

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Analyzing Arguments on the Ratification of the U.S. Constitution

### Definitions:

- “Primary Source”: the raw materials of history—original documents and objects that were created at the time under study (Library of Congress)

### Directions:

- Select a provided primary source
- Read the document
- Fill out the worksheet questions and reflections

### 1. Basic Information

a. Document Title:

b. Author(s):

c. Date:

d. Federalist or Anti-Federalist?

*(Federalists supported the ratification of the Constitution; Anti-Federalists opposed the ratification of the Constitution entirely or opposed it without the addition of a Bill of Rights.)*

### 2. Key Arguments in the Document

- a. What is the author’s main argument regarding the ratification of the Constitution?

b. Identify and explain two key points the author uses to support their argument.

c. Does the author provide specific examples or reasoning to support their claims? Provide an example from the text.

### 3. Analyzing the Perspective

a. Based on the document, how does the author view the proposed Constitution?

b. What concerns does the author raise or what aspects do they endorse?

c. What is the author's vision for the United States under the Constitution?

### 4. Comparing Perspectives

a. How might someone from the opposing side respond to the arguments in this document?

- b. Identify one area where the two sides might agree and one where they would strongly disagree.

## 5. Reflection

- a. Do you think the author's arguments are convincing? Why or why not?



- b. How do the debates over ratifying the Constitution relate to issues in government or society today?

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