AP Government & Politics Mr. Shears

Week 2 Reading Guide

\*\*NOTE: all assigned textbook readings always include the ‘extra material’ (separate graphics, extended quotes, tables, cartoons, debates, primary sources, etc.) found on the page!!!

\*\*NOTE: key terms and concepts should not only be precisely defined, but also expounded upon w/ relevant examples or other supporting details from the textbook where appropriate.

\*\*NOTE: please number the items in your “outline” as seen below.

Section 2.2

1. Articles of Confederation

a. basic features of the first U.S. government

b. examples of key weaknesses/flaws of the Articles of Confederation

c. some good things about it (as a system of government)

2. The general ‘power shift’ that occurred in state governments after the Revolutionary War (at least 3 generalizations!)

3. Shays’ Rebellion (causes, specifics) and its significance

Section 2.3

4. Constitutional Convention of 1787 (where, when, who, why, etc.)

5. What the Convention delegates generally agreed on (lots of detail please!)

Section 2.4

6. The basic disagreement about how to organize Congress

7. The Connecticut Compromise

8. Why the ‘equal representation of states’ in the Senate arguably undermines the idea of equal representation of individuals.

9. The basic disagreements, and compromises made, about slavery

10. How the proposed Constitution of 1787 dealt w/ economic problems

Section 2.6

11. The Federalists

12. The Anti-Federalists and their main objections to the proposed Constitution

13. The ratification procedure/process

Extension Questions:

1. In 1787 the Framers were able to resolve some thorny constitutional disagreements with key compromises. Recently, members of Congress can’t seem to forge compromises on a whole range of issues (e.g., immigration, gun control, taxes, etc.). What is different nowadays? Why do lawmakers fear compromise?

2. What best explains the Federalists victory over the Antifederalists (politically speaking) and why they were able to win the ratification battle.