



Name: _____

Date: _____ Class: _____

Selections & Questions: 1835 Constitution

The 1835 Constitutional Convention met in Raleigh in 1835 and approved several significant changes.

Read each selection and respond.

SECTION 3.

§ 1. Each member of the Senate shall have usually resided in the district for which he is chosen for one year immediately preceding his election, and for the same time shall have possessed and continue to possess in the district which he represents not less than three hundred acres of land in fee.

§ 2. All free men of the age of twenty-one years, (except as is hereinafter declared,) who have been inhabitants of any one district within the State twelve months immediately preceding the day of any election, and possessed of a freehold within the same district of fifty acres of land for six months next before and at the day of election, shall be entitled to vote for a member of the Senate.

§ 3. No free negro, free mulatto, or free person of mixed blood, descended from negro ancestors to the fourth generation inclusive (though one ancestor of each generation may have been a white person,) shall vote for members of the Senate or House of Commons.

ARTICLE II.

§ 1. The Governor shall be chosen by the qualified voters for the members of the House of Commons, at such time and places as members of the General Assembly are elected.

According to ARTICLE 1, SECTIONS 3.1 and 3.2, why do you think Senators and voters must live in their district for at least a year?

Invested in their communities and will act in its best interests.

How does ARTICLE 1, SECTION 3.3 compare to the original 1776 constitution?

Earlier constitution was any free man—White or Black—who lived in the district for at least 1 year and owned 50 acres of land for at least 6 months

What major change does ARTICLE 2, SECTION 1 make about the Governor?

The governor is elected by popular vote.

Examine the 1832 map of North Carolina to find the area where you live. **What county would your town have been in at the time of the 1835 Constitutional Convention?**

VOTE OF THE PEOPLE

ON THE

Question of Ratification or Rejection of the New Constitution.

	<i>Ratification.</i>	<i>Rejection.</i>		<i>Ratification.</i>	<i>Rejection.</i>
Anson,	815	44	Moore,	110	370
Ashe,	466	88	Macon,	502	19
Brunswick,	—	466	Montgomery,	538	103
Buncombe,	1322	23	Mecklenburg,	1097	67
Burke,	1359	1	Martin,	14	795
Beaufort,	90	639	New-Hanover,	54	365
Bladen,	6	564	Nash,	8	737
Bertie,	96	315	Northampton,	12	286
Craven,	131	270	Onslow,	97	357
Carteret,	32	332	Orange,	1031	246
Currituck,	22	115	Person,	180	287
Camden,	61	333	Pasquotank,	7	442
Caswell,	466	162	Pitt,	32	710
Chowan,	7	322	Perquimons,	10	431
Chatham,	556	200	Rowan,	1570	24
Cumberland,	331	439	Randolph,	426	163
Columbus,	3	391	Rockingham,	612	68
Cabarrus,	598	46	Robeson,	86	458
Duplin,	56	532	Richmond,	263	43
Davidson,	1034	33	Rutherford,	1557	2
Edgecomb,	29	1324	Sampson,	148	463
Franklin,	85	617	Surry,	1751	4
Guilford,	971	237	Stokes,	1061	71
Gates,	12	502	Tyrrell,	1	459
Granville,	433	308	Washington,	14	409
Greene,	9	423	Wilkes,	1757	8
Halifax,	239	441	Wake,	243	1124
Hertford,	7	376	Warren,	46	580
Hyde,	2	431	Wayne,	28	966
Haywood,	481	8	Yancy,	564	13
Iredell,	1194	18			
Jones,	22	239		26,771	21,606
Johnston,	73	776			
Lincoln,	1887	42			
Lenoir,	54	320			
			Majority,	5,165	

Here, you can see how many people from each county voted to ratify, or accept, the new amendments. Is your county listed?

If yes, how many people voted to ratify the new amendments and how many voted to reject them?

If no, why do you think your county is not included here? Where in the state is your county located? Was your county formed after 1865?

Reflection: Why are these changes to the Constitution important? Why was it important for the western part of North Carolina to have more representatives in the General Assembly? Why is it important that citizens vote for their own governor?

It was important for the western part of North Carolina to have more representatives in the General Assembly because the majority of North Carolinians lived in the western part of the state by that time. While the changes improved representation based on region, they took away representation for communities of color. A democratic vote for governor shifted the executive branch's accountability to the people, rather than legislators.