

Name: _____

Hr: _____

8th Grade U.S. History

Chapter 5 Homework Packet Forming a Government



Requirements:

- All margin questions must be answered in complete thoughts and sentences.
- Chapter Summary must be completed to the best of your ability.
- Students must make at least three marginal annotations or “mental moves” per page. Marginal annotations should be purposeful and can take the form of any of the following:

Predicting:

I predict that...

In the next part I think...

Visualizing:

I picture...

I can see...

Questioning:

A question I have is...

Could this mean...

Making Connections:

This is like...

This reminds me of...

Identifying a Problem:

I got confused when...

I'm not sure of...

Fixing Problems:

I'll reread this part...

I'll read on and check back...

Summarizing:

The big idea is...

I think the point is...

Forming a Government

Section 1



MAIN IDEAS

1. The American people examined many ideas about government.
2. The Articles of Confederation laid the base for the first national government of the United States.
3. The Confederation Congress established the Northwest Territory.

Key Terms and People

Magna Carta an English document that limited the power of the monarch

English Bill of Rights the bill declared the power of Parliament and kept the monarch from passing new taxes or changing laws without Parliament's approval

constitution a set of basic principles and laws that states the powers and duties of the government

Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom a law that included Thomas Jefferson's ideas granting religious freedom

suffrage voting rights

Articles of Confederation the new national constitution, which made a new Confederation Congress the national government

ratification official approval of the Articles of Confederation by the states

Land Ordinance of 1785 a law that set up a system for surveying land and dividing the Northwest Territory

Northwest Ordinance of 1787 a law that established the Northwest Territory and formed a political system for the region

Northwest Territory a territory including Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin

Section Summary

IDEAS ABOUT GOVERNMENT

After winning independence from Great Britain, the United States needed to form new governments.

The Americans first looked to English law for ideas.

The **English Bill of Rights** and **Magna Carta** gave them inspiration. Ideas from the Enlightenment also influenced them. English philosopher John Locke had thought the government had a duty to guard people's rights.

Where did Americans find ideas for their government?

Section 1, *continued*

In 1639 the people of Connecticut had created a government plan considered to be the first written **constitution** in the colonies. During the American Revolution nearly every state wrote a constitution to ensure that citizens elected representatives to make laws. **Suffrage** varied considerably from state to state. Some constitutions banned slavery. The **Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom** was an example of a law providing religious freedom.

Should the states that banned slavery have been more insistent that other states ban it also? Why or why not?

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION

The Continental Congress named a Committee of Thirteen, with one member from each colony. This committee drafted the **Articles of Confederation**.

Under the Articles the Confederation Congress had limited powers to guard the people's freedoms. Each state had one vote in the Congress. The Congress had powers, but it could only ask the states for money and soldiers. States could refuse these requests. After some conflicts the Articles were **ratified** by all the states to form the first American government.

Why would you have voted for or against the Articles?

NORTHWEST TERRITORY

Congress decided to raise money to pay debts by selling the ordinance lands. Congress passed the **Land Ordinance of 1785**. The **Northwest Ordinance of 1787** formed the **Northwest Territory**. It was then split up into several smaller territories. When the population of a territory hit 60,000, its settlers could draft their own constitution and ask to join the Union. Slavery was banned in the Northwest Territory.

Underline the sentence that explains when a territory could ask to join the Union.

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Elaborating You plan to settle in the Northwest Territory. List 10 items you will take with you and explain why you chose the items you did.

Forming a Government

Section 2



MAIN IDEAS

1. The United States had difficulties with other nations.
2. Internal economic problems plagued the new nation.
3. Shays's Rebellion pointed out weaknesses in the Articles of Confederation.
4. Many Americans called for changes in the national government.

Key Terms and People

tariffs taxes on imports or exports

interstate commerce trade between two or more states

inflation increased prices combined with the reduced value of money

depression a period of low economic activity combined with a rise in unemployment

Daniel Shays a poor farmer and Revolutionary War veteran

Shays's Rebellion an uprising in which Daniel Shays led hundreds of men in a forced shutdown of the Supreme Court in Springfield, Massachusetts

Section Summary

RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

The Continental Army broke up soon after the signing of the Treaty of Paris of 1783. The Articles of Confederation provided no way to raise a new army. The United States had a hard time guarding against foreign threats.

Problems arose in trading with Britain, which closed many British ports to U.S. ships. The British also forced American merchants to pay high **tariffs**. U.S. merchants increased prices to pay them, and costs were passed on to customers.

In 1784 Spanish officials shut down the lower Mississippi River to U.S. shipping. Western farmers and merchants used the river to ship goods east and overseas. The U.S. government failed to work out an agreement with Spain. Critics thought Spain would have negotiated longer if America had a strong military force. The loss of the British West Indies markets meant farmers could not sell goods there.

Point out one weakness in the Articles of Confederation.

Why did tariffs hurt U.S. citizens?

Section 2, continued

U.S. exports dropped while lower-priced British goods kept entering America. Congress could not pass tariffs.

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

Trade problems among the states, war debt, and a poor economy hurt the states. The Confederation Congress had no power to regulate **interstate commerce**. States looked out only for their own trade interests.

In addition, states had trouble paying off war debts. They printed paper money, but it had no gold or silver backing and little value. This caused **inflation**, which occurs when increased prices for goods and services combine with the reduced value of money. The loss of trade with Britain coupled with inflation created a **depression**.

Underline the sentence that lists problems facing the states.

What conditions caused a depression in the United States?

SHAYS'S REBELLION

Massachusetts collected taxes on land to pay its war debt. This policy hurt farmers who owned land. The courts made them sell their property to pay taxes. **Daniel Shays** and his followers defied a state order that would stop **Shays's Rebellion**. They were defeated by state troops, and 14 leaders were sentenced to death. However, the state freed most, including Shays. Many citizens agreed with Shays.

CALLS FOR CHANGE

The weaknesses of the Confederation government led leaders, including James Madison and Alexander Hamilton, to ask all 13 states to send delegates to a Constitutional Convention. It was held in Philadelphia in May 1787 to revise the Articles of Confederation and create a better constitution.

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Predicting Consider how the new U.S. Constitution might change the Articles of Confederation. List three key changes.

Forming a Government

Section 3



MAIN IDEAS

1. The Constitutional Convention met to improve the government of the United States.
2. The issue of representation led to the Great Compromise.
3. Regional debate over slavery led to the Three-Fifths Compromise.
4. The U.S. Constitution created federalism and a balance of power.

Key Terms and People

Constitutional Convention meeting held in Philadelphia to create a new constitution

James Madison a leading convention delegate from Virginia

Virginia Plan a plan giving supreme power to the central government and creating a bicameral legislature made of two groups, or houses, of representatives

New Jersey Plan a plan creating a unicameral, or one-house, legislature

Great Compromise an agreement that gave each state one vote in the upper house of the legislature and a number of representatives based on its population in the lower house

Three-Fifths Compromise only three-fifths of a state's slaves were counted when deciding representation in Congress

popular sovereignty the idea that political power belongs to the people

federalism the sharing of power between a central government and the states

legislative branch a Congress of two houses that proposes and passes laws

executive branch the president and the departments that help run the government

judicial branch a system of all the national courts

checks and balances a system that keeps any branch of government from becoming too powerful

Section Summary

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

The **Constitutional Convention** met in May 1787 in Philadelphia, where America had declared independence. Twelve states sent delegates. Most delegates were educated and had served in state legislatures or Congress. **James Madison** attended.

Name one reason Philadelphia was chosen as the site of the Convention.

GREAT COMPROMISE

States disagreed about representation, tariffs, slavery, and strength of the central government. In the

Section 3, *continued*

Virginia Plan, the legislature would be selected on the basis of population. The **New Jersey Plan** proposed that each state receive an equal number of votes. The **Great Compromise** gave every state, regardless of size, an equal vote in the upper house of the legislature. Each state would be represented in the lower house based on population.

THREE-FIFTHS COMPROMISE

The **Three-Fifths Compromise** satisfied northerners, who wanted the number of slaves in southern states to determine taxes but not representation. It also satisfied southern delegates, who wanted slaves counted as part of their state populations to increase their power. The delegates agreed to end the slave trade in 20 years.

Underline the sentence that explains what action about slavery the delegates took.

THE LIVING CONSTITUTION

The delegates wanted to protect **popular sovereignty**. They thought **federalism** could accomplish that. States would control government functions not assigned to the federal government.

The Constitution balances power among the **legislative branch**, the **executive branch**, and the **judicial branch**. The Constitution's framers established **checks and balances** to prevent any one branch from becoming too strong. The Constitution was completed in September 1787. Congress and then the states ratified the Constitution.

What do you think about checks and balances?

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Making Judgments Decide whether you support the Three-Fifths Compromise. Give a two-minute speech about your view.

Forming a Government

Section 4



MAIN IDEAS

1. Federalists and Antifederalists engaged in debate over the new Constitution.
2. The *Federalist Papers* played an important role in the fight for ratification of the Constitution.
3. Ten amendments were added to the Constitution to provide a Bill of Rights to protect citizens.

Key Terms and People

Antifederalists people who opposed the Constitution

George Mason delegate who opposed the Constitution

Federalists people who supported the Constitution

Federalist Papers essays supporting the Constitution

amendments official changes to a document

Bill of Rights Constitutional amendments that protect the rights of citizens

Academic Vocabulary

advocate to plead in favor of

Section Summary

FEDERALISTS AND ANTIFEDERALISTS

Antifederalists believed that the Constitutional Convention should not have formed a new government. Delegate **George Mason** opposed the Constitution because it did not contain a section that guaranteed individual rights.

Most **Federalists** thought that the Constitution provided a good balance of power. Many wealthy planters, farmers, and lawyers were Federalists. Yet, many craftspeople, merchants, and poor workers also backed the Constitution. Several groups made speeches to **advocate** their views.

Why did George Mason oppose the Constitution?

FEDERALIST PAPERS

The *Federalist Papers* were written anonymously by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay in defense of the Constitution. They tried to per-

Section 4, *continued*

suade people that the Constitution would not overwhelm the states. Madison stated that the diversity of the United States meant no single group would take over the government.

The Constitution needed only nine states to pass it, but each state should ratify it as a way of proclaiming national unity. Every state except Rhode Island held state conventions that gave citizens the right to discuss and vote on the Constitution. On December 7, 1787, Delaware became the first state to ratify it. The Constitution went into effect in June 1788 after New Hampshire became the ninth state to ratify it. Several states ratified the Constitution only after a bill protecting individual rights was promised.

Why did states hold constitutional conventions?

What kind of bill did several states demand?

BILL OF RIGHTS

Many Antifederalists did not believe that the Constitution would safeguard personal rights. In the first session of Congress, James Madison spurred the legislators to develop a bill of rights. The rights would then become **amendments** to the Constitution after a two-thirds majority of both houses of Congress and three-fourths of the states approved them. Article V of the Constitution spelled out this way of changing the document to respond to the will of the people.

In December 1791 Congress proposed 12 amendments and turned them over to the states for ratification. By December 1791 the states had ratified the **Bill of Rights**. Ten of the proposed 12 amendments were written to protect citizens' rights. These amendments show how the Constitution was amended to meet the needs of a growing nation.

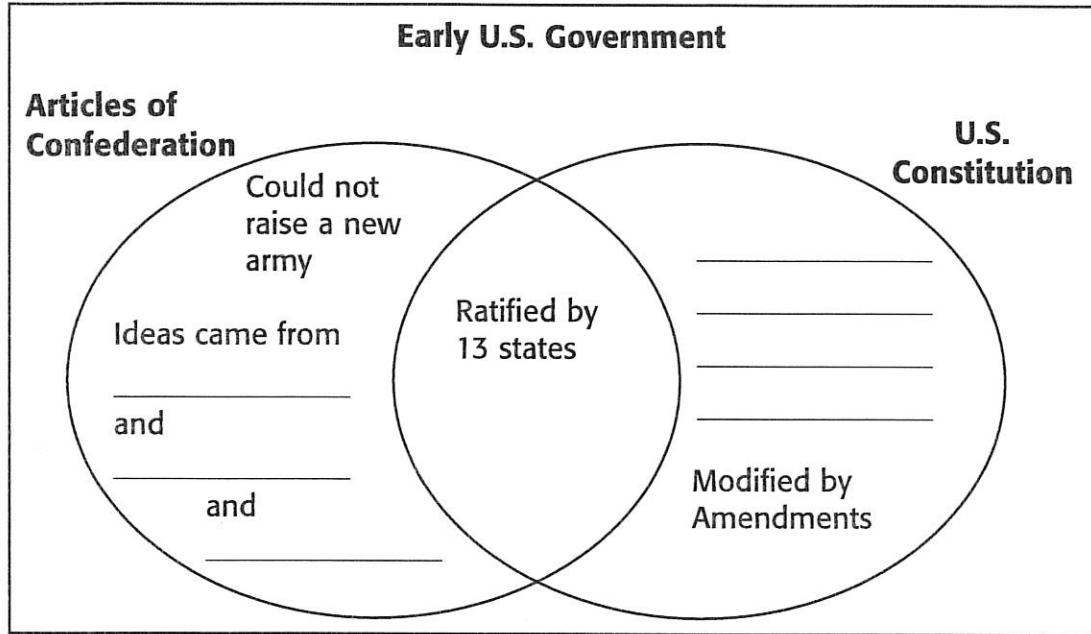
Why do you think the Constitution has lasted more than 200 years?

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

Critical Thinking: Comparing and Contrasting Write a short essay comparing and contrasting the views of Federalists and Antifederalists. Use specific examples.

Forming a Government

CHAPTER SUMMARY



COMPREHENSION AND CRITICAL THINKING

As you read the section summaries, fill in the blanks in the graphic organizer above and answer the questions below.

- 1. Identify** What sources gave Americans ideas for their first national government under the Articles of Confederation?

- 2. Compare and Contrast** Describe four ways in which the U.S. Constitution was different from the Articles of Confederation.
