

The Articles of Confederation PowerPoint Notes

- **Americans** needed to establish their own **government** once they declared their independence from **Britain**.
- Americans wanted the country to be a **republic**. A republic is a government with **elected representatives**.
- **States** organized their governments and adopted their own state **constitutions**.
- The **Articles of Confederation** (a plan for government) were adopted in **1777**. It was America's **first constitution**.
- **Most** Americans favored a **WEAK** central/federal government and **STRONG** independent states.
- Each state kept "its sovereignty (authority), **freedom**, and **independence**."
- **Ratification** was delayed until **1771** because of western settlement disputes amongst the states.

Under the Articles

- A **LIMITED** central/federal government.
- One branch legislature called **Congress**.
- No **executive** (chief executive) or national **courts**.
- All states would have **equal representatives** AND **one** single vote.
- **Nine** states had to agree before a **bill** became **law**.
- All **13 states** had to ratify the Articles.

Successes

- a **plan** of government
- negotiated **treaties** especially the Treaty of Paris of 1783; successfully ended the **American Revolution**
- declare **war**
- make **peace**
- new **land** policies
- run the national **postal office**
- foreign relations with **Native Americans**

Weaknesses

The WEAK government had almost no power. It could **NOT**:

- regulate **trade** amongst the states;
- **amend** the Articles unless ALL **13** states gave its **consent**;
- force citizens to **join the army** nor pay for it;
- **pass a law** unless nine states voted for it; &
- collect **taxes**. They had to ask the states for money to pay for the army and war debts; and
- each state had **one vote** in Congress. State **population** did not matter, although larger, more populated states believed that they should have **more votes**.

Rewrite?

- Different types of **currency** were confusing amongst the **states**.
- The central/federal government had to **ask the states** for money.
- The central government couldn't collect taxes and therefore, couldn't maintain nor **help** the citizens.
- The states had **most** of power and therefore, had their own **policies** and unlimited resources to make **any decisions** they wanted without consent.

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- _____ needed to establish their own _____ once they declared their independence from _____.
- Americans wanted the country to be a _____. A republic is a government with _____.
- _____ organized their governments and adopted their own state _____.
- The _____ **of Confederation** (a plan for government) were adopted in _____. It was America's _____.
- _____ Americans favored a _____ **central government** and _____ **independent states**.
- Each state kept "its sovereignty, _____, and _____."
- _____ was delayed until _____ because of western settlement disputes amongst the states.

Under the Articles

- A _____ central government
- One branch legislature called _____.
- No _____ (chief executive) nor national _____.
- All states would have _____ representatives AND _____ single vote.
- _____ states had to agree before a _____ became _____.
- All _____ had to _____ the Articles.

Successes

- A _____ of government
- Negotiated _____ especially the Treaty of Paris of 1783; successfully ending the _____
- Declare _____
- Make _____
- New _____ policies
- Run the national _____
- Foreign relations with _____

Weaknesses

The weak government had almost no power. It could NOT:

- Regulate _____ amongst the states;
- _____ the Articles unless all _____ states gave its _____;
- Force citizens to _____ nor pay for it;
- _____ unless nine states voted for it;
- Collect _____. They had to ask the states for money to pay for the army and war debts; and
- Each state had _____ in Congress. State _____ did not matter, although larger, more populated states believed that they should have _____.

Rewrite?

- Different types of _____ were confusing amongst the _____.
- The central government had to _____ for money.
- Central Government couldn't collect taxes and therefore, couldn't maintain or _____ the citizens.
- The states had _____ of power and therefore, had their own _____ and unlimited resources to make _____ they wanted without consent.