

Name _____

Date _____

Period _____

Document Based Question (DBQ)

United States Government

Directions: This Question is based on the accompanying documents (1-4). Some of the documents have been edited for the purpose of the question. This question is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. As you analyze the documents take into account both the **CONTEXT** of each document and the **POINT OF VIEW** that may be presented.

Historical Context:

Early Americans were hesitant to create a federal government that was too powerful. After the failure of the Articles of Confederation, the Founding Fathers created the Constitution of the United States of America. The new Constitution was based on several basic principles that limited the power of the federal government.

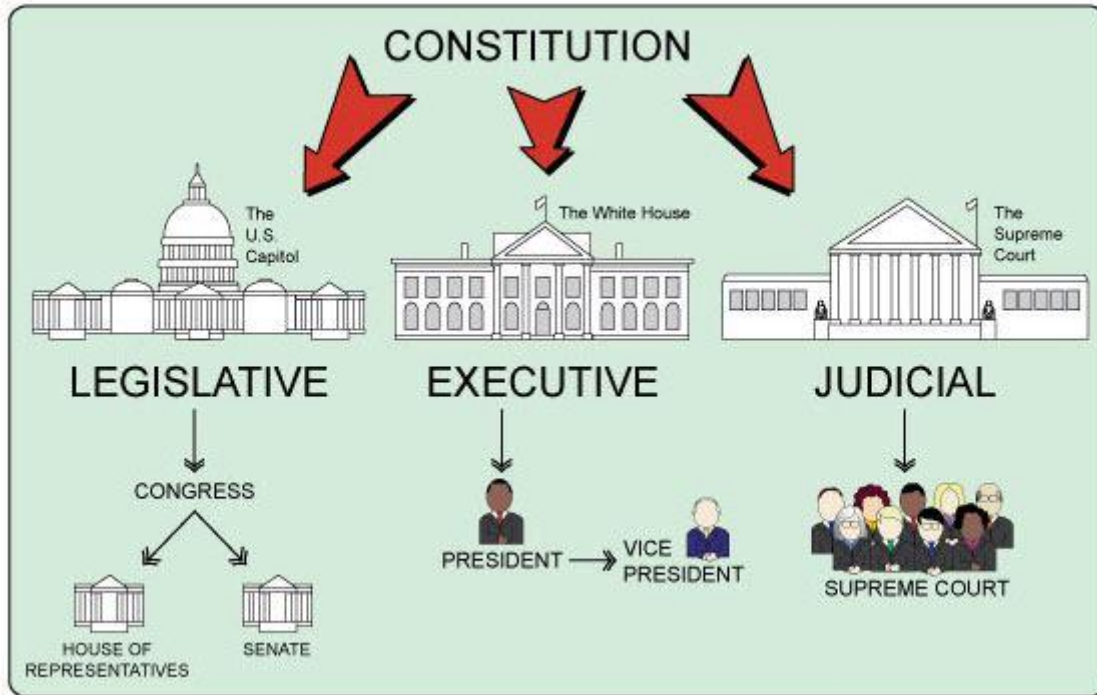
This DBQ consists of **TWO** parts. The documents in Part A will help you answer the Part B Essay in which you will be asked to:

Task:

Using information from at least THREE documents and your knowledge of social studies, answer all the document questions in Part A and use the answers in your Part B Essay in which you will be asked to:

- Describe** THREE (3) ways the Constitution limits the power of the federal government.

Document 1:



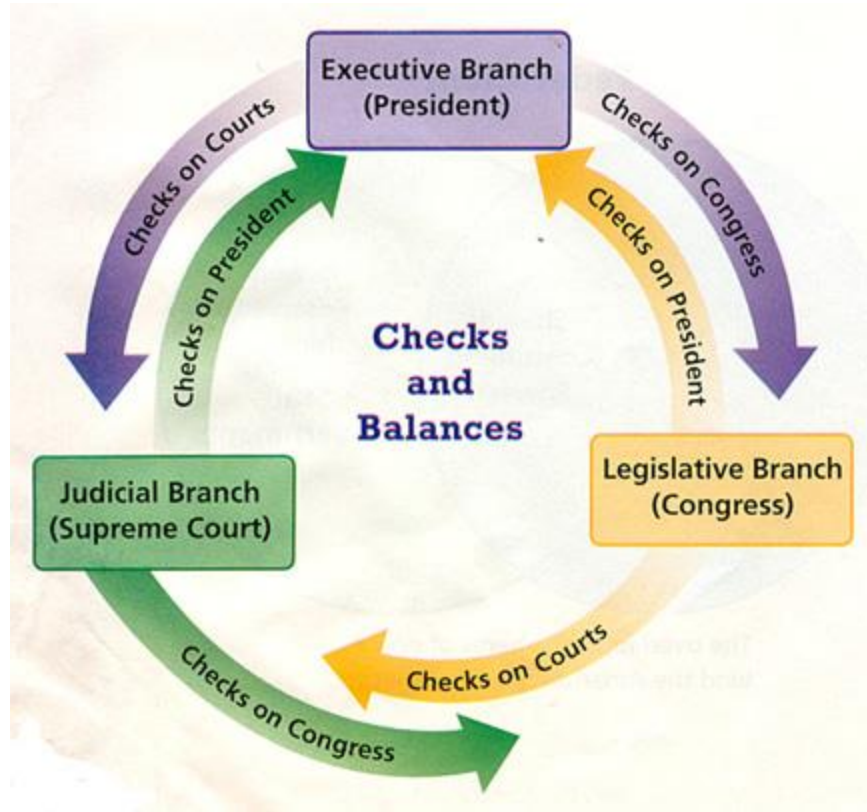
1a. According to the document, what are the three branches of the federal government?

[1]

1b. How does the principle of separation of powers help limit the power of the federal government?

[1]

Document 2:

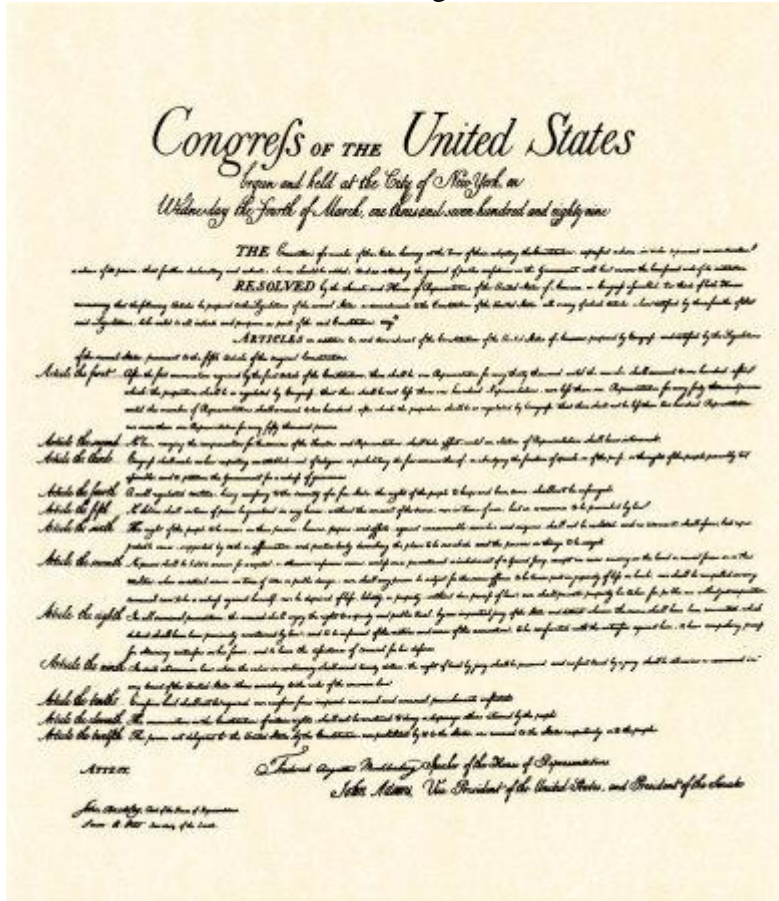


2a. How does the system of checks and balances help limit the power of the federal government?

[1]

Document 3:

Bill of Rights

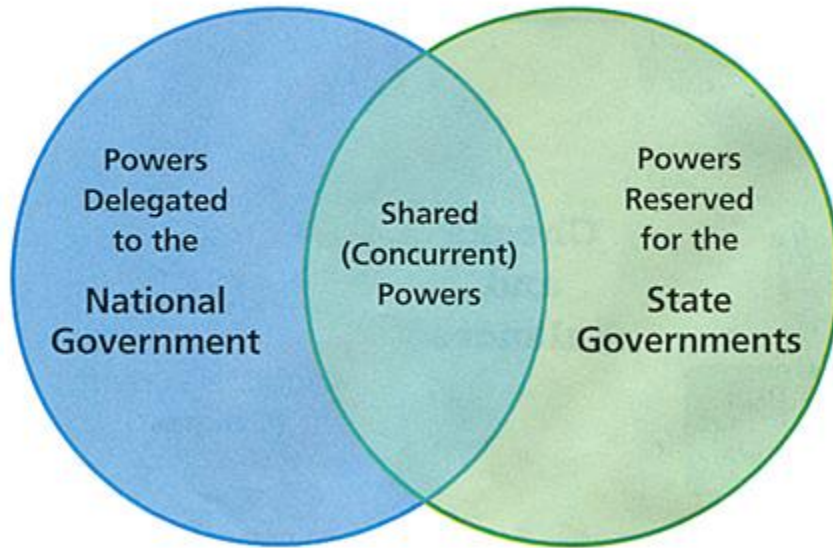


A Bill of Rights was added to the Constitution in 1791 to protect important individual liberties.

3. How does the addition of the Bill of Rights to the Constitution help to limit the power of the Federal Government?

Document 4:

Federalism



4. How does the federal system (federalism) help limit the power of the federal government?

[1]

Part B:

Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs, and a conclusion. Use evidence from *at least three* documents in your essay. Support your response with relevant facts, examples, and details. Include additional outside information.

Historical Context:

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Task:

Using information from at least THREE documents and your knowledge of social studies, answer all the document questions in Part A and use the answers in your Part B Essay in which you will be asked to:

- Describe** THREE (3) ways the Constitution limits the power of the federal government.

Guidelines:

In your essay, be sure to:

- Develop all aspects of the task
- Incorporate information from *at least three* documents
- Incorporate relevant outside information
- Support theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Use a logical and clear plan of organization, including an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the Historical Context.