Name:

Reading Guide *American Politics Today* Chp. 2 22-37

Government

Value: 25 points

Due 1/20

**Terms to know:** Articles of Confederation limited government monarchy

republican democracy republicanism consent of the governed natural rights

Federalist Papers Federalists Anti-Federalists pluralism Virginia Plan New Jersey Plan

Great Compromise parliamentary system reserved powers national supremacy clause

Three-Fifths Compromise Bill of Rights

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1. Read pages 23 and 24. How are the ideas and actions of the Tea Party raising new concerns about Constitutional questions? What qualities of the Constitution allow it to continue to negotiate and define our governmental system?
2. Describe the Articles of Confederation. What was it and what values/ideals about government did it include? Why did it not last? 26-27

**For your notes:** There is a chart on page 28 that compares the Articles of Confederation and the US Constitution. Photocopy this chart or hand copy this chart – this is something you will have to be able to understand.

1. The section “Political Theories of the Framers” is ESSENTIAL. Read this and get these ideas into your notes. Ideas that are unclear – must be brought up in class. In five bullet points what is most important?
2. What does this quote mean “the framers wanted to revise the Articles of Confederation and strengthen the national government largely to protect their own holdings and interests”? 30
3. Page 31 introduces the conflicts that were present during the negotiations of writing the Constitution... The chart on page 35 does a nice job summarizing the arguments. Explain the following conflicts and the compromises that solved them
   1. Majority rule vs. minority rights
   2. Small states vs. large states
   3. Legislative power versus executive power
   4. National power vs. state vs. local power
   5. Slave state vs. free states