*The Federalist Papers’* Influence on the Ratification of the Constitution

**Thesis:** The Federalist Papers influenced the ratification of the Constitution by making some of their most important arguments, including the importance of being in a Union by having a Constitution, answering to the objections made by the Anti-federalists about separation of powers, and defending opposing arguments made against the characteristics of the executive and judicial branch as provided in the Constitution.

I.     Introduction

a. Describe The Federalist Papers are and when they started

b. Thesis:  The Federalist influenced the ratification of the Constitution by making some of their most important arguments, including the importance of being in a Union by having a Constitution, answering to the objections made by the Anti-federalists about separation of powers, and defending opposing arguments made against the characteristics of the executive and judicial branch as provided in the Constitution.

II.     Background

a. State when The Federalist was printed and published (more detail)

b. Discuss the intentions and purposes of The Federalist (more detail)

III.    **Main Argument # 1** for the benefit of a Union

a. A Union would guard against external dangers (evidence)

b. A Union would guard against internal dangers

A. The “extended sphere” argument about how it will control factions. (Federalist 10)

IV.     **Main Argument # 2** of the problem with complete separation of powers

a. Anti-federalists wanted a complete separation of the judicial, executive, and legislative branches

b. The Federalist said the maxim of complete separation of powers is misunderstood. (Montesquieu)

c. The branches need some limited power of the other branches to protect themselves from encroachment of the other branches (Federalist 51)

A. The branches need to have the interests of maintaining their powers, and not letting the other branches take that away.

V.     **Main Argument # 3** for a single executive, and against a plural executive

a. Anti-federalists didn’t want a single executive, too much like a monarch

b. The Federalist need the executive to be “energetic” and a plural executive would make this impossible (Federalist 70)

A. It would take too long for the people in the executive position to make decision in an emergency, because they might disagree.

B. In a plural executive, it is hard to tell who is responsible for a wrongdoing because they can all blame each other, so a single executive would lead to more responsible behavior

VII.     Conclusion

a. Restate thesis in a new way

b. The dates of the ratification of the Constitution by the States

c. The Federalist’s influence beyond the ratification

**What is an outline?**

It is the basic structure to your paper – just the outline of how you will organize your ideas

**What is expected for the checkpoint?**

1. Intro – Clearly state what you want to introduce and a clear and complete thesis
   1. Introduce each main argument in your introduction
   2. End your introduction with your thesis
2. Background – What history will you teach the reader to understand your paper?
   1. At least 3 pieces of evidence to prove your background.
   2. Only teach the reader the history they need to understand for your paper – NOT just general history
3. Main Arguments – At least 4 pieces of direct & cited evidence
   1. You should have around 3-4 main arguments to support your thesis
   2. You must clearly define each main argument and the evidence that will connect
   3. At least 4 pieces of direct & cited evidence per argument
4. Conclusion –
   1. Start by restating your thesis in a new way
   2. Summarize all of your main arguments again
   3. Find a creative way to summarize what you are proving