

## CHAPTER

## 2

## SECTION 5

## READING COMPREHENSION

## Ratifying the Constitution

3

1. Who represented each side of the ratification battle?

## Federalists

James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay,  
John Marshall, Edmund Randolph, George Washington

## Anti-Federalists

Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, John Hancock,  
Samuel Adams, Amos Singletary, Robert Yates,  
James Monroe, George Mason, Thomas Jefferson  
(who George Washington later convinced to support  
ratification) George Clinton, John Lansing

2. Identify the basic arguments for and against ratification of the Constitution.

## Federalists

- Articles of Confederation too weak
- Need for strong central govt to solve nation's problems.
- Liberties protected in state constitutions
- Separation of powers would prevent any branch from becoming too powerful.

## Anti-Federalists

- Ratification process flawed.
- Presidency could become a monarchy.
- Congress could become too powerful.
- Lack of a bill of rights.

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**Directions:** Write an answer to each question in the space provided.  
Use complete sentences.

1. What four men represented the Federalists in the ratification battle?

- James Madison
- Alexander Hamilton
- John Jay
- George Washington

2. What two men represented the Anti-Federalists in the ratification battle?

- Patrick Henry
- Thomas Jefferson

3. What basic arguments did the Federalists use to support ratification?

a strong central govt was needed to defend the nation & keep it united. The separation of powers and checks & balances would prevent any branch from becoming too powerful. The new govt would have an independent judicial branch & would operate under the rule of law.

4. What basic arguments did the Anti-Federalists use to oppose ratification?

govt officials are subject to laws!  
Constitution would take away state & individual rights. It created a national govt that was too strong. It did not protect people's basic rights.

5. What convinced many Anti-Federalists to support the Constitution?

the Federalists agreed to add amendments to the Constitution that would protect individual rights. These first ten amendments are called the Bill of Rights.

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**BELLRINGER WORKSHEET****Ratifying the Constitution****3**

Study the chart below and answer the questions.

Ratification of the Constitution		
State	Date	Vote
Delaware	December 7, 1787	30-0
Pennsylvania	December 12, 1787	46-23
New Jersey	December 18, 1787	38-0
Georgia	January 2, 1788	26-0
Connecticut	January 9, 1788	128-40
Massachusetts	February 6, 1788	187-168
Maryland	April 28, 1788	63-11
South Carolina	May 23, 1788	149-73
New Hampshire	June 21, 1788	57-46
Virginia	June 25, 1788	89-79
New York	July 26, 1788	30-27
North Carolina	November 21, 1789*	195-77
Rhode Island	May 29, 1790	34-32

\*Second vote; ratification was originally defeated on August 4, 1788, by a vote of 184-84.

1. Which State voted for ratification first? Which voted last?

1st - Delaware      last - Rhode Island

2. Which three States ratified the Constitution by the widest margins?

North Carolina, Connecticut, South Carolina

3. Which three States ratified the Constitution by the narrowest margins?

Rhode Island<sup>(1)</sup>, New York<sup>(3)</sup>, Virginia<sup>(10)</sup> (NH-11)

4. The Constitution actually took effect after ratification by which State?

New York

5. Why was the backing of New York and Virginia important?

both were large states with influential leaders.  
The commercial state of NY separated New England  
from the rest of the nation. 108 For the new govt to succeed  
it needed the support of both of these key states.