GEOGRAPHY CHALLENGE – The Geography of the United States in 1790

Geography Skills

Analyze the maps in "Setting the Stage." Then answer the following questions and fill out the map as directed

- 1. Label each state on the map. Which two (2) states had the largest population?
- 2. Locate and label the nation's five (5) largest cities in 1790. Which cities are they, and in which state is each located?
- 3. How many of the nation's 24 largest cities and towns were located in the South?
- 4. After Charleston and Baltimore, how large were the South's next four (4) largest cities? In which state or states were they located?
- 5. Lightly shade the states were slaves were 20 percent or more of the population. In what region of the nation were most of these states located?
- 6. Which states had few or no slaves in their populations? In which region of the nation were most of these states located?
- 7. How many of the nation's 24 largest cities and towns were located in states with few or no slaves in their populations?
- 8. In which states did slaves count for about one-third or more of the state's population?
- 9. Circle the names of the Southern states whose population ranks would be affected by a system that did not count slaves as part of a state's population. How would the population rank of each state change?

Critical Thinking

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

10. Which states would most likely support a system in which the number of votes each state had in the nation's legislature was based on the state's population? Why?

Which states would probably oppose such a system? Explain why.

11. Why would a state like New Jersey favor a system in which each state had the same number of votes in the nation's legislature?

What compromise might be found that would be supported by New Jersey as well as by states that wanted the legislature based on the state's population?

12. Which states would most likely oppose a plan to exclude slaves from a state's population when creating a legislature in which each state's number of votes depended on its population? Which states would most favor such a plan? Explain why.

Suggest a compromise that both groups of states might support.