

Directions: Use the word bank to complete the following fill-in-the-blank questions.

Montesquieu	Articles of Confederation	Legislative
Constitutional Convention	Separation of Powers	Executive
Checks and Balances	Judicial	Constitution

1. James Madison is known as the “Father of the _____.”
2. The _____ took place in Philadelphia, where delegates from all thirteen states met to try to form a new and better government.
3. The _____ was the United States’ first agreement of government and was *not* effective.
4. _____ is a concept based on _____’s ideas to divide the government into three different branches.
5. The idea in which each branch of government will have some power over the others to prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful is known as _____.

Directions: Answer the following questions with a complete sentence.

6. In the video, how does Madison explain that “separation of powers” needs “checks and balances”?



7. **Making Connections:** Leo and Layla learn the importance of reaching a fair compromise from Madison and Montesquieu's ideas. How can you use Madison and Montesquieu's ideas in a real-life example? Give a specific example and explain below.

Madison & Montesquieu | Answer Key

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1. James Madison is the “Father of the Constitution.”
2. The Constitutional Convention took place in Philadelphia, where delegates from all thirteen states met to form a new and better government.
3. The Articles of Confederation was the United States’ first agreement of government and was *not* effective.
4. Separation of Powers is based on Montesquieu’s ideas to divide the government into three branches.
5. The idea that each branch of government will have some power over the others to prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful is known as Checks and Balances.

Directions: Answer the following questions with a complete sentence.

6. In the video, why does Madison state that “separation of powers” needs “checks and balances”?
Answers will vary. Sample answer: In the video, Madison explains that “deep down, everyone is ambitious, but at the same time, God gives everyone inherent dignity. So, to protect that dignity and give that ambition someplace to go, I will give each branch of the new government some power over the other branches. That way, each branch will check and balance the other!”
7. **Making Connections:** Leo and Layla learn the importance of reaching a fair compromise from Madison and Montesquieu’s ideas. How can you use Madison and Montesquieu’s ideas in a real-life example? Give a specific example and explain below.
Answers will vary. Sample answer: Next time my sibling and I are fighting over who will unload the dishwasher, I can ask my mom to schedule different days for us to each do that chore. That way, the chore is split evenly, and my mom can make sure it is fair, just like Madison used separation of powers and checks and balances to ensure the government was fair and not too powerful.