

The Articles of Confederation

Theme: Politics and Power

Learning Objective 3.H: Explain how different forms of government developed and changed as a result of the Revolutionary Period.

State Constitutions

KC-3.2.II.A: Many new state constitutions placed power in the hands of the legislative branch and maintained property qualifications for voting and citizenship.

- Common features
 - Declaration/Bills of Rights
 - Separate Branches of Government
 - Minimal requirements for _____
 - _____ allows women's suffrage
 - Differences within each state based on _____ debates

New Form of Government

KC-3.2.II.B: The Articles of Confederation unified the newly independent states, creating a central government with limited power...

- Created a "_____"
- Unicameral legislature
 - No _____ or _____ Branch
 - Each state received one delegate, supermajority to pass laws, unanimous consent to amend
- Powers included:
 - _____, treaties, borrowing money

Weak Central Government

KC-3.2.II.B: ...After the Revolution, difficulties over international trade, finances, interstate commerce, foreign relations, and internal unrest led to calls for a stronger central government.

- International Trade
 - England retreats as trading partner, post-war _____
- _____
 - Could not _____, had to ask for money from states, each state had its own currency - often mired by _____
- _____

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APUSH

Name: _____

- States would place _____ on goods from other states
- Foreign Relations
 - Too weak to enforce _____, British maintain outposts, Loyalists claims unpaid
- Internal unrest
 - _____ 1786-87 in Massachusetts, anger over high taxes, debtors prisons, lack of paper money

Northwest Ordinance

KC-3.3.I.C: As settlers moved westward during the 1780s, Congress enacted the Northwest Ordinance for admitting new states; the ordinance promoted public education, the protection of private property, and a ban on slavery in the Northwest Territory.

- Northwest Ordinance 1787
 - Organized western territory for settlement, land sales would make up large portion of national _____
 - Portion of land sales to fund _____ in the region
 - Ban on _____ in new territory

Recap

- State Constitutions establish republican forms of government while limiting voting mostly to white males with property
- The Articles of Confederation was the first form of government, included a unicameral legislature with limited powers
- A weak central government led to problems with foreign, economic, and domestic policy
- The Northwest Ordinance organized western territory for future settlement, banning slavery in the region

Part II

Short Answer

Answer each prompt using at least THREE sentences.

1. Explain how different forms of government developed and changed as a result of the Revolutionary Period.

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Name: _____

The Articles of Confederation, 1777

Retrieved from: <http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/resource/articles-confederation-1777?period=3>

Excerpts

ARTICLES Of Confederation and perpetual Union between the States of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina and Georgia.

ARTICLE 1.

The Stile of this confederacy shall be "The United States of America".

ART. II.

Each state retains its sovereignty, freedom, and independence, and every power, jurisdiction, and right, which is not by this confederation expressly delegated to the United States, in Congress assembled.

ART. III.

The said states hereby severally enter into a firm league of friendship with each other, for their common defense, the security of their liberties, and their mutual and general welfare, binding themselves to assist each other, against all force offered to, or attacks made upon them, or any of them, on account of religion, sovereignty, trade, or any other pretense whatever.

ART. IV.

The better to secure and perpetuate mutual friendship and intercourse among the people of the different states in this union, the free inhabitants of each of these states, paupers, vagabonds, and fugitives from justice excepted, shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of free citizens in the several states; and the people of each state shall have free ingress and regress to and from any other state, and shall enjoy therein all the privileges of trade and commerce, subject to the same duties, impositions, and restrictions as the inhabitants thereof respectively, provided that such restrictions shall not extend so far as to prevent the removal of property imported into any state, to any other state, of which the owner is an inhabitant; provided also that no imposition, duties or restriction shall be laid by any state, on the property of the united states, or either of them.

If any person guilty of, or charged with, treason, felony, or other high misdemeanor in any state, shall flee from justice, and be found in any of the united states, he shall, upon demand of the Governor or executive power of the state from which he fled, be delivered up and removed to the state having jurisdiction of his offense.

Full faith and credit shall be given in each of these states to the records, acts, and judicial proceedings of the courts and magistrates of every other state.

ART. V.

For the more convenient management of the general interests of the united states, delegates shall be annually appointed in such manner as the legislature of each state shall direct, to meet in congress on the first Monday in November, in every year, with a power reserved to each state to recall its delegates, or any of them, at any time within the year, and to send others in their stead, for the remainder of the year. . . .

In determining questions in the united states in congress assembled, each state shall have one vote.

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Name: _____

1. How were the Articles a different form of government than what we currently have?
2. Why did the framers choose to make the central government so weak?
3. How is the process of selecting delegates under the Articles not a truly republican form of government?
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George Washington discusses Shays' Rebellion and the upcoming Constitutional Convention, 1787

Retrieved from: <http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/resource/george-washington-discusses-shays%27-rebellion-and-up?period=3>

Excerpt

My dear Sir,

I feel my self exceedingly obliged to you for the full, & friendly communications in your letters of the 14th 21st & 25th ult.; and shall (critically as matters are described in the latter) be extremely anxious to know the issue of the movements of the forces that were assembling, the one to support, the other to oppose the constitutional rights of Massachusetts. The moment is, indeed, important! If government shrinks, or is unable to enforce its laws; fresh manœuvres will be displayed by the insurgents— anarchy & confusion must prevail—and every thing will be turned topsy turvey in that State; where it is not probable the mischiefs will terminate.

The legality of this Convention I do not mean to discuss—nor how problematical the issue of it may be. That powers are wanting, none can deny. Through what medium they are to be derived, will, like other matters, engage public attention. That which takes the shortest course to obtain them, will, in my opinion, under present circumstances, be found best. Otherwise, like a house on fire, whilst the most regular mode of extinguishing it is contending for, the building is reduced to ashes. My opinion of the energetic wants of the federal government are well known—publicly & privately, I have declared it; and however constitutionally it may be for Congress to point out the defects of the fœderal System, I am strongly inclined to believe that it would not be found the most efficacious channel for the recommendation, more especially the alterations, to flow—for reasons too obvious to enumerate.

The System on which you seem disposed to build a national government is certainly more energetic, and I dare say, in every point of view is more desirable than the present one; which, from experience, we find is not only slow—debilitated—and liable to be thwarted by every breath, but is defective in that secrecy, which for the accomplishment of many of the most important national purposes, is indispensably necessary; and besides, having the Legislative, Executive & Judiciary departments concentered, is exceptionable...indeed, after what I have seen, or rather after what I have heard, I shall be surprized at nothing; for if three years ago, any person had told me that at this day, I should see such a formidable rebellion against the laws & constitutions of our own making as now appears I should have thought him a bedlamite—a fit subject for a mad house. Adieu, you know how much, and how sincerely I am, ever, Yr Affecte & most Obedt Servant

Go: Washington

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