Video/DVD Assignment
Founding Fathers
"A Healthy Constitution"
Volume 2, Part 2 (Disc 2)
The History Channel, 2000

Please answer each question with a short analytical essay. A short essay is approximately 2 to 4 paragraphs. You must support your conclusions with information pulled from the documentary to properly answer each question. The essay must be typed on a word-processor, on white paper, font 11 pt Arial or similar, 1 inch margins, name/date/reading/class as the top header.

Please type the question and then the answer to the question. Please number your questions. Do not double-space your answers.

Other questions and a short introduction to the contents of the documentary can be found at http://www.historychannel.com/classroom-guides.html.

Questions:

1. What were the strengths and weaknesses of the Confederation (Articles of Confederation)? What sparked the call for a convention to “fix” the Articles of Confederation?

2. Once at the Constitutional Convention the founding fathers had to come to a compromise on several important issues. What were some of these issues and subsequent compromises?

3. Who were federalists and who were the anti-federalists? Compare and contrast their arguments and their role in the Constitution’s ratification.

4. Based on the documentary what is your view of the method in which the United States Constitution was created and your opinion on its greatest weakness and greatest strength.