**GUIDED READING**

**CHAPTER 1: AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENSHIP Section 2: Shaping American Government**

**Directions:** Use the information from pages 24-29 to complete the following statements.

**Our First Constitution**

1. The , adopted in 1781, intentionally established a national government.

2. The new (1781) government consisted of a (one house) legislature in which each state had one vote. There was no chief or national system.

3. In 1786, asked for a meeting in Annapolis, Maryland, to discuss the continuing problems among the states. The meeting accomplished little.

**The Constitutional Convention**

4. In May 1787, delegates met at Philadelphia’s present-day .

Seventy delegates had been named by their state legislatures, but only attended.

5. , who attended as one of Virginia’s representatives, was elected to preside over the meeting.

6. The Plan called for a strong national government. The national government would have the power to collect , make , and enforce the laws in its own .

7. The Virginia Plan also called for representation in Congress based on , an idea known as representation.

8. The New Jersey plan was proposed to protect the interests of the states. Each state would have the same number of in .

9. The convention reached a compromise, the Compromise or, as it is sometimes called, the Compromise.

10. The Great Compromise called for a (two-house) Congress. The

would be based on proportional representation; the

would have equal representation.

11. The Compromise solved the debate over whether to include slaves in a state’s population.

12. In the creation of an Electoral College, each state’s legislature was allowed to select as many

“ ” as it had members of . These electors would vote for people. The person with the highest number of votes would be named

 ; the person with the second-highest number of votes would be named

 .

13. The new U.S. Constitution was approved by the delegates on .

14. People who supported the strong national government called themselves ;

those who opposed a strong central government were called .

15. To gain support of the Antifederalists, the first ten amendments to the Constitution were proposed and approved. They are called the .

16. states had to ratify the document before it could become the official

Constitution.

17. was the first state to ratify the Constitution on December 7, .

On June 21, 1788, became the ninth state to approve it.

 became the tenth state to ratify the document.

18. The U.S. Constitution contains about words, and it has been amended only

 times.

19. An amendment may be proposed by a vote in both houses of

 or by a national convention called for by

 of the state legislatures. A proposed amendment must be approved by

 of the state legislatures.