

Establishing the New Nation

Lesson 4.3 The Enduring Constitution

Key Terms

ratification

Federalists

Antifederalists

The Federalist

John Jay

Bill of Rights

popular sovereignty

limited government

separation of powers

checks and balances

electoral college

The Debate Over Ratification: Text

1. **Analyze Style and Rhetoric** Reread the quote in “The Struggle Over Ratification” by James Lincoln from South Carolina. What was his main idea? What language did he use to support this idea?
2. **Compare and Contrast** Use a graphic organizer to take notes on the important arguments from the Federalists and Antifederalists. Include information about how both sides convinced state ratifying committees to support or oppose the Constitution.
3. **Draw Inferences** Why did many farmers oppose the Constitution? What inferences can you make about American farmers in the 1780s?
4. **Identify Supporting Details** Find several details in the text to support this main idea: *The Federalists were better organized than the Antifederalists.*

Ratifying Conventions in the States: Text

5. **Draw Conclusions** Why did the Antifederalists want a Bill of Rights?
6. **Cite Evidence** What political actions did the Federalists take to ensure that the Constitution would be ratified?

Constitutional Principles: Text

- Vocabulary: Determine Meaning** In what way was the Constitution an example of *popular sovereignty*?
- Use Visual Information** Use the infographic and the information from the text to fill in the graphic organizer below, which shows key powers of each branch of the U.S. government.

Executive	

Legislative	Judicial

- Synthesize** How did the ratified Constitution reflect the views of both Federalists and Antifederalists?
- Summarize** In what ways did the Constitution “insulate” the government from the people? Explain.
- Draw Inferences** Would an Antifederalist likely support a narrow or a broad interpretation of the Constitution? Explain your answer.