**On One Condition**

As we have studied, the Constitution was a much debated, brilliantly and carefully written document, but there were still several key colonial leaders who were unwilling to sign on the dotted line.  Review pages 56-58 and 76 of your text to answer the following questions:

* What two parties emerged as framers of the Constitution sought ratification?  What were their positions on the Constitution?

The federalists were for the Constitution’s ratification. They were responsible for the Federalist papers that ultimately swayed popular opinion for the Constitution. The anti-federalists were against the ratification of the Constitution. In the end they compromised by adding a bill of rights to amend the Constitution.

* What two features of the Constitution were cause for non-ratification?

There was no bill of rights, and the greatly increased powers of the central government.

* What two states refused to ratify until their concerns were addressed?  Why might their failure to ratify have doomed the Constitution?

Rhode Island and North Carolina, refused to ratify without a bill of rights. Without every state agreeing to ratify the new government could become splintered.

* What ONE condition was met to achieve ratification?  Why was this one condition considered so critical for the success of our new government?

The vote of nine states for ratification was needed. This number is near a 3/4ths majority, and the new government would need that much support to get off the ground.