Constitutionalism
Two most important issues:

1) shape of Congress
2) shape of Executive

Congress and representation

--Va. Plan

--NJ Plan

--simply give Congress more power to tax and trade

--"vassals of larger states"

Executive

--how many years should Exec. be eligible for office and is he eligible for reelection?

--if there's no chance for reelection, there's no control over his behavior
--if make term short, and national legislature does the reelecting, then President becomes dependent on national legis.

--no separation of powers

Conclusions:

--very little support for popular government

--wanted a "better sort of people"

--ideological fears that power corrupts

--sustained belief in doctrine of separation of powers
Federalists and Anti-Federalists

Anti-Fed. critique

Proper size of Republic

--conventional wisdom that a republic has to have a small geographic space

--everyone acting in his own interest in large republic leads to confusion and anarchy

Aristocratic tendency

--an extensive empire will degenerate into despotism

--saw powers given to a single individual as similar to powers allowed a monarch

--powers of standing army (Commander in Chief)

--"brevity of tenure"
American grievances:
--militias vs. standing armies

militias:
--no pay
--more reliable
--more dependable
--fighting for home, wife, country (therefore more brave)
--virtuous for taking up arms

Standing army:
--paid--does not necessarily make them fight better
--have to fight for whatever reason
--opportunism higher with standing armies
--no public support in colonial America
Constitutionalism: Conceptual

--clear impact of Revolutionary ideas on American population, politics

Enthusiasm

--opportunity to do what most peoples in the past had not had an opportunity to do

--consciously, deliberately choosing to form government
Doctrinal

Inherited ideas:

monarchy--govt. by the one--will always degenerate b/c monarch will rule for the good of one--tyranny

aristocracy--government by the few--same as monarchy re: good of few--tyranny

democracy--government by the many--many no better than one or few--will degenerate into anarchy

mixed government--elements of sharing power
Separation of powers:

--power to make law joined with power to administer law would be tyranny

--powers granted to governments to be kept distinct

--two doctrines in conflict b/c say you want to share, but keep them separate