

## Creating the New Government



Constitutional Convention of 1787

### Visual Analysis:

If you had been at the Constitutional Conventions, how would you have finished this line?

Don't forget to add a rule about ...

because...

What potential problems could you see arising when the states make their own constitutions?

Why is it a good idea for the central government to handle the new lands?

### NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

After they won the war, the former colonies had to create a new national government. None of the states wanted to give a lot of power to the \_\_\_\_\_ government, so they drew up the \_\_\_\_\_. It was the first constitution of the new country.

Under the Articles, the \_\_\_\_\_ kept most of the power. They could have their own military, make their own trade rules, and had their own \_\_\_\_\_. The central government only had a few duties. They are listed below:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

### STATE GOVERNMENTS

At the same time, the states drew up their own \_\_\_\_\_. They usually protected people's \_\_\_\_\_. They called for elected legislatures, plus an executive and a court system. People were allowed to and expected to \_\_\_\_\_ in state government. People were \_\_\_\_\_ drawing up their own republican governments.

### WESTERN LANDS

\_\_\_\_\_ wouldn't sign the Articles of Confederation until all states gave up their claims to \_\_\_\_\_ west of the Appalachians. So the national government got control of this huge area. They couldn't be colonies (they shouldn't be owned) and they couldn't be \_\_\_\_\_ as there were not enough people. Congress passed two laws to fix the issue:

## CONFEDERATION PROBLEMS

The American \_\_\_\_\_ suffered in the years right after the Revolutionary War. British manufactured goods flooded the new nation while Britain put limits on our products being sent to their territories. The new weak central government could not put \_\_\_\_\_ on incoming British goods to force them to change their policy.

Also the states and the national government owed a lot of money that they borrowed during the war. \_\_\_\_\_ weren't paid and those that lent money to the government weren't paid. The economy slid into a \_\_\_\_\_. States imposed heavy \_\_\_\_\_. Common people were short on cash, out of work, and in debt. A group of \_\_\_\_\_ farmers broke into an armed rebellion.

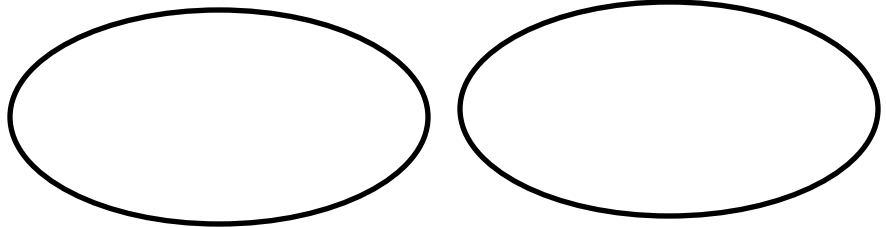
Things in the young country seemed to get out of hand. So the states sent delegates to another convention in \_\_\_\_\_. They were supposed to fix the Articles but created a whole new \_\_\_\_\_ instead.

## THE US CONSTITUTION

The Constitution took some debating and compromising. The delegates agreed easily on some things. Power in the new government must be \_\_\_\_\_. No single state or \_\_\_\_\_ of the country should be the strongest, nor should any branch of government. People's \_\_\_\_\_ must be protected. The central government must have the ability to raise \_\_\_\_\_ and to control foreign and interstate \_\_\_\_\_.

## COMPROMISING

But how should the states be represented? Two plans were put forward:



This became a sticking point in the convention until Roger Sherman put forward the \_\_\_\_\_ Compromise: a House of Representatives with the number of members based on a state's \_\_\_\_\_ and a Senate in which each state has \_\_\_\_\_ members.

Delegates also hotly debated the question of counting \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ states wanted slaves to be counted as part of the state's population when deciding how many representatives the state would have. \_\_\_\_\_ states wanted the opposite.

The delegates also compromised on other things, like export taxes and navigation acts. They put off the slave trade question. It was too difficult to deal with then.

*Tariff – tax on imported goods*

*What was the major problem with the country after the Revolution?*

*Known as... \_\_\_\_\_ Rebellion*

*Why is it important for the government to have the ability to tax (isn't that why we fought the revolution?)*

*Read the quote and answer the questions:*

*Upon what principle is it that slaves shall be computed in the representation? Are they men? Then make them citizens, and let them vote. Are they property? Why, then, is no other property included?...that the inhabitant of Georgia and South Carolina, who goes to the coast of Africa, and, in defiance of the most sacred laws of humanity...shall have more votes, in a government instituted for the protection of the rights of mankind...*

*1. How did this delegate feel about counting the slaves for population?*

*2. Why should Ga and SC not have more votes in Congress?*