

Constitutional Convention Compromises - Slavery

Steps:

1. Read the text.
2. List the key facts about each plan on the Graphic Organizer.
3. Highlight similarities between the plans.

Northern Position	3/5th Compromise	Southern Position
	Roger Sherman	

Slavery and Population

22. When the delegates met for the Constitutional Convention, the Slave Trade was a major issue. 23. Delegates from Southern states wanted to make sure the new Constitution did not abolish slavery itself or interfere in the Slave Trade. 24. Delegates from Northern states knew that they would not be able to get slavery abolished but they did want some limits on the Slave Trade. 25. Their compromise was to agree to not make any laws pertaining to slavery or the slave trade for the next twenty years. 26. After that, the issue could be revisited.

27. Another major issue relating to slavery that the writers of the Constitution faced was population. 28. Throughout the discussions of the Constitutional Convention, the issue of a government based on the population of the states was brought up. 29. Northern states, who were mostly free of slaves, believed that since a slave could not vote, they should not count as part of the population. 30. Southern states, however, believed that since slaves were a part of their daily lives and economic welfare, they should be counted as part of the population. 31. Roger Sherman, a delegate from Connecticut, proposed a compromise that was eventually agreed upon by both the Northern and Southern states. 32. Each slave would count as 3/5 of a person when population was counted to determine the number of representatives each state would receive in the government.

Closure