**The Constitutional Convention of May 1787 was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where delegates from 12 of the 13 states were present. The state of Rhode Island refused to send a delegate because it was afraid of losing its states' rights. The delegates worked for 4 months behind closed doors of the State House to draft a new document known later as the "Constitution."**

**Answer These Questions:**

**1. Where did the Constitutional Convention meet?**

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**2. Which state REFUSED to send a delegate?**

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**3. How long did it take to write the Constitution?**

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**In Philadelphia, more than fifty delegates from twelve of the original thirteen colonies met to begin writing the Constitution of the United States.**

**Answer These Questions:**

**1. How many delegates meet in Philadelphia?**

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**2. How many colonies from the original 13 meet in Philadelphia?**

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**These delegates were selected by their states. They were educated, patriotic, and experienced men, ranging from the ages of 40 to 81. Benjamin Franklin was the oldest delegate. Some men were landowners and some were lawyers or judges. All delegates held at least one public office. This group is sometimes called the "Founding Fathers." There were no women or minorities.**

**Answer These Questions:**

**1. Who was the oldest delegate to the Constitutional Convention?**

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**2. What are the delegates sometimes called today?**

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**3. Which groups DID NOT participate in the Convention?**

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**Delegates to the Constitutional Convention came from different backgrounds and held different political views. For example, they argued about how many representatives each state should be allowed.**

**Answer These Questions:**

**1. What did the delegates argue about?**

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**The larger states favored the Virginia Plan. According to the Virginia Plan, each state would have a different number of representatives based on the state's population.**

**Answer These Questions:**

**1. What was the plan larger states called?**

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**2. What do we mean by the term “LARGER”?**

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**The smaller states favored the New Jersey Plan. According to the New Jersey Plan, the number of representatives would be the same for each state.**

**Answer These Questions:**

**1. What did the smaller states call their plan?**

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**2. How was it different from the Virginia Plan?**

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**A delegate from Connecticut, Roger Sherman, proposed a two-house legislature, consisting of a Senate and a House of Representatives. The Senate would have an equal number of representatives from each state. This would satisfy the states with smaller populations. The House of Representatives would include one representative for each 30,000 individuals in a state. This pleased states with larger populations.**

**Answer These Questions:**

**1. What did Roger Sherman propose as an alternative to the arguing?**

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**2. How many representatives for each state in the Senate?**

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**3. How many representatives for each state in the House of Representatives?**

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**This two-house legislature plan worked for all states and became known as the Great Compromise.**

**Answer These Questions:**

**1. How many houses in the Legislature were approved for in the Constitution?**

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**2. What was this plan the STOPPED ALL THE ARGUMENTS called?**

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**3. What is a “COMPROMISE”?**

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