



# AMERICAN GOVERNMENT



## LESSON 27

### OUTLINE

#### Welcome and Review

- Introduction: Recap of the previous class.

- Federalist View: The Federalists wanted a bicameral Congress to ensure checks and balances, prevent hasty legislation, and represent both the people and the states.

- Anti-Federalist View: Feared that a bicameral system would be too complex and the Senate would become aristocratic.

#### Understanding the Structure

1. House of Representatives: Represents the people.

2. Senate: Represents the states.

3. Why Bicameral?: Federalism—a balance between state and federal power.

- Ensures the people and the states are united in governance.

- Prevents domination by either the central government or individual states.

#### Federalist Perspective

1. Key Texts:

- Federalist 52, Federalist 62, Federalist 39.

- These explain the rationale behind the dual nature of Congress.

2. James Madison's Argument:

- The House represents the national (people's) interests.

- The Senate preserves state sovereignty within federal activities.

3. Constitution's Purpose:

- Not just a central government but a system where states work together like business partners.

- Modern Problem: Today, the federal government has overstepped, which is what the Anti-Federalists feared.

#### Anti-Federalist Perspective

1. Key Texts:

- Brutus No. 16, Federal Farmer No. 18, Sentinel No. 1.

- Main concerns: The Senate would become elitist and too powerful, leading to an oligarchy.

2. Patrick Henry: Warned that the Senate could consolidate power, undermining the republic.



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#### Comparative Analysis

##### 1. Federalist Vision:

- The bicameral system protects liberty by balancing national and state power.

##### 2. Anti-Federalist Concerns:

- The Senate's long terms and indirect election could foster aristocracy.
- Smaller states might wield disproportionate power in the Senate.

#### Conclusion

##### - Both Sides' Validity:

- Federalists and Anti-Federalists were both rooted in preserving liberty.
- Their differences reflect the tension between effective governance and maintaining freedom.

##### - Reality Check:

- Modern problems with governance reflect both the foresight of the Anti-Federalists and the idealism of the Federalists.

##### - Human Nature:

- The imperfections of both approaches are rooted in human fallibility.
- We cannot expect a perfect system until a higher power intervenes.



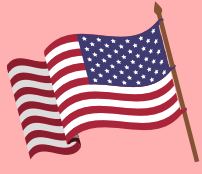
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### Discussion Questions:

1. \*\*How does the structure of a bicameral Congress, with the House representing the people and the Senate representing the states, reflect the Federalists' desire for balance between national and state powers? Do you think this structure still effectively serves that purpose today?\*
2. \*\*The Anti-Federalists feared that the Senate would become an aristocratic body, disconnected from the people. In what ways might these fears have been justified in modern government, and how can they be addressed to ensure that the Senate remains accountable to the public?\*
3. \*\*Federalist 62 argues that the Senate's equal representation of states protects the sovereignty of smaller states. Is this system of equal representation still fair in today's political climate, where population disparities between states have increased? Why or why not?\*
4. \*\*Both Federalists and Anti-Federalists were concerned with preserving liberty, but they had different visions for how to best achieve this goal. In what ways do you think the modern federal government reflects the successes or failures of each side's arguments?\*
5. \*\*How does the concept of "general welfare" as outlined by the Federalists, particularly in foreign policy and defense, compare to the modern interpretation of general welfare in domestic policies? Has this concept shifted, and if so, how has that affected the balance of power between the federal government and the states?\*



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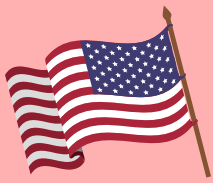
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NAME \_\_\_\_\_

### Multiple Choice

Multiple Choice Questions:

1. Why did the Federalists support a bicameral Congress?
  - a) To reduce the power of the states
  - b) To provide checks and balances, prevent hasty legislation, and represent both the people and states
  - c) To increase the power of the federal government
  - d) To give the executive branch more authority
2. What was the main concern of the Anti-Federalists regarding the Senate?
  - a) It would be too small to represent all states fairly
  - b) It would be too powerful and create an aristocratic class
  - c) It would weaken the executive branch
  - d) It would be directly elected by the people, causing instability
3. According to Federalist 39, why must Congress be bicameral?
  - a) To balance national interests with state sovereignty
  - b) To reduce the complexity of legislation
  - c) To increase the efficiency of government operations
  - d) To limit the powers of both the states and the people
4. What argument did Madison use to counter the Anti-Federalist claim that Senators would become aristocrats?
  - a) Senators are not appointed for life
  - b) Senators are chosen from the same population as House members, just by a different process
  - c) The Senate has limited legislative power
  - d) The people can directly vote Senators out of office
5. What was a key feature of the Senate according to Federalist 62?
  - a) It represented the people directly
  - b) It ensured smaller states had equal representation to larger states
  - c) It allowed for direct democracy
  - d) It focused exclusively on foreign policy



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6. What did the Anti-Federalists believe about the equal representation of states in the Senate?
- a) It would give larger states an advantage
  - b) It would give smaller states undue influence over larger states
  - c) It would balance the interests of all states
  - d) It would prevent the federal government from becoming too powerful
7. What is meant by "general welfare" according to Federalist 45?
- a) Government programs to support the poor
  - b) The equal treatment of all states in matters of war, peace, and foreign commerce
  - c) Subsidies for education and healthcare
  - d) The promotion of national unity over state interests
8. Why did the Anti-Federalists fear the Senate's involvement in all three branches of government?
- a) It would create too many legislative committees
  - b) It would lead to the Senate dominating the executive and judiciary, potentially forming an oligarchy
  - c) It would reduce the power of the House of Representatives
  - d) It would make the legislative process too slow
9. How did Madison justify the indirect election of Senators by state legislatures?
- a) It kept Senators more focused on national issues than local ones
  - b) It ensured that the people still had control over the Senate through their state legislators
  - c) It prevented political parties from dominating Senate elections
  - d) It allowed for more efficient government
10. What did the Anti-Federalists predict would happen if Senators served long terms?
- a) They would become disconnected from the people and influenced by elites
  - b) They would strengthen state sovereignty
  - c) They would focus too much on short-term issues
  - d) They would become less effective in foreign policy



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1. b) To provide checks and balances, prevent hasty legislation, and represent both the people and states
2. b) It would be too powerful and create an aristocratic class
3. a) To balance national interests with state sovereignty
4. b) Senators are chosen from the same population as House members, just by a different process
5. b) It ensured smaller states had equal representation to larger states
6. b) It would give smaller states undue influence over larger states
7. b) The equal treatment of all states in matters of war, peace, and foreign commerce
8. b) It would lead to the Senate dominating the executive and judiciary, potentially forming an oligarchy
9. b) It ensured that the people still had control over the Senate through their state legislators
10. a) They would become disconnected from the people and influenced by elites