

Constitutional Glossary



Read each statement about the Constitution of the United States. Then circle the correct meaning for each underlined word.

1. When America became its own country, there were many problems to solve.
 - A. a place where someone can be contacted
 - B. focus on
2. People from different states argued over trade and taxes.
 - A. buying and selling
 - B. job or profession
3. The men knew they needed people from more than five states if they wanted to choose the best plan.
 - A. create
 - B. a drawing or outline
4. They decided there should be three branches of government.
 - A. things
 - B. parts
5. They were able to find a plan with checks and balances among the three branches.
 - A. compose or develop
 - B. a type or variety
6. The Constitution was signed on September 17, 1787. Each state needed to adopt the plan.
 - A. accept or approve
 - B. take a child or other parents into your family
7. Each state had its own paper money.
 - A. an organized group that's part of a nation
 - B. express or say something
8. In 1789, men from five states met with the goal of solving these problems.
 - A. to point toward a target
 - B. goal
9. In 1787, delegates from 12 of the 13 states met at a second convention.
 - A. 1st of a minute
 - B. comes after the first
10. To be fair, both large and small states would each have an equal number of votes in the Senate.
 - A. not favoring one more than another
 - B. impartial
11. Finally, the delegates were able to draft a new document known as our Constitution.
 - A. a document of law
 - B. to write a rough copy
12. The date of Constitution Day and Citizenship Day is September 17 every year.
 - A. time when something happened
 - B. a sweet fruit

Who is known as the "Father of the Constitution" and also became the fourth president of the United States?

To find out, write each circled letter from above on its matching numbered line below.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

States Box: Think about the problems the 13 states faced before the Constitution was written. Tell how the United States might be different today if the Constitution had not been written.