

CARD SORT ACTIVITY (ANSWER KEY)

| Federalists | Anti-Federalists |
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| <p>The national government will have greater power than it did under the Articles of Confederation. But its powers are limited to solving problems that face the entire nation, such as trade and defense.</p> | <p>The Constitution gives the national government too much power at the expense of the state governments, such as the power to tax citizens and raising and keeping an army during peacetime.</p> |
| <p>The Constitution provides protections for the state governments by specifically reserving certain powers for the states. This will prevent the states from being destroyed by the national government.</p> | <p>The supremacy clause in the Constitution means all the national laws are superior to laws made by the state governments. It will be only a matter of time until state governments are destroyed.</p> |
| <p>A strong executive branch is necessary so the national government can fulfill its responsibilities. Congress and the Supreme Court have checks on the use of power by the executive branch. The executive branch cannot become a monarchy.</p> | <p>The Constitution gives too much power to the executive branch of the national government. The executive branch will soon become a monarchy.</p> |
| <p>The powers of the national government are separated and balanced among the three branches. No one branch can dominate the others. These systems—separation of powers, and checks and balances—make it impossible for any one person or group to take complete control of the government.</p> | <p>Free government requires the active participation of the people. The national government will be located far from where most people live. As a result, the only way the government will be able to rule is with military force. The result will be tyranny.</p> |
| <p>A bill of rights is not needed. The Constitution is the ultimate protection for the people’s rights and the people the ultimate sovereigns. The Constitution does not give the government the power to take away people’s rights. It gives the government only a limited power to do certain things.</p> | <p>The Constitution does not include a bill of rights. A bill of rights is necessary to protect people against the power of the national government. Since these freedoms of religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition are not in the Constitution, the government is free to violate them.</p> |

Source: *We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution*. (2007). Calabasas, CA: Center for Civic Education.