

Homework 8: *The Federalists* Essays

Date: _____

Name: _____

Grade: { }

Question 1. Take notes on new words and expressions.

Read the following story of James Madison's adapted from Mr. Nussbaum

[\(<http://mrnussbaum.com/federalist-papers-reading-comprehension>\)](http://mrnussbaum.com/federalist-papers-reading-comprehension).

After Delaware and Pennsylvania ratified the Constitution, other states began considering their options. Some states were not sure if signing the Constitution was in their best interest. In an attempt to persuade the eleven other states to ratify, Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and John Jay (mostly Hamilton and Madison though) wrote the eighty-five essays known as the Federalist Papers. They were published in New York newspapers. The esteemed authors were referred to as "Publius".

The Federalist Papers is considered one of the greatest contributions to American democracy, federalism and governmental theory. The Federalist Papers were extremely effective in outlining both the defects of the Articles of Confederation and the advantages of the newly proposed Constitution as advocated by the authors. Alexander Hamilton, in particular, was instrumental in explaining the functions of the three branches of the new government – the executive, legislative and judicial. In addition, the authors enumerate important aspects of a functioning government such as a system of checks and balances (so no individual gets too much power), federalism (a system where there is a central

government and regional governments), separated powers, pluralism (a system in which there are multiple sources of power) and representation.

Some call the Federalist Papers the greatest public relations campaign in history. Only two years after the papers were published, Rhode Island became the last of the colonies to ratify.

Question 2a. Why did Hamilton, Madison, and Jay write the Federalist Papers?

- A. To convince Pennsylvania and Delaware to ratify the Constitution
- B. To convince the other states to consider their options
- C. To convince the other states to ratify the Constitution
- D. To establish “Publius” as esteemed authors

Question 2b. What does “enumerate” mean as used in the following sentence?

In addition, the authors enumerate important aspects of a functioning government such as a system of checks and balances (so no individual gets too much power), federalism, separated powers, pluralism and representation.

- A. Depart
- B. Debate
- C. Decide
- D. List

Question 2c. The Federalist Papers...

- A. was written as a replacement for the Articles of Confederation.
- B. effectively outlined what was flawed about the Articles of Confederation.
- C. was written to explain the Articles of Confederation.
- D. was written to add to the volumes of governmental theory.

Question 2d. Which of the following is an accurate reflection of the Federalist Papers?

- A. The essays were largely written by Hamilton and Madison with a minor contribution from John Jay.
- B. The essays were largely written by Hamilton with minor contributions from Madison and Jay.
- C. The essays were exclusively written by Hamilton and Madison.
- D. The essays were written with equal contributions from all three authors.

Question 2e. The authors of the Federalist papers were...

- A. ultimately unsuccessful in their original goal.
- B. ultimately successful in accomplishing their original goal.

- C. partially successful in accomplishing their goal, but only time will tell.
- D. not actually consequential to the ratification of the Constitution.

Question 2f. Why do some call the Federalist Papers the “greatest public relations campaign in history?”

- A. Because it made sure that to include a system of check and balances into the government
- B. Because it effectively explained the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the new government
- C. Because it made Alexander Hamilton and James Madison two of the most important people in American history
- D. Because it had the effect of convincing the remaining states to ratify America’s laws and join together become one country

Question 2g. Which of the following was not explained in the Federalist Papers?

- A. That a functioning government has multiple sources of power rather than all of the power invested in a single person
- B. That a functioning government can not allow for regional governments
- C. That a functioning government requires that power not be controlled by a single person
- D. That a functioning government requires a separation of powers

Question 3. Read the following passage from No. 39 of The Federalist:

If we resort for a criterion to the different principles on which different forms of government are established, we may define a republic to be, or at least may bestow that name on, a government which derives all its powers directly or indirectly from the great body of the people, and is administered by persons holding their offices during pleasure, for a limited period, or during good behavior. It is ESSENTIAL to such a government that it be derived from the great body of the society, not from an inconsiderable proportion, or a favored class of it; otherwise a handful

of tyrannical nobles, exercising their oppressions by a delegation of their powers, might aspire to the rank of republicans, and claim for their government the honorable title of republic. It is SUFFICIENT for such a government that the persons administering it be appointed, either directly or indirectly, by the people; and that they hold their appointments by either of the tenures just specified; otherwise every government in the United States, as well as every other popular government that has been or can be well organized or well executed, would be degraded from the

republican character. According to the constitution of every State in the Union, some or other of the officers of government are appointed indirectly only by the people. According to most of them, the chief magistrate himself is so appointed. And according to one, this mode of appointment is extended to one of the co-ordinate branches of the legislature. According to all the constitutions, also, the tenure of the

highest offices is extended to a definite period, and in many instances, both within the legislative and executive departments, to a period of years. According to the provisions of most of the constitutions, again, as well as according to the most respectable and received opinions on the subject, the members of the judiciary department are to retain their offices by the firm tenure of good behavior.

Madison thinks that those who administer the government need to be appointed by the people because _____

_____ .