**The Declaration of Independence**

* Created on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (slightly more than a year after the Revolution began).
* Promoted mainly by John Adams.
* Proclaimed the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Rights: Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.
* Justification for separation: “Whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government…”

**State Constitutions:**

* Congress urged each of the colonies to adopt: “such governments as shall in the opinion of the representatives of the people, best conduce to the happiness and safety of their constituents.”
* Common features among all state constitutions were: popular sovereignty, limited government, civil rights and liberties, and separation of powers and checks and balances.

**States still remembered the evils of a monarch…They made sure to have:**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_elective terms of office
* Limited right to vote to adult males with property ownership
* Authority given mostly to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – not the governor.

**Articles of Confederation:**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to establish a national government.
* Power was in the STATES. Small central government.
	+ Each state kept “its sovereignty, freedom, and independence”.
	+ Came together only for “common defense, the security of their Liberties, and their mutual and general welfare”.

**Structure under the Articles of Confederation:**

* *Explain what you see in the picture:*
* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
* The Articles of Confederation was a constitution written during the American Revolution to establish the powers of the new national government.

**Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation:**

1. Provided for a weak national government
2. Congress had no power to tax
3. Congress had no power to regulate commerce among the states
4. Provided no common currency
5. One vote per state regardless of size
6. Provided no executive or judicial branch

**Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation Continued:**

* States bickered among themselves and grew jealous and suspicious of one another.
* States often refused to support the new \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ government.
* Some made agreements with foreign countries without approval.
* Most organized their own military forces.
* Printed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ without backing – Economic chaos.

**Creating the Constitution:**

**A Constitutional Convention is called….**

* The states send delegates to a convention to solve the problems of the Articles of Confederation

**Constitutional Convention:**

* Delegates from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ meet to create national trade laws
* Call for national meeting in Philadelphia
	+ (1787)
* Afraid of rebellion, 12 states (except \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) send delegates

**The Convention’s Delegates:**

* 55 state delegates meet at Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia
* Delegates include George Washington, Benjamin Franklin,
* One of the ablest delegates is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**The Delegates Assemble:**

* Delegates want to create government strong enough to maintain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* But also want government that protects people’s rights.

**The Convention Begins:**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ elected president of the Constitutional Convention.
* Delegates do not want decisions influenced by political pressures
* To ensure this, they decide that discussions will remain secret

**The Virginia Plan:**

* The Virginia Plan divides government into 3 branches:
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ makes the laws
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ enforces the laws
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ interprets the laws
* Legislature has two houses
* Representation is based on each state’s population or wealth
* Larger states support the plan, smaller states oppose
* Smaller states are afraid larger states will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them

**QUICK CHECK**

* **The Constitutional Convention was held in:**
	+ **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* **Who of the following was present at the Constitutional Convention?**
	+ **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* **Who of the following was absent from the Constitutional Convention?**
	+ **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ served as the president of the convention.**
* **The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, proposed a government with three branches.**
* **The three branches proposed by the Virginia Plan were:**
	+ **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**New Jersey Plan:**

* New Jersey Plan is an alternative plan for U.S. government
	+ legislature has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_house
	+ each state has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ vote
* Each state is given equal votes in the senate: this satisfies the small states
* State’s population determines representation in House of Representatives: This satisfies the larger states

**The Great Compromise:**

* Delegates place few limits on Congress’s power to regulate commerce
* Southerners succeed in banning Congress from taxing imports
* Native Americans are not foreign nations or part of separate states

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Virginia Plan** | **New Jersey Plan** |
|  |  |
| **The Great Compromise** |
|  |

**Slavery And The Constitution:**

* Southern states want slaves counted for representation, not for taxes.
* Northern states want slaves counted for taxes, not for representation
* To solve the dispute, delegates agree to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* 3/5 of slave population counts for direct taxes
* 3/5 of slave population counts for representation
* Debate, delegates agree that slave trade cannot be banned until 1808

**Ratification:**

* On September 15, 1787 delegates approve the Constitution
* Constitution sent to the states for ratification

**QUICK CHECK**

* **The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ proposed a legislature with two houses, the members of which were based on the population and wealth of each state. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ suggested a single house where each state had equal value.**
* **The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ created a legislative branch with two houses, one based on the population of each state, and one that gave an equal voice to each state.**
* **For purposes of taxation and representation in the House of Representatives, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ counted slaves as partial citizens.**
* **Congress was granted the power to regulate, promote and tax\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, make treaties, and be the sole coiner of money.**

**The Preamble:**

* *We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America*.

**Constitutional Principles:**

* The 6 basic ideas that make up the Constitution.
	+ Popular Sovereignty
	+ Limited Government
	+ Separation of Powers
	+ Checks and Balances
	+ Judicial Review
	+ Federalism

**Constitutional Principles 1-4:**

1. Popular Sovereignty:
	1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Limited Government:
	1. People give \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the government, the government’s power is not unlimited.
3. Separation of Power:
	1. power is separated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ among the three branches of government
4. Checks and Balances:
	1. each branch of government \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ over the other

**Constitutional Principles 5 & 6:**

* Judicial Review: The power of the Federal courts to determine if Government Action is Constitutional. The interpreter or final judge on what the Constitution says and means.
* Federalism: A system of government where power is divided between the national and state governments.