

Mini-Q:

How Did the Constitution Guard Against Tyranny?

In the summer of 1787, fifty-five delegates representing twelve of the thirteen states met in Philadelphia to fix the national government. The problem was that the existing government, under the Articles of Confederation, just wasn't doing the job. It was too weak. The challenge was to create a strong central government without letting one person, or group of people, get too much power.

Over the next few days, you put together an informative essay that answers the question, "How did the Constitution guard against tyranny?" In addition to using prior knowledge and information provided in class, you will analyze four documents. Information from each of these documents must be included in your essay.

This essay is a major part of your final grade for the grading period, so it is very important that you complete each step as it is assigned. All steps but the writing of the final essay will be completed in class. All steps will be monitored and checked. Below is a checklist to help you keep track of all the steps you will take to complete the essay.

- _____ Hook Exercise: Constitution
- _____ Background Essay Questions
- _____ Understand the Question and Pre-Bucketing
- _____ Document A Analysis
- _____ Document B Analysis
- _____ Document C Analysis
- _____ Document D Analysis
- _____ Getting Ready to Write
- _____ From Thesis to Essay Writing (Outline)
- _____ Draft for Peer Editing
- _____ Final Essay