



U.S. Government

Six Big Ideas Discussion

Name: _____

Section: _____

Score: ____/5

Directions: Answer the questions below using your own ideas to prepare for the discussion on the Six Big Ideas of the Constitution.

1. The idea: Limited Government
Question: To what extent should the federal government be involved in economic issues?

2. The idea: Republicanism
Question: What should be the role of citizens in creating public policy?

3. The idea: Checks and Balances
Question: When the President makes a nomination, what should be the nature of the Senate's "advice and consent?"

4. The idea: Federalism
Question: How should power be divided between the federal government and the states?

5. The idea: Separation of Powers
Question: Once Congress declares war and the President assumes the role of Commander-in-Chief who decides how the war ends?

6. The idea: Popular Sovereignty
Question: Should voter ballot initiatives be allowed to overturn laws passed by legislative bodies?



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Six Big Ideas Reflection

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Directions: Complete the following chart during the discussion with theoretical and realistic positives and negatives about each of the Six Big Ideas and then answer the thought question at the bottom.

Six Big Ideas	Positives	Negatives
Limited Government		
Republicanism		
Checks and Balances		
Federalism		
Separation of Powers		
Popular Sovereignty		

Thought Question: If given the opportunity are there any things you would change about the Six Big Ideas pertaining to the Constitution? Explain why you would and how you think it would help. If not explain why you would want to keep it the same