**Articles of Confederation vs. The Constitution**

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|  | **Articles of Confederation** | **The Constitution** | |
| **Year and**  **Meeting** | 1781 @ Second Continental Congress | 1787 @ Constitutional Convention | |
| **Goal** | to create a national government to provide structure for the young nation | to amend or fix the failing Articles of Confederation | |
| **Type of Government** | **Confederation** = political organization in which a loose affiliation of individual states join together but retain most of the power within the individual states | **Republic** = political organization in which power rets in the body of citizens entitled to vote | |
| **Ratification =** to formally vote into law | by every state legislature | by 3/4ths of state conventions or legislatures | |
| **Legislative Branch** | unicameral | bicameral | |
| **Mode of Representation** | 2 to 7 delegates per state based on amount of taxes paid; appointed annually by state legislature | **House of Reps**  1 rep per 30,000 people  2 year term limit  elected by direct vote of people | **Senate**  2 per state  6 year term limit  chosen by state legislatures |
| **Executive Branch** | None, delegates of the legislative branch elect one of their members annually to serve as President | One, separate branch,  Elected by the electoral college for four year term, no term limits | |

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| **Judicial Branch** | Judicial decisions left up to the state and local courts  Congress the final arbiter of disputes between different states | Separate Supreme Court and inferior courts established by Congress |
| **Taxes** | States levy taxes, pay into common treasury | Congress has the power to collect taxes  Bill for raising revenue originated in the House of Reps. |
| **New Laws and Amendments** | Require 2/3rd of states approval  All 13 states must unanimously vote to change the Articles | Passed by both House and Senate and then approved by the President  3/4ths of the State Legislatures approval needed to add Amendments |
| **Powers** | To wage war, make foreign treaties and borrow money to pay debts | System of “Checks and Balances” equally distributes power amongst 3 branches |
| **Key Laws** | **Land Ordinance** (1785) = orderly boundaries and sale of land in territories, also set aside land for public education  **Northwest Ordinance** (1787) = formalizes process for territory to apply for statehood, need 60,000 population and state constituion | **Bill of Rights** = first 10 Amendments to the Constitution which protect individual and states right against the federal government |
| **Problems and Results** | No power to tax citizens to raise revenue  No power to enforce state tax collection  No single body to dictate and negotiate foreign policy  Helped worsen economic crisis in the wake of Revolutionary War  No real decisions made and the young nation looked weak to other global powers | ??? That is for us to figure out the rest of the school year ??? |
| **Key Moments** | **Shays’ Rebellion (1787) =** led by Daniel Shays a band of Mass. farmers rose in revolt against high taxes, debtors prison, and lack of currency to take control of state arsenal  Directly led to call for Constitutional Convention out of fear that the state of anarchy might become a regular occurrence under the weak Articles | **Whiskey Rebellion (1794) =** Alexander Hamilton (Sec. of Treasury) persuaded Congress to pass an excise tax on whiskey. Upset whiskey makers rose in revolt of these laws.  Pres. Washington sent Federal militia to put down the rebellion, demonstrating the effectiveness of the new government under the Constitution. |

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