**Honors U.S. History**

**“The Unfinished Nation – A Precarious Experiment”**

**Mr. Fernandez**

Answer the following questions as you view the documentary:

1. Who wrote the constitution for the state of Massachusetts?
2. Describe the process of making constitutions in the states.
3. What were “natural rights?”
4. Why did such ideas make their way into the state constitutions?
5. What were the unsettled, or lingering, issues following the Revolutionary War?
6. Why did America have to negotiate with Spain?
7. What was the paradox of the Articles?
8. What was the most significant accomplishment of the Articles in the 1780s?
9. Who was the hero under the Articles? Why?
10. For what did he continually lobby congress out of fear of the government going broke?
11. Why was “democracy” a bad word in the 1780s and 1790s?
12. What was the major argument for constitutional reform?
13. Why was it a good thing that Annapolis didn’t succeed?
14. What did we learn from the experiment of the Articles?
15. In what way was George Washington’s presence at the convention a risk to his prestige?
16. What was the main concern of the delegates at this meeting?
17. What was the belief of representatives of large and small states concerning representation?
18. Who humorously kept falling asleep, but at the same time, oversaw and guided the entire convention?
19. What became the basis of the second major debate?
20. Explain how the issue was settled.
21. In what way was the entire construction of the Constitution a miracle?
22. What is “separation of powers?”
23. What is “checks and balances?”
24. What would always be the product of negotiation in American government?
25. What was the final question once the major issues were resolved?
26. What was the most revolutionary clause of the new constitution?
27. What were the ground rules for the ratification convention?
28. Of what were the Anti-Federalists afraid?
29. What were the Federalist Papers? Who wrote them?
30. In what states was there an Anti-Federalist majority?
31. Upon what was the acceptance of the new constitution contingent in several of the Anti-Federalist states?
32. For what reasons was the first session of the Congress considered a creative force in our constitutional life as a nation?
33. Describe President Washington’s legacy as first president of the United States.
34. Describe the roles of Hamilton and Jefferson in President Washington’s cabinet.
35. Upon what issues were the two presidential appointees and advisors deeply divided?