AP US History Chapter 9

The Confederation and the Constitution, 1776-1790

Theme: The federal Constitution represented a moderately conservative reaction against the democratic and decentralizing effects of the Revolution and the Articles of Confederation.

Theme: The American Revolution was not a radical transformation like the French or Russian revolutions, but it did produce political innovations and some social change in the direction of greater equality and democracy.

Summary: The American Revolution did not overturn the social order, but it did produce substantial changes in social customs, political institutions, and ideas about society and government. Among the changes were the separation of church and state in some places, the abolition of slavery in the North, written political constitutions, and a shift in political power from the eastern seaboard toward the frontier.

The first weak national government, the Articles of Confederation, was unable to exercise real authority, although it did successfully deal with the western lands issue. The confederation's weaknesses in handling foreign policy, commerce and the Shays Rebellion spurred the movement to alter the Articles.

Instead of revising the Articles, the well-off delegates to the Constitutional Convention created a charter for a whole new government. In a series of compromises, the convention produced a plan that provided for a vigorous central government, a strong executive, and protection for property, while still upholding republican principles and states' rights.

The federalists met strong opposition form antifederalists, especially in Virginia and New York, but through effective organization and argument, they succeeded in getting the Constitution ratified. By establishing the new national government, the federalists checked the Revolutionary movement, but their conservative regime embraced the central Revolutionary values of popular republican government.

A. Read Chapter 9

B. Key Terms
Society of the Cincinnati
Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom
antislavery societies
Articles of Confederation
Northwest Ordinances of 1785, 1787
Shay's Rebellion
Constitutional Convention
James Madison

Great Compromise
"three-fifths" Compromise
checks and balances
The Federalist
Alexander Hamilton
John Jay
Bill of Rights

C. Key Questions

- 1. How were **women**, **and African-Americans** affected by the ideas of the American Revolution? Why was slavery abolished in the North but not in the entire nation?
- 2. What were the basic features of the new **constitution**, and how did they differ from the government under the Articles of Confederation?
- 3. Who were the **federalists and the antifederalists**, what were the issues that divided them, why did the federalists "win"?
- 4. In Chapters 4 & 5, the basic structure of early American **society and economy** was described. How did that structure affect the political developments during the period from the Revolution to the Constitution? How did the Revolution and the Constitution affect issues of social structure, economic equality, and the distribution of power?

Identification Supply the correct identification for each numbered description. 1. New name of the Anglican church after it was disestablished and de-Anglicized in Virginia and elsewhere 2. The idea that American women had special responsibility to cultivate "civic virtue" in their children 3. A type of special assembly, originally developed in Massachusetts, for drawing up a fundamental law that would be superior to ordinary law 4. The first constitutional government of the United States 5. The territory north of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi governed by the acts of 1785 and 1787 6. One-square mile areas, thirty-six of which composed a township, with one area set aside for the support of schools 7. The status of a western area under the Northwest Ordinance after it established an organized government but before it became a state 8. A failed revolt in 1786 by poor debtor farmers that raised fears of "mobocracy" _9. The plan proposed by Virginia at the Constitutional Convention for a bicameral legislature with representation based on population 10. the plan proposed by New Jersey for a unicameral legislature with equal representation of states regardless of size and population 11. The compromise between North and south that resulted in each slave being counted as 60 percent of a free person for purposes of representation 12. The opponents of the Constitution who argued against creating such a strong central government 13. A masterly series of pro-Constitution articles printed in New York by Jay, madison and Hamilton 14. The official under the new Constitution who would be commander in chief of the armed forces, appoint judges and other officials and have the power to veto legislation __15. A list of guarantees that federalists promised to add to the Constitution in order to win ratification **Putting Things in Order** Put the following events in correct order by numbering them 1 to 10 Fifty-five "demigods" meet secretly in Philadelphia to draft a new charter of government

Putting Things in Order Put the following events in correct order by numbering them 1 to 10 _____ Fifty-five "demigods" meet secretly in Philadelphia to draft a new charter of government ____ The first American national government, more a league of states than a real government goes into effect ____ At the request of Congress, the states draft new constitutions based on the authority of the people ____ The Constitution is ratified by the nine states necessary to put it into effect ____ Debtor farmers fail in rebellion, setting off conservative fears and demands for a stronger government to control anarchy

Matching People, Places and Events

Match the person, place or event in the left column with the proper description in the right column by inserting the correct letter on the blank line.

1.	Society of the Cincinnati
2.	Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom
3.	Articles of Confederation
4.	Northwest Ordinance of 1787
5	Day of Algiers

____5. Day of Algiers

____6. Daniel Shays

_____7. George Washington

8. James Madison

9. federalists

____10. antifederalists

____11. Patrick Henry

____12. Alexander Hamilton

____13. John Jay

14. Massachusetts

15. New York

- **A.** Group that failed to block the central government they feared but did force the promise of a bill of rights
- **B.** Father of the Constitution and author of *Federalist* No. 10
- C. an exclusive order of military officers that aroused strong democratic opposition
- **D.** Wealthy conservatives devoted to republicanism who engineered a nonviolent political transformation
- **E.** Legislation passed by an alliance of Jefferson and the Baptists that disestablished the Anglican church
- **F.** War veteran who led poor farmers in a revolt that failed but had far-reaching consequences
- **G.** North African leader who took advantage off the weakness of the articles of Confederation to attack American shipping
- **H.** The only state to allow a direct vote to the Constitution
- **I.** Frustrated foreign affairs secretary under the articles; one of the three authors of *The Federalist*
- **J.** Legislation that provided for the orderly transformation of western territories into states
- **K.** First key states where federalists won by a narrow margin over the opposition of anti federalist Sam Adams
- **L.** Virginia antifederalist leader who thought the Constitution spelled the end of liberty and equality
- **M.** Unanimously elected chairman of the secret convention of "demigods"
- **N.** Young New Yorker who argued eloquently for the Constitution even though he favored an even stronger central government
- O. Document of 1781 that was pot out of business by the New Constitution

Matching Cause and Effect

Cause
1. The American Revolution
2. Agreement among states to give up western land claims
3. The weakness of the Articles of Confederation
4. Shay's Rebellion
5. The conflict in the Constitutional Convention between large and small states
6. The North-South conflict in the Constitutional Convention over counting slaves
for representation
7. A meeting in Annapolis to discuss revising the Articles of Confederation
8. Antifederalist fears that the Constitution would destroy liberties
9. The Federalist and fears that New York would be left out of the Union
10. The disestablishment of the Anglican church

Effect

- A. Forced acceptance of the "Three-fifths Compromise," counting each slave as three-fifths of a person for purposes of representation.
- B. Made federalists promise to add a bill of rights to the Constitution
- C. Nearly bankrupted the national government and invited assaults on American interests by foreign powers
- D. Laid the basis for the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom.
- E. Brought about somewhat greater social and economic equality and the virtual end of slavery in the North
- F. Finally brought New York to ratify the Constitution by a narrow margin
- G. Issued a call to Congress for a special convention to revise the Articles of Confederation
- H. Forced the adoption of the "Great Compromise," which required a bicameral legislature with two different bases of representation
- I. Scared conservatives and made them determined to strengthen the central government against debtors
- J. Made possible the approval of the Articles of Confederation and the passage of two important laws governing western lands.

 Answers:

Identification:	People, Places, Events	Putting Things in Order
 Protestant Episcopal Church 	1. C	4, 2, 1, 5, 3
2. republican motherhood	2. E	
3. Constitutional Convention	3. O	Matching Cause and Effect
4. Articles of Confederation	4. J	1. E
5. Old Northwest	5. G	2. J
6. sections	6. F	3. C
7. territory	7. M	4. I
8. Shay's Rebellion	8. B	5. H
9. large-state plan	9. D	6. A
10. small-state plan	10. A	7. G
11. Three-fifths Compromise	11. L	8. B
12. antifederalists	12. N	9. F
13. The Federalist	13. I	10. D
14. president	14. K	
15. Bill of Rights	15. H	