

Foundations of American Democracy Homework Questions

1. Evaluate the impact and significance of the Magna Carta.
2. Evaluate John Locke's social contract theory of government.
3. Do you think a presidential or parliamentary form of democracy is superior? Defend your response.
4. In the context of how democracies are supposed to work, compare and contrast participatory, pluralist, and elite democracy.
5. What impact did the colonial period have on the shaping of American democracy?
6. Evaluate the Articles of Confederation.
7. Evaluate the success and/or failure of the representatives at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.
8. Given that the Preamble to the Constitution is a statement of goals, how successful has the United States been in meeting those goals as of today? Defend your response.
9. Evaluate the success of Article IV of the Constitution in managing relationships between states. Use specific details from Article IV in your response.
10. Is the amendment process described in Article VI of the Constitution too difficult? Too easy? Just right? Defend your response.
11. The Constitution begins with the words "We the People...". Does power reside with the people of the United States? Defend your response.
12. Evaluate Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution. Be specific in your response.
13. What is the conflict between the implied powers clause of Article 1 and reserved powers clause of the 10 Amendment? Why is this significant?
14. What is fiscal federalism and why is it important?