

Articles of Confederation

Before the war ended...

- Delegates believed that the colonies needed to be united by government in order to win independence.
- States were reluctant to give up power to a central government.
- Much debate → Continental Congress approved the first American constitution in 1777 called the **Articles of Confederation**

Articles of confederation

- states sent delegates to congress
- each state had one vote
- congress could declare war, appoint military leaders & create coin money

- compared to the state government congress had little power
 - congress could pass laws BUT 9 states had to approve
 - congress could not regulate trade between states
 - congress could not tax
 - if congress wanted to raise money, had to ask states to do it
 - couldn't force any state to contribute money
- Articles did not include a president to execute laws (states had to enforce laws passed)

Weaknesses of the Confederation

- conflicts between the states (argued over who owned what pieces of land)
- Money problems (started to print paper money or currency but became worthless)
- other nations taking advantage (Britain would not move their troops out of the Ohio valley)

1



ARTICLES
of
Confederation

Weak!

2



Approval by
13 STATES

State
Power

3



No Executive
or
Judicial branch

4

\$ = Congress no power
to tax!

5



NO COMMON
CURRENCY

Next...

Read about the Land ordinance of 1785 & the Northwest ordinance on page 203 in your textbook.

Title the next blank page "Land ordinance & Northwest ordinance."

Then...

Use the pieces in the envelope to create a T-chart with the correct facts on either side.
Use the book to check yourself.

Take note...

copy this into your journal.

Land ordinance of 1785

- set up system for settling the Northwest Territory
- 36 townships of 1 square mile
- Townships
- \$1 per acre
- sections for schools and churches

Northwest ordinance

- set up government for Northwest territory
- Guaranteed basic rights
- outlawed slavery
- 60,000 population = statehood

Continue with notes on this
page...

After watching the clip about Shay's Rebellion, read about it on page 204 (yes read the whole page...). Take notes about what happened and the outcome.

Shay's Rebellion

- Rebellion by farmers b/c they were being taxed so much & then went into debt... bank took their farms



- This led to leaders realizing how weak the Articles of Confederation were.

Weakness of the Articles

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nlf07ZJuzjM>