

3.9 The Constitution

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 12 marks**

KEY WORDS constitution’s design 宪法的设计

Objective

Build the skills to explain the **Constitution’s design** 宪法的设计.

You must be able to:

- state the CED’s description of the central government created
- define federalism
- define separation of powers
- explain how ‘limited but dynamic’ can both be true

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ The description

The Convention **created a limited but dynamic central government embodying federalism and providing for a separation of powers between its three branches.**

■ Federalism

Power divided between a central government and the states, with each holding authority the other cannot simply override.

■ Separation of powers

The three branches hold distinct functions, so no single body both makes and enforces a rule.

■ Limited and dynamic

Limited in that its powers are enumerated and divided; **dynamic** in that it can act, expand and adapt within them. The CED’s phrase holds both, and an answer keeping only one describes a different constitution.

2 Practice

2.1 State the CED’s description of the central government created. [2]

2.2 Define federalism and separation of powers. [2]

2.3 “Limited but dynamic” holds two ideas.

(a) Explain each. [2]

(b) State what an answer keeping only one describes. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The CED says the central government embodied federalism and provided for [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** a separation of powers between three branches
B a hereditary monarchy
C a single legislature only
D no courts

3.2 Separation of powers means no single body [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** both makes and enforces a rule
B may hold office
C may vote
D may raise taxes

3.3 A government has enumerated powers and still grows in what it does.

(a) State the CED's phrase. [1]

(b) Explain how both hold. [2]
