

# Establishing the New Nation

## Lesson 1 The Articles of Confederation

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### Key Terms

republic  
unicameral legislature  
bicameral legislature  
Articles of Confederation  
John Dickinson  
federal  
Northwest Territory  
Land Ordinance of 1785  
Northwest Ordinance of 1787  
Shays' Rebellion

### Academic Vocabulary

**compel:** to make something happen; to force someone to do something

**cultivate:** to foster the growth of something

**implement:** to carry into effect

**tyrannical:** using power over people in a way that is cruel and unfair

### Lesson Objectives

1. **Explain** how the states' new constitutions reflected republican ideals.
2. **Describe** the structure and powers of the national government under the Articles of Confederation.
3. **Summarize** the Congress's plan for the settlement and governance of western lands.
4. **Understand** why tensions with foreign countries revealed the weakness of the U.S. government.
5. **List** the main weaknesses of the Articles.

## The States Create Republics: Text

1. **Compare and Contrast** Explain the difference between a unicameral and a bicameral legislature, including the advantages of each.
2. **Cite Evidence** Why did some political leaders oppose allowing all men to vote? Cite evidence to support your answer.

## Union Under the Articles of Confederation: Text

3. **Draw Conclusions** Did the federal government under the Articles of Confederation have a bicameral or a unicameral legislature? Explain.
4. **Cite Evidence** In what ways did the Articles of Confederation limit the power of the federal government?

## The Northwest Territory: Text

5. **Identify Supporting Details** The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 was an important piece of legislature that had a significant impact on the development of the United States. Give three details that support this main idea.
  
6. **Analyze Interactions Among Individuals and Events** How did the passage of the Northwest Ordinance affect relations with the American Indians?

### **Relations With Foreign Powers: Text**

7. **Draw Conclusions** Explain how the British treated the American colonies after the Revolutionary War.
  
8. **Draw Inferences** Why was New Orleans an important city for Americans in the late 1700s?

### **Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation: Text**

9. **Identify Cause and Effect** What chain of events led to America's near bankruptcy in the years after the Revolutionary War?

- 10. Paraphrase** What did James Madison mean when he said, “Liberty may be endangered by the abuses of liberty as well as [by] the abuses of power.” Cite at least one example that supports Madison’s position.