denied the fact that slaves were horribly mistreated and often abused or killed for little or no provocation. If they were ignorant or childlike, it is only because they were denied educational opportunities and many slaves learned that acting with childlike deference to their "master"

often got them better treatment. In other words, their childishness was often an act based on a powerful instinct to survive rather than any limitations of intellectual capacity.

11. (D)
The map shows the gains made by Britain stemming from the Treaty of Paris. The British extended their dominion, at the expense of the French, westward to the Mississippi River. France lost nearly all its North American possessions. Spain gained land from Mexico to the Mississippi, including the strategic Port of New Orleans. The Portuguese had no land holdings in North America. As for the Native Americans, their disposition in the wake of the treaty would depend on whether they were allied with the British or the French. No treaty was signed between the British and the Indians, and animosity remained between the two groups.
12. (E)
The first state constitutions varied mainly in detail. These constitutions formed governments much like the colonial governments, with elected governors and senates instead of appointed governors and councils. The first state constitution generally embodied a separation of powers and included a bill of rights protecting the rights of petition, freedom of speech, trial by jury, etc.
13. (A)
The primary issue in Shays' Rebellion was the jailing of individuals or seizure of their property for failure to pay taxes during a time of economic hardship. Economic oppression by eastern Massachusetts bankers (E) and underrepresentation of the western part of the state (B) may have been contributing factors. Indians were by this time not a serious problem in Massachusetts (D), and there was no unpaid bonus (C).
14. (A)
The Peace of Paris (1763) gave Britain all French North American possessions east of the Mississippi River and all of Spanish Florida. France ceded Louisiana to Spain in compensation for Spain's loss of the Floridas. Therefore, the trans-Mississippi West was not open to the colonists.
15. (D)
One of the most important aspects of the Stamp Act Congress was the opportunity it provided for colonial leaders to meet and establish acquaintances with one another. Nine colonies—not merely Georgia, Virginia, and the Carolinas (C)—were represented at it, but far from being a unified government for all the American colonies (A), it simply passed mild resolutions protesting the Stamp Act. It was not, therefore, either a vehicle for enforcing the act (B) or opposed to American protests against the act (E).