

Essay questions for David O. Stewart's *The Summer of 1787*.

Answer any 3 of the following 6 essay questions. Each essay should be typed using double spacing and be 1 to 2 pages in length.

1. You are about to enter into high federal office. Using Appendix 2, explain how you reached this point, tell which office you shall hold, and what constitutional duties you are to fulfill. Finally, detail the oath which you must swear to be vested with the authority of your office and relate some of goals you hope to accomplish during your term of service to the republic.
2. "Washington's forte was presence," Stewart observes. Explain the quote. (pp. 2-3, 47, 109, 113-114, & 153)
3. What kind of friend was Washington? Quote from the text to support your argument.
4. "The Articles were a compact between the states of America, not a charter of government by the people of America," Explain the quote by the author and be sure to analyze the key words in his sentence. Finally, explain why opponents of ratification, the "Anti-Federalists" of 1787-1790, feared the centralized power of a national Union, and preferred localism and a loose confederation of small republics.
5. Why did James Wilson of PA and John Rutledge of SC use their political clout to press for acceptance of the federal ratio? What were their respective goals in doing so?
6. In drafting the New Plan of Union, Rutledge succeeded in getting on the table a guarantee for the foreign slave trade, a ban on federal export taxes, and a two-thirds vote requirement on trade legislation. Explain why he believed that these concessions were beneficial. Finally, describe in detail how compromises between the sections resulted in changes to these provisions.