|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **A close up of a logo  Description automatically generated** | **Federalists & Anti-Federalists**  **Comparing Viewpoints** |
| * **I can compare the viewpoints of the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists about the ratification of the U.S. Constitution.** * **I can recognize the Anti-Federalists’ reasons for the inclusion of a bill of rights in the U.S. Constitution.** |

The **Federalists** wanted the states to ratify, or approve, the Constitution as written in 1787. The **Anti-Federalists** were against the ratification of the Constitution. The chart below explains the viewpoints of both groups on five different issues.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Government Issue** | **Symbol** | **Federalist Viewpoint** | **Anti-Federalist Viewpoint** |
| Power between the states and national government | A picture containing object, lamp, light  Description automatically generated | The national government would have **enumerated** (listed) powers that would protect all the people no matter which state they lived in. | Too much power would be taken from the states; a **federal system** was too new and untested. |
| An enumerated listing of individual rights | A drawing of a face  Description automatically generated | Listing specific rights could be dangerous because it would limit the people’s rights. The government could violate rights that were not listed. | The Constitution needed a specific listing of rights to protect the people from the national government. |
| Legislative powers | A close up of a building  Description automatically generated | The **necessary and proper clause** would allow Congress to respond to the needs of all the people. | The necessary and proper clause would give too much power to Congress. |
| Powers of the national government | A close up of a flag  Description automatically generated | **Separation of powers** and **checks and balances** protected the people from any branch of government becoming too strong. | Separation of powers and checks and balances would not do enough to protect the people from the government becoming too strong. |
| The country needed to be united | A picture containing drawing  Description automatically generated | The Constitution would better unite the country than the Articles of Confederation. | The nation could be united while the states would keep their individual identities. |

A close up of a street sign on a pole

Description automatically generatedThe Anti-Federalists thought it was important for the **Constitution** to include a bill of rights. A bill of rights would list specific rights of individuals, such as protecting speech and religious freedom. The bill of rights would help protect the people from the federal government abusing its power.

The Constitution was eventually ratified by all of the states. Soon after ratification, Congress and the states also ratified the **Bill of Rights**. This compromise allowed the Federalists to get the Constitution ratified while also respecting the Anti-Federalist belief that a bill of rights was necessary to protect the rights of the people.