

What Comes Next?

Task 1: Create a government based on LAWS



are established when we write a CONSTITUTION

▶ TO SPELL OUT THE RIGHTS OF CITIZENS

▶ TO SET LIMITS ON THE POWER OF GOVERNMENT

The Articles of Confederation **Strengths, Weaknesses, & Problems**



Directions: Create lists of strengths, weaknesses, and problems that arise with the Articles of Confederation. You may consult your 5.1 and 5.2 notes and textbook for assistance.

Strengths

- Limited the power of government
- Congress could
 - settle conflicts
 - mint coins
 - borrow money
 - negotiate treaties with foreign nations and Native Americans
- Created the Land Ordinance of 1785 - system for surveying and dividing western lands
- Created the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 - system for allowing states to enter the Union, outlawed slavery in the Northwest Territory, and required public education

Weaknesses

- States could refuse requests from Congress (States held the power!)
- One branch of government
 - No president or national court system = no system of checks and balances
- No trade regulation - cannot regulate interstate commerce
- No tax laws

Problems

- With Foreign Nations
 - Britain not leaving forts along the Great Lakes
 - Britain closed ports and enforced high tariffs on merchants = negatively affected trade
 - Spain closed lower Mississippi River = negatively affected trade
- Economy
 - Inflation
 - Depression
- Shay's Rebellion = showed the weaknesses of the national government