**The Articles of Confederation**

Both during and after the American Revolution, delegates from the 13 original colonies, which later became states, met as a congress to make laws for the United States. This congress drew up the Articles of Confederation in 1777. The states finally ratified the articles in 1781.

The Articles of Confederation was the first constitution for the United States. Government under the Articles soon proved unsatisfactory.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principles</th>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• The U.S. government under the Articles consisted of a one-house lawmaking</td>
<td>• Congress under the Articles had two major achievements:</td>
<td>Congress lacked the power to collect taxes directly and relied upon grants of money from the states to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>body, the Congress (or Continental Congress)</td>
<td>1- Bringing the Revolutionary War to a successful end</td>
<td>pay its expenses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• There was neither a separate executive branch to enforce the laws nor a</td>
<td>2- Establishing a workable plan (the <strong>Northwest Ordinance</strong>, 1787) for</td>
<td>Laws required approval by a two-thirds majority of the states for passage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>separate system of national courts to interpret them.</td>
<td>governing the western lands between the Appalachian Mountains and the</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Each state was equally represented in Congress by a delegation that</td>
<td>Mississippi River.</td>
<td>It could not regulate commerce between the states, and the paper currency it issued was nearly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>could cast just one vote on each issue.</td>
<td>- A major feature of the Northwest Ordinance was the abolition of slavery</td>
<td>worthless.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The Congress was given the power to declare war, make peace, and conduct</td>
<td>- However, slavery existed in the southern colonies which depended on</td>
<td>The Articles could not be changed without the states’ unanimous agreement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>foreign affairs.</td>
<td>slave labor for plantations.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- A violent protest by Massachusetts farmers (**Shay’s Rebellion**, 1786) against the collection of a state tax alarmed Americans.
1. Critics of the Articles of Confederation argued that it
   (1) imposed unfair taxes on the states
   (2) used a draft to raise a national army
   (3) provided a strong system of federal courts
   (4) placed too much power in the hands of the states

2. The writers of the Constitution corrected an economic weakness under the Articles of Confederation when they
   (1) granted Congress the power to levy and collect taxes
   (2) created an executive branch headed by the president
   (3) granted the president the authority to negotiate treaties
   (4) created a two-house legislature

3. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 established a model for later settlement by providing for the
   (1) legal expansion of slavery
   (2) creation of national parks
   (3) distribution of free land to war veterans
   (4) process for territories to become states

4. The primary purpose of the Articles of Confederation was to
   (1) provide revenues for the national government
   (2) establish the basic framework of the national government
   (3) give the national government the power to regulate interstate commerce
   (4) guarantee a bill of rights to protect citizens from the national government
5. Which idea guided the development of the Articles of Confederation?
   (1) A strong central government would threaten the rights of the people.
   (2) All the people should be granted the right to vote.
   (3) Most power should rest with the judicial branch.
   (4) Only the central government would have the power to levy taxes.

6. Why did the authors of the Articles of Confederation create a weak central government?
   (1) They lacked an understanding of state problems.
   (2) They anticipated the threat of foreign invasion.
   (3) They relied on advice from royal governors.
   (4) They feared the kind of rule experienced under the British monarchy.

7. The main criticism of the Articles of Confederation was that they failed to
   (1) Allow for the admission of new states
   (2) Limit the powers of the president
   (3) Provide adequate powers for the central government
   (4) Prevent the development of military rule

8. The main reason the Articles of Confederation were replaced as the basis of
   the United States government was that they
   (1) lacked provision for a national congress
   (2) declared that political protests were unconstitutional
   (3) placed too many restrictions on the activities of state governments
   (4) failed to give the central government enough power to govern effectively

9. One accomplishment of the national government under the Articles of Confederation was the passage of legislation establishing
   (1) a central banking system
   (2) a process for admitting new states to the Union
   (3) the president’s right to put down rebellions
   (4) the ability of Congress to tax the states effectively

10. A major criticism of the Articles of Confederation was that too much power had been given to the
    (1) British monarchy
    (2) House of Burgesses
    (3) state governments
    (4) national government

11. The United States Constitution corrected a weakness in the Articles of Confederation by
    (1) providing for the abolition of slavery
    (2) creating a process for territories to become states
    (3) granting Congress sole control over interstate and foreign commerce
    (4) banning the possession of guns by citizens during peacetime

12. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 set a precedent for other western territories by
    (1) allowing slavery
    (2) including voting rights for women
    (3) providing a method for the creation of new states
    (4) setting aside land for churches
Analyze the following images regarding the Articles of Confederation:

1. What could Congress do under the Articles of Confederation?

2. What could Congress not do under the Articles of Confederation?

3. What does Uncle Sam represent in the images?

4. What are the representatives from New York, Delaware, and Virginia opposed to in the image?

5. What conflict has arisen between Maryland and Pennsylvania in the image?

6. Why must Uncle Sam have more power?

7. Understandably, the Americans feared a strong central government after the American Revolution. Why is it understandable that Americans feared a strong central government after the American Revolution?

8. Yet what problems arise in a society with a weak central government?

9. How can people ensure that the central government is strong enough to function but not strong enough to become a dictatorship?

10. Do you remember Montesquieu from your study of World History? Who was Montesquieu and what did he believe?
A Constitutional Convention
Name: ______________

Do Now:
"The form of government created for the United States in 1787 by the framers of the Constitution has endured for more than 200 years. No other written constitution in the world has been in force for so long. The American Constitution has made the government of the United States both stable and flexible enough to respond well to the changing needs of American society.

Delegates from the states met in Philadelphia in the summer of 1787. Although the original purpose of this meeting was to amend the Articles of Confederation, this plan soon changed.

All the states except Rhode Island sent delegates to the Constitutional Convention. A majority of these delegates were lawyers. Approximately half had fought against the British in the Revolutionary War. Most of the southern delegates owned slaves. Among the oldest delegates was Benjamin Franklin, and among the youngest was Alexander Hamilton. George Washington presided over the convention. The majority at this convention were persuaded by James Madison and other Virginia delegates to replace the existing plan of government (the Articles) with an entirely new constitution. The delegates agreed to take this constitution back to their states for ratification. The task of creating a new constitution had begun.

The delegates disagreed sharply on three issues: representation, slavery, and trade"
~U.S. History and Government

1- When was the U.S. Constitution created?

2- Why has the U.S. Constitution endured for more than 200 years?

3- Where did the delegates from the states meet in the summer of 1787?

4- What was the original purpose of the meeting?

5- Which state did not send a delegate to the Constitutional Convention?

6- What did the majority of southern delegates own?

7- What did James Madison persuade the delegates to do?

8- What three issues divided the delegates?

9- Why do you think differing views over slavery existed among the delegates?

10- What is representation?
Analyze the following chart:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Conflict:</th>
<th>Conflict and Compromise</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Representation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Slavery</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The larger states like Virginia insisted that the number of each state's representatives in the newly organized Congress should be proportional to the size of its population.</td>
<td>Because slaves made up a large part of the South's population, southern delegates proposed that slaves be counted in a state's population for representation purposes but not for tax purposes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The smaller states like New Jersey wanted the number of representatives to be the same for all states.</td>
<td>Northern delegates proposed just the opposite – counting slaves for tax purposes but not for representation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Trade</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Conflict:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern delegates thought foreign commerce should not be taxed, because their region relied heavily on importing goods manufactured in Great Britain.</td>
<td>A tax on imports would make foreign goods more expensive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A tax on foreign goods is a tariff.</td>
<td>Northerners thought foreign commerce should be taxed, since their region was beginning to manufacture goods that competed with imports.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Compromise:</th>
<th>The Compromise:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Great Compromise</strong></td>
<td>One compromise on slavery provided that three-fifths of a state's slave population would be counted for purposes of both taxation and representation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Great Compromise created a Congress of two houses:</td>
<td>A second compromise on slavery provided that Congress could pass no law ending the slave trade for 20 years (until 1808).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the House of Representatives, where states would be represented in proportion to their populations;</td>
<td>*It is interesting to note that the word &quot;slave&quot; never appears in the Constitution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Senate, where all states would be represented equally</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

~ U.S. History and Government
Note: The Census
- It was also decided that the method for counting the population would be a census
taken every ten years to determine the number of each state’s representatives in the
House of Representatives.
- The number of voting representatives in the House is fixed by law at no more than
435, proportionally representing the population of the 50 states.

Multiple-Choice Questions:
1. The Great Compromise enabled delegates
at the Constitutional Convention (1787) to
(1) establish the principle of popular
sovereignty in the territories
(2) give Congress the exclusive right to
declare war if the nation is attacked
(3) protect the interests of states with small
populations and states with large
populations
(4) provide for the indirect election of the
president through the electoral college

2. A bicameral legislature is created in
which states have equal representation in
the Senate, but representation in the House
depends on population.

- An enslaved person is counted as three-
fifths of one person for purposes of both
representation and taxation.

These two statements describe
(1) grievances included in the Declaration of
Independence
(2) provisions found in the Articles of
Confederation
(3) compromises reached at the
Constitutional Convention
(4) amendments included in the Bill of
Rights

3. Delegates at the Constitutional
Convention of 1787 agreed to the Three-
fifths Compromise to solve a dispute
directly related to
(1) the power of the presidency
(2) representation in Congress
(3) a decision by the Supreme Court

4. The Three-fifths Compromise was
included in the Constitution to resolve a
conflict over the
(1) counting of enslaved persons in relation
to taxation and representation
(2) reimbursement of plantation owners for
runaway slaves
(3) number of votes needed to approve a
treaty in the Senate
(4) number of states needed to ratify a
proposed amendment

5. The Great Compromise reached at the
Constitutional Convention resulted in the
(1) formation of the Supreme Court
(2) creation of a bicameral legislature
(3) development of a two-party system
(4) ban on the importation of enslaved
Africans

6. Disagreement at the Constitutional
Convention of 1787 over the Virginia and
New Jersey plans was resolved by a
compromise that
(1) guaranteed continuation of the slave
trade for at least twenty more years
(2) limited the power of the federal
government to wage war
(3) provided for construction of a new
national capital in the south
(4) created a Congress made up of a Senate
and a House of Representatives
7. Which statement regarding the United States Congress is best supported by the information in this cartoon?
(1) Congress must meet at least once every year.
(2) Members of the House of Representatives must be chosen every two years.
(3) Each house of Congress must publish a journal of its proceedings.
(4) Representation in the House of Representatives is based on state population.

Source: Clifford Berryman, National Archives (adapted)

Analyze the following chart on the U.S. Federal Government:

Separation of Power and Checks and Balances

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH (Congress)
- may reject appointments
- may reject treaties
- may withhold funding for presidential initiatives
- may impeach president
- may override a veto
- writes the laws
- confirms presidential appointments
- ratifies treaties
- grants money
- declares war
- may adjourn Congress in certain situations
- may declare laws unconstitutional
- may veto bills
- may propose constitutional amendments to override judicial decisions
- may impeach Supreme Court justices
- may reject appointments to the Supreme Court

EXECUTIVE BRANCH (President)
- proposes laws
- administers the laws
- commands armed forces
- appoints ambassadors and other officials
- conducts foreign policy
- negotiates treaties
- may declare executive actions unconstitutional

JUDICIAL BRANCH (Supreme Court)
- interprets the Constitution and other laws
- reviews lower court decisions
- appoints judges
1- How many branches of government exist in the U.S. Federal Government?

2- Identify the branches of government.

3- Identify two powers of Congress, the legislative branch.

4- Identify one power of the Supreme Court, the judicial branch.

5- Identify two powers of the President, the executive branch.

6- The United States government has a system of checks and balances. This means: A system in which the different parts of government have powers that affect and control the other parts so that no one part can become too powerful! In other words, to check is to limit.
   a) Provide one example of how Congress checks or limits the power of the President.
   b) Provide one example of how the President checks or limits Congress.
   c) Define veto.
   d) Provide one example of how the Supreme Court checks or limits Congress.

7- Of course, checks and balances are possible because separation of powers exist. Separation of powers means that power is divided, that no one person or branch of government has absolute or total power.
   a) Identify the Enlightenment philosopher associated with separation of powers.

**Multiple-Choice Questions:**

1. Which action can be taken by the United States Supreme Court to illustrate the concept that the Constitution is “the supreme law of the land”?
   (1) hiring new federal judges
   (2) voting articles of impeachment
   (3) declaring a state law unconstitutional
   (4) rejecting a presidential nomination to the cabinet

2. Which constitutional principle is the focus of this cartoon?
   (1) Individual liberties  (3) Freedom of speech
   (2) Separation of powers  (4) Federalism
3. The term *supreme law of the land* refers to which document?
(1) Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
(2) Constitution of the United States
(3) Articles of Confederation
(4) Declaration of Independence

4. According to the Constitution, the president is required to
(1) sign or veto bills passed by Congress
(2) establish income tax rates
(3) review Supreme Court decisions
(4) raise money for political parties

5. Which constitutional principle best protects the public from abuse by one branch of government?
(1) equality
(2) federalism
(3) executive privilege
(4) checks and balances

6. The writings of Locke, Rousseau, and Baron de Montesquieu are significant in United States history because they
(1) opposed the use of slave labor in the Americas
(2) supported the absolute right of the king to impose taxes
(3) encouraged the formation of political parties and political machines
(4) influenced the authors of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution

7. Which action is an example of the system of checks and balances?
(1) An individual pays both a state and a federal income tax.
(2) New York State requires at least 180 school days per year.
(3) The House of Representatives votes to expel one of its members.
(4) The Senate approves a president’s nominee to the Supreme Court.

8. To avoid having too much power concentrated in one branch of government, the framers of the Constitution established
(1) a bicameral national legislature
(2) division of power among different levels of government
(3) the system of two political parties
(4) the system of checks and balances

9. According to the United States Constitution, the president has the power to
(1) nominate federal judges
(2) declare war
(3) grant titles of nobility
(4) reverse Supreme Court decisions

10. The United States Constitution requires that a national census be taken every ten years to
(1) provide the government with information about voter registration
(2) establish a standard for setting income tax rates
(3) determine the number of members each state has in the House of Representatives
(4) decide who can vote in presidential elections

11. French Enlightenment philosopher Baron De Montesquieu praised the British political system because it divided the power of government between the monarch and the two houses of Parliament.

Which principle included in the United States Constitution shows that the framers agreed with Montesquieu?
(1) separation of powers
(2) federal supremacy
(3) implied powers
(4) due process
Analyze the following cartoons. What are the cartoonists suggesting about the American system of checks and balances?

Of course, a cartoonist's point of view is only one point of view. How might another cartoonist disagree with these perspectives?
Analyze the following chart: [Adapted from gsp.edu]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANTIFEDERALISTS VS FEDERALISTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Anti-Federalist objections to the Constitution</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• States’ rights advocates, backcountry farmers, poor farmers, the ill-educated and illiterate, debtors, &amp; paper-money advocates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• In general, the poorer classes of society.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Anti-Federalist objections to the Constitution | | Federalist defenses of the Constitution |
| Ratification Positions: | 1. Articles of Confederation were a good plan | Ratification Positions: |
| 2. Opposed strong central government | 2. National government needed to be strong in order to function |
| 3. Strong national government threatened state power | • Powers in foreign policy needed to be strengthened while excesses at home needed to be controlled. |
| 4. Strong national government threatened rights of the common people | 3. Strong national government needed to control uncooperative states |
| • Constitution was created by aristocratic elements. Suspected a sinister plot to suppress liberty of the masses. | 4. Men of experience and talent should govern the nation |
| 5. Constitution favored wealthy men and preserved their power | • “Mobocracy” threatened the security of life and property |
| 7. Argued against 2/3 ratification plan | 6. Constitution and state governments protected individual freedoms without bill of rights |
| • Articles of Confederation required unanimous consent | 7. In favor of establishing the Constitution with almost any means possible |

Write three comparative statements regarding Antifederalists and Federalists:

1. 
2. 
3. 
Excise Taxes, a National Bank, and a Farewell Address

US History/Name: __________________

Do Now:

"To raise revenue [income] to help repay both the foreign and domestic debt that Congress incurred during the Revolution and confederation period, a tax was placed on whiskey. Resentment to the tax on whiskey came to a head during the summer of 1794 with the 'Whiskey Rebellion.' President Washington called out 13,000 militiamen to put down the uprising, demonstrating that the new government possessed the power to enforce its authority – a power that had been absent under the Articles of Confederation."

~ U.S. History and Government

Questions:

1- What did the U.S. Congress to do help raise revenue to pay the foreign and domestic debt that Congress incurred during the Revolution?

2- What was the “Whiskey Rebellion”?

3- How did President Washington address the rebellion?

4- What did Washington’s actions reveal about the new government?

5- How did this action differ from the power of the government under the Articles of Confederation?

A Debate over a National Bank:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes to A National Bank</th>
<th>No to A National Bank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Alexander Hamilton asked Congress to establish a Bank of the United States that would be a depository of federal funds and able to issue sound paper money on the basis of securities held</td>
<td>• Using the “strict constructionist” view, Jefferson declared the proposed United States bank unconstitutional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Using the “loose constructionist” view, Hamilton held the bank to be constitutional</td>
<td>• He claimed that the power to create the bank was not listed in the enumerated powers (Article I, Section 8), nor could the power be implied from any other power through the use of the elastic clause</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• He claimed that the power to create the bank could be implied from the enumerated powers to coin money, borrow money, and raise money through taxation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1- Identify an individual who supported a National Bank.

2- What argument did this individual make in support of a National Bank?

3- Identify an individual who opposed a National Bank.
4- What argument did this individual make against a National Bank?

After listening to the arguments, Washington was convinced that the Bank of the United States was constitutional and advisable.

5- What was the outcome of the debate?

Primary Source: Excerpt from Washington’s Farewell Address

"...The great rule of conduct for us in regard to foreign nations is in extending our commercial relations, to have with them as little political connection as possible. So far as we have already formed engagements, let them be fulfilled with perfect good faith. Here let us stop. Europe has a set of primary interests which to us have none; or a very remote relation. Hence she must be engaged in frequent controversies, the causes of which are essentially foreign to our concerns. Hence, therefore, it must be unwise in us to implicate ourselves by artificial ties in the ordinary vicissitudes of her politics, or the ordinary combinations and collisions of her friendships or enmities.

Our detached and distant situation invites and enables us to pursue a different course. If we remain one people under an efficient government, the period is not far off when we may defy material injury from external annoyance; when we may take such an attitude as will cause the neutrality we may at any time resolve upon to be scrupulously respected; when belligerent nations, under the impossibility of making acquisitions upon us, will not lightly hazard the giving us provocation; when we may choose peace or war, as our interest, guided by justice, shall counsel.

Why forego the advantages of so peculiar a situation? Why quit our own to stand upon foreign ground? Why, by interweaving our destiny with that of any part of Europe, entangle our peace and prosperity in the toils of European ambition, rivalship, interest, humor or caprice?

It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world; so far, I mean, as we are now at liberty to do it; for let me not be understood as capable of patronizing infidelity to existing engagements. I hold the maxim no less applicable to public than to private affairs, that honesty is always the best policy. I repeat it, therefore, let those engagements be observed in their genuine sense. But, in my opinion, it is unnecessary and would be unwise to extend them..."

Questions:

1- What is the goal of the United States regarding conduct with foreign nations?

2- According to Washington, is every European interest a concern for Americans?

3- According to Washington, what would be unwise for Americans?

4- Why can Americans pursue a different course from Europe?

5- What is the “true policy” of the United States?
Multiple-Choice Questions:

1. How did Alexander Hamilton’s financial plan affect the economy of the United States during the 1790s?
   (1) National tax revenues decreased.
   (2) High tariffs increased foreign trade.
   (3) Treasury policies contributed to widespread inflation.
   (4) The newly created Bank of the United States helped stabilize the economy.

   Base your answer to question 2 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

   ...Europe has a set of primary interests which to us have none or a very remote relation. Hence she must be engaged in frequent controversies, the causes of which are essentially foreign to our concerns. Hence, therefore, it must be unwise in us to implicate [connect] ourselves by artificial ties in the ordinary vicissitudes [changes] of her politics or the ordinary combinations and collisions of her friendships or enmities [antagonisms]...
   —President George Washington, Farewell Address, 1796

2. According to the passage, President Washington believed that the United States should
   (1) seek financial aid from European nations
   (2) end all existing European friendships
   (3) avoid involvement in the political disputes of Europe
   (4) discontinue commercial relations with Europe

3. A strict interpretation versus a loose interpretation of the Constitution was most evident in the debate over the
   (1) creation of the Bank of the United States in 1791
   (2) decision to declare war on Great Britain in 1812
   (3) annexation of Florida in 1821
   (4) issuance of the Monroe Doctrine in 1823

4. On the issue of creating a national bank, Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson and Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton differed on whether to
   (1) apply a strict or loose interpretation of the Constitution
   (2) establish a tariff to raise revenue
   (3) use deposits to finance a new navy
   (4) issue loans to farmers

5. Alexander Hamilton’s proposal to create a national bank and Thomas Jefferson’s proposal to purchase the Louisiana Territory were criticized because both actions would
   (1) place too much power in the hands of Congress
   (2) violate protections in the Bill of Rights
   (3) increase foreign influence in the United States
   (4) require a loose interpretation of the Constitution

6. President George Washington pursued a foreign policy of neutrality because
   (1) the United States needed time to gain economic and military strength
   (2) treaties were prohibited by the Constitution
   (3) the United States should not expand by force
   (4) alliances should be established with both France and England
“Hamilton’s plan was to have a national bank while Jefferson opposed it. Jefferson thought that creating a national bank would give the government too much power and was not in the constitution to do so. Hamilton persuaded Washington by saying that it would stimulate the economy. In this comic Washington is holding up a 100 dollar bill emphasizing that the bank is necessary and would benefit the economy. Also, there would be a set currency rather than having different types of money being produced in each state. So it shows the irony I suppose of the whole dilemma.”
Foreign Affairs: Neutrality, Expansion, War, and a Doctrine

Do Now:
“Attempts by Spain to restore its authority at the end of the Napoleonic Wars triggered a series of independence movements in the Spanish colonies. The U.S. recognized the independence of these nations, but feared Spain might try to reconquer them. President Monroe announced the Monroe Doctrine (1823).”
~ The Key to Understanding U.S. History and Government
“The Monroe Doctrine had four main points:
1) The United States would not get involved in European affairs.
2) The United States would not interfere with existing European colonies in the Western Hemisphere.
3) No other nation could form a new colony in the Western Hemisphere.
4) If a European nation tried to control or interfere with a nation in the Western Hemisphere, the United States would view it as a hostile act against this nation.”
~ americaslibrary.gov

Questions:
• What were the circumstances leading to the formulation of the Monroe Doctrine?
• What were its major provisions?
• Why might Latin Americans be concerned about the Monroe Doctrine?

How A Nation Expanded, Defended Itself, and Came to View Itself After Its Revolution:

Washington’s Farewell Address:
“In early 1796, President George Washington decided not to seek reelection for a third term and began drafting his farewell address to the American people. The address went through numerous drafts, in large part due to suggestions made by Alexander Hamilton. In the 32-page handwritten address, Washington urged Americans to avoid excessive political party spirit and geographical distinctions. In foreign affairs, he warned against long-term alliances with other nations.” ~ ourdocuments.gov

Excerpt from Washington’s Farewell Address:
“The great rule of conduct for us in regard to foreign nations is in extending our commercial relations, to have with them as little political connection as possible. So far as we have already formed engagements, let them be fulfilled with perfect good faith. Here let us stop. Europe has a set of primary interests which to us have none; or a very remote relation. Hence she must be engaged in frequent controversies, the causes of which are essentially foreign to our concerns. Hence, therefore, it must be unwise in us to implicate
ourselves by artificial ties in the ordinary vicissitudes of her politics, or the ordinary combinations and collisions of her friendships or enmities.”

**Questions:**

1- What did Washington warn Americans about in his farewell address?

2- How did Washington view Europe?

3- What was Washington’s advice to Americans regarding Europe?

4- What is a policy of avoiding entanglements with other nations called?

5- Do you agree with Washington? Explain your answer.

**Thomas Jefferson and the Louisiana Purchase (1803):**

“During Jefferson’s first term, thousands of American farmers had moved west to the lands between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River. They used the port of New Orleans at the base of the Mississippi River to export much of their produce. The Louisiana Territory had been given to Spain by France at the end of the French and Indian War. Americans became alarmed when it was learned that Spain had transferred the area back to France by the Treaty of San Ildefonso (1800) and that Spanish officials left in control of New Orleans had ended the right of American farmers to use the port (suspension of the ‘right of deposit.’) Jefferson, fearful of a strong and aggressive France as a neighbor and concerned over conflicts concerning the use of New Orleans sent James Monroe and Robert Livingston to France to try to buy New Orleans. Napoleon, burdened with problems in Europe, decided to sell the entire Louisiana Territory to the United States for $15,000,000.

Problems arose when the strict constructionist Jefferson realized that the Constitution did not authorize Congress to purchase territory. Jefferson was forced to modify his constitutional theories because of the importance of the purchase, and in 1803 the treaty was ratified authorizing the purchase, which nearly doubled the size of the United States.”

~ U.S. History and Government

**Questions:**

1- What happened during Jefferson’s first term as President?

2- Why was New Orleans important?

3- Why did Americans become alarmed?

4- What did Jefferson fear?

5- What was Jefferson’s solution?
6- Why was this purchase a problem for Jefferson?

7- What was Jefferson forced to do?

Reading: The War of 1812

“Britain’s defeat at the 1781 Battle of Yorktown marked the conclusion of the American Revolution and the beginning of new challenges for a new nation. Not even three decades after the signing of the Treaty of Paris, which formalized Britain’s recognition of the United States of America, the two countries were again in conflict. Resentment for Britain’s interference with American international trade, combined with American expansionist visions, led Congress to declare war on Great Britain on June 18, 1812.

In the early stages of the war, the American navy scored victories in the Atlantic and on Lake Erie while Britain concentrated its military efforts on its ongoing war with France. But with the defeat of Emperor Napoléon’s armies in April 1814, Britain turned its full attention to the war against an ill-prepared United States.

Angered by British interference with American trade, the young United States was intent on reaffirming its recently won independence. Instead, a series of defeats left Americans anxious and demoralized. They were stunned when, on August 24, 1814, British troops marched into Washington, D.C., and set the Capitol building and White House ablaze. America’s future seemed more uncertain than ever as the British set their sights on Baltimore, Maryland, a vital seaport. On September 13, 1814, British warships began firing bombs and rockets on Fort McHenry, which protected the city’s harbor. The bombardment continued for twenty-five hours while the nation awaited news of Baltimore’s fate.

By the “dawn’s early light” of September 14, 1814, Francis Scott Key, who was aboard a ship several miles distant, could just make out an American flag waving above Fort McHenry. British ships were withdrawing from Baltimore, and Key realized that the United States had survived the battle and stopped the enemy advance. Moved by the sight, he wrote a song celebrating ‘that star-spangled banner’ as a symbol of America’s triumph and endurance.”

~ Smithsonian.com

Questions:

1- State the participants and causes of the War of 1812?

2- Why were Americans scoring victories in the early part of the war?

3- What British action stunned the Americans?

4- What was the outcome of the war?
1. Our true policy is to steer clear of permanent alliances ...."  
~George Washington

President Washington made this statement to warn against United States involvement in
(1) European military conflicts
(2) international trade
(3) the race for overseas colonies
(4) westward expansion

2. President George Washington pursued a foreign policy of neutrality during his administration primarily because he believed that
(1) the United States needed time to gain economic and military strength
(2) treaties were prohibited by the Constitution
(3) the United States should not expand by force
(4) alliances should be established with both France and England

3. The legal basis for the United States purchase of the Louisiana Territory was the
(1) power granted to the President to make treaties
(2) President’s power as Commander in Chief
(3) authority of Congress to declare war
(4) Senate’s duty to approve the appointment of ambassadors

4. The Louisiana Purchase had great geographic significance for the United States because it
(1) reduced British control of North America
(2) focused the United States on westward expansion

5. When President Thomas Jefferson acquired the Louisiana Territory from France, he demonstrated that he had modified his belief that
(1) the Constitution should be strictly interpreted
(2) the federal government should limit individual rights
(3) adding territory would lead to regional rivalries
(4) commercial development was the main goal of the federal government

6. Which geographic advantage did the United States gain by purchasing the Louisiana Territory from France in 1803?
(1) warm-water ports on the Atlantic coast
(2) rich fishing areas in the Great Lakes
(3) full control of the Mississippi River
(4) vast coal reserves in the region west of Pennsylvania

7. The Louisiana Purchase initially presented a dilemma for President Thomas Jefferson because he believed it would
(1) lead to war with Great Britain
(2) bankrupt the new nation
(3) force Native American Indians off their lands
(4) violate his strict constructionist view of the Constitution

8. The Monroe Doctrine declared that the United States would
(1) prevent the establishment of new European colonies anywhere in the world
(2) view European interference in the Americas as a threat to the national interest of USA
Analyze the following images:

**Image 1:**
- Uncle Sam is depicted holding a baton labeled "Monroe Doctrine".
- South America is shown beneath the baton.

**Image 2:**
- Uncle Sam is standing in front of a sign that reads "Monroe Doctrine".
- South American countries are depicted looking up at Uncle Sam.

**Text:**
"Uncle—The bars will stand as long as you are good."
Document Reading:
Meriwether Lewis, Excerpt from “Report to Thomas Jefferson” (1806).

“We view this passage across the continent as affording immense advantages to the fur trade, but fear that the advantages which it offers as a communication for the productions of the East Indies to the United States and thence to Europe will never be found equal on an extensive scale to that by way of the Cape of Good Hope; still we believe that many articles not bull-y, brittle nor of a very perishable nature may be conveyed to the United States by this route with more facility and at less expense than by that at present practiced.

If the government will only aid, even if in a very limited manner, the enterprise of her citizens I am fully convinced that we shall shortly derive the benefits of a most lucrative trade from this source, and that in the course of ten or twelve years a tour across the continent by the route mentioned will be undertaken by individuals with as little concern as a voyage across the Atlantic is as present.”

[Lewis and Clark Expedition, (1804–06): “U.S. military expedition, led by Captain Meriwether Lewis and Lieutenant William Clark, to explore the Louisiana Purchase and the Pacific Northwest. The expedition was a major chapter in the history of American exploration.” ~ Britannica]

Questions:
1- State two important points from the passage?

2- What do Lewis and Clark conclude about the role of the government and the benefits that can be gained from the territory?