

# Optional Formative Assessment

## Great Compromise Analysis Podcast Episode

**Objective:** With a partner, analyze the Virginia Plan and the New Jersey Plan using your knowledge of the Great Compromise from the 1787 Constitutional Convention. Each partner will take on the role of a delegate from either Virginia or New Jersey and introduce one of the two plans in a recorded podcast-style conversation.

Using the guiding questions below, partners will:

1. Present and explain their assigned plan
2. Evaluate (praise and critique) elements of the opposing plan
3. Collaborate to discuss concerns and search for a mutual compromise—similar to the one reached in the Great Compromise

The final product should demonstrate a thoughtful understanding of representation, small and large state interests, and the importance of compromise in forming the U.S. Constitution.

### Possible Questions to Answer:

- What does your state want out of the new government?
- What does your plan propose for representation?
- How does your plan benefit the citizens of the United States?
- What are some potential issues with your plan?
- What part of the other plan do you find most disagreeable?

These are optional, guiding questions. Feel free to come up with your own discussion questions and let **your** podcast go in the direction you choose.

### For the Recording:

You may use the voice recording app on your phone and submit it as a file **OR** use [Vocaroo](#), an online recorder that will turn your recording into a link to turn in.

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>4 – Advanced</b>	<b>3 – Proficient</b>	<b>2 – Developing</b>	<b>1 – Beginning</b>
<b>Understanding of the Plans</b>	Accurately and clearly explains key features, benefits, and criticisms of both plans with detailed historical context.	Explains both plans with mostly accurate details and some historical context.	Basic or unclear explanation of one or both plans; lacks historical detail.	Little to no explanation of the plans; major inaccuracies.
<b>Use of Evidence &amp; Vocabulary</b>	Uses strong evidence from class materials and correctly applies 3+ Tier 3 terms (e.g. proportional representation, compromise, delegate).	Uses evidence and 2–3 Tier 3 terms appropriately.	Limited use of evidence; uses 1 Tier 3 term, or terms are misused.	No evidence or appropriate vocabulary used.
<b>Clarity &amp; Organization</b>	Recording is clear, well-paced, and organized. Both partners share equally and respond thoughtfully to prompts.	Mostly clear and organized. Both partners speak and respond to prompts.	Somewhat disorganized or unclear. Unequal speaking roles or off-topic parts.	Difficult to follow or incomplete. One partner does most/all the talking.
<b>Analysis &amp; Compromise</b>	Thoughtfully analyzes strengths and weaknesses of each plan and proposes a realistic, well-reasoned compromise.	Analyzes both plans and offers a basic but fair compromise.	Attempts to compare plans; compromise is vague or one-sided.	No analysis or meaningful compromise proposed.
<b>Creativity &amp; Engagement</b>	Creative, engaging, and shows strong effort. Voices are expressive and the conversation feels natural.	Shows effort to be engaging and clear. Voices are easy to understand.	Basic presentation with little expression or enthusiasm.	Minimal effort; lacks engagement or clarity.