



## Creating A New Republic



### Question???

What is Congress? Explain.



### The Debate

- The relationship between the new states and the national gov't
  - States were reluctant to unite under a strong central government
  - Needed to balance the interests of states with those of the nation



### Unity Through a Republic

- Americans favored a **republic**-a government in which citizens rule through their elected representatives
- **Republicanism**-the idea that government should be based on the consent of the people



## The Continental Congress Debates

- **Problems:**
  - States unequal in size, wealth, and population
  - Representation in Congress?
  - Can national government share power with states?



## Articles of Confederation

- **National government power:**
  - To declare war
  - Make peace
  - Sign treaties
  - Borrow money
  - Establish a Postal Service
  - Deal with Native Americans

### However...

- No President to enforce acts of Congress
- No national court to interpret laws



## Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation

- To enact laws “yes” from 9 out of 13 states
  - Amendment-a unanimous vote
- Could not tax directly
- Could not prevent states from issuing its own currency
- Could not recruit an army
- Could not control commerce between states or foreign countries... tariffs differed
- **\*\*Therefore...** America commanded little respect from foreign countries b/c of weak central government



## Too Much Weight to Pull

In the end, the Articles of Confederation could not support the goal of the founding fathers to form a functioning government.

### Challenges



Power Struggles among individual states

Distrust of centralized authority



No right to regulate commerce

No ability to enforce laws

### Limitations

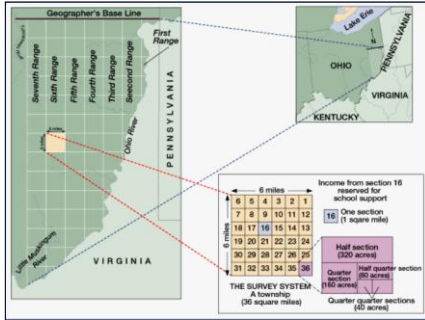


Nearly impossible process for correcting problems in the Articles

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION  
Structure and powers of new national government



## Land Ordinance of 1785



## Northwest Ordinance of 1787



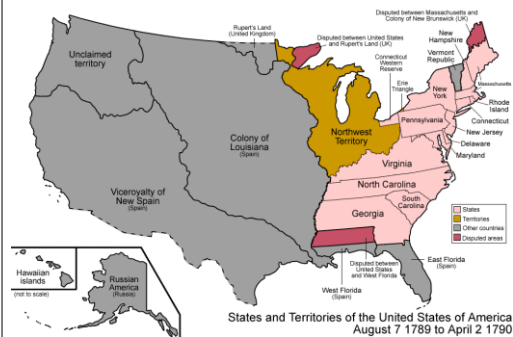
Congress provided a procedure admission of new states:

- Congress would appoint Governor and judges
- After 5000 voting residents... temporary constitution and elect government
- After 60,000 residents... state constitution and apply for statehood
- No slavery, encourage education, guaranteed basic civil liberties

**Significance...** established national policy for the sale of Western lands and encouraged public education



## The United States by 1790



## Constitutional Convention



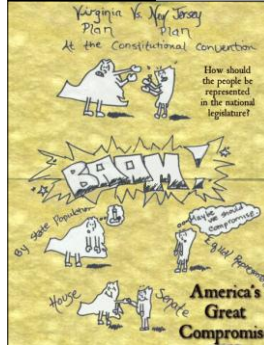


## Key Conflicts at the Constitutional Convention

- Strong Central Government vs. Strong States
- Large States vs. Small States
- North vs. South



## The Great Compromise



- Roger Sherman (CT)
  - 2 house Congress to satisfy small and big states
  - Equal representation in the Senate
  - Population determines representation in the House of Representatives



## 3/5 Compromise

- **Issue:** In regard to representation in Congress should slaves be counted as people?
- Southern states wanted slaves included in the population count... Northern states disagreed
- Five slaves were to be counted as three free persons for both representation and taxation
- **In yet another compromise...** Congress was forbidden from interfering in the slave trade for 20 years

[Constitutional Convention Video](#)  
[Quick Quiz #2](#)



## Division of Powers

- Federalism
  - A system of gov't which divides power between the national gov't and state gov't
  - *Delegated powers...* powers granted to the national government by the Constitution
  - *Reserved powers...* powers kept by the states



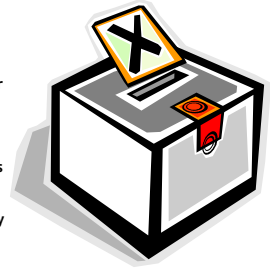
## Separation of Powers

- Legislative branch- pass the laws
- Executive branch- carry out the laws
- Judicial branch- interpret the laws
- Checks and balances... each branch has a way to control the other two branches

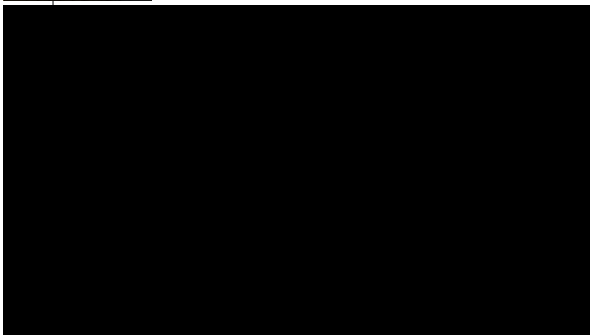


## Electoral College

- 2 main concerns for electing the president:
  - b/c of limited travel & communication the popular vote would be divided among regional candidates
  - Upper classes of society distrusted the lower classes
- Electoral College
  - Group of electors chosen by the states that cast ballots for the candidates



## Electoral College Video



### BRIDGING THE GAP WITH THE BILL OF RIGHTS

Despite the very public verbal battles between Federalists and Antifederalists, both agreed that there was a need for a stronger centralized government than what already existed under the Articles of Confederation. The difference was in the details. In the end, the **Bill of Rights** became the bridge between the two sides.

#### Bill of Rights

#### Federalist

- in favor of the Constitution as it was written
- felt Constitution already assured the rights of citizens so a separate Bill of Rights was not necessary
- federal laws dealing with trade, treaties, and war should supersede state laws
- federal government should have right to levy taxes

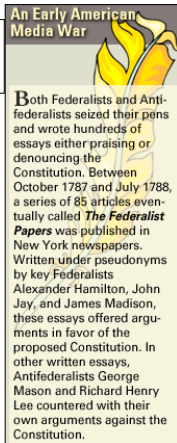
#### Antifederalist

- feared Constitution would put too much power in the hands of the federal government
- strong federal government would not take the needs of each individual state into consideration
- thought an elite social group concerned with their own interests would soon control the government
- wanted formal bill of rights to clearly spell out the rights of individuals

#### U.S. Constitution

## The Federalist Papers

- 85 essays defending the Constitution
- Published in N.Y. newspapers from 1787-1788
- Published under a pseudonym... but were written by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay
- Provided explanations and arguments in favor of constitution

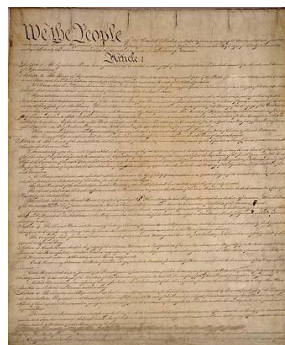


## Demand for a Bill of Rights

- Many viewed the Constitution's lack of a bill of rights as a serious drawback to ratification
- Antifederalists wanted written guarantees such as:
  - Freedom of speech
  - Freedom of press
  - Freedom of religion
  - Trial by jury
  - Right to bear arms

## Ratification of the Constitution

- 1st state... Delaware (12/1787)
- New Hampshire 9th state (6/1788)
- New York and Virginia eventually ratified
- The new government became a reality in 1789



## Bill of Rights

1. Religious and political freedom
2. Right to bear arms
3. Freedom from quartering troops
4. Freedom against unreasonable search and seizure
5. Rights of accused persons
6. Right to a speedy, public trial
7. Right to a trial by jury
8. Limits on fines and punishments
9. Rights of the people
10. Powers of states and the people

**\*\*Quick Quiz\*\***

Native Americans and slaves were excluded from these protections. Women were not mentioned in the Constitution.