

U.S. Constitution

The Great Compromise: Forging a United Nation

In the year 1787, a momentous event unfolded in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Delegates from across the United States convened for a critical meeting known as the Constitutional Convention. Their purpose was to draft a new plan for how the young nation would be governed. This assembly marked a pivotal moment in

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designed to ensure that each state had an equal say in government affairs.

The debate at the Constitutional Convention became intense, as delegates representing different states disagreed about which plan was more suitable. It appeared that a consensus might be out of reach. However, a brilliant thinker named Roger Sherman from Connecticut proposed a solution—a compromise that could satisfy both the states with larger populations and those with smaller populations.

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Sherman's proposal, known as the Great Compromise, introduced a government with two houses. In the House of Representatives, states would have more representatives if they had larger populations. In the Senate, each state would have an equal number of representatives, regardless of its size. This arrangement ensured that no state held too much power.

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unity and equity in a nation that values the voices of all its states.

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Answer the following questions.

- 1) When and where did the Constitutional Convention take place, and what was its purpose?

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- 2) What were the main features of the Virginia Plan and the New Jersey Plan?

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- 4) Who proposed the Great Compromise, and how did it balance the interests of large and small states?
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