

Liberty & Equality in the American Founding with Carol Berkin | Scholar Talks Special, Constitution Day 2021

Answer Key

Part I: Viewing Guide

- 1) How does Dr. Berkin define liberty?
 - a. It means you are free in movement and free from domination by another individual. It meant the opportunity to make one's own way in the world.
- 2) Name one of the individuals Dr. Berkin identifies as nationalists.
 - a. Washington, Hamilton, Morris, Madison
- 3) Why does Dr. Berkin state that individuals wanted a stronger national government?
 - a. They wanted to create a government made of the best of every state who would consider the issues that were best for the country while discouraging state level greed. Ultimately they wanted a system that would lead to the prosperity for the greatest number of Americans.
- 4) Does Dr. Berkin think Alexander Hamilton was power hungry?
 - a. No, she believes he truly was putting country first and that he thought that having a stronger national government would benefit the country.
- 5) How many rights does Dr. Berkin mention Madison listed in his first Bill of Rights?
 - a. 37 or 38
- 6) How did Congress respond?
 - a. They were too busy to be bothered! They claimed they had other important matters to attend to and could not deal with passing a Bill of Rights at the moment.

Part II: Questions for Discussion

Accept reasoned responses.