

## **C-NOTES: CONSTITUTION HIGHLIGHTS (Chapter 7)**

**Analyze the significant events leading up to and taking place during the Constitutional Convention.**

<b>Articles of Confederation (A/C)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ First American constitution in 1777, created loose <u>alliance</u> of 13 independent states</li> <li>◆ A/C was <u>weak</u> by design—the people did <u>NOT</u> trust a strong central government (feared another Parliament or king)</li> </ul>
<b>Weaknesses of the A/C</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Each state had only <u>one vote</u> in Congress</li> <li>◆ Compared to the states, Congress had very <u>limited powers</u>: It could declare war, appoint military officers, and coin money</li> <li>◆ Laws must be approved by <u>9 of 13 states</u></li> <li>◆ Congress could <u>not control trade</u> between states or with foreign countries</li> <li>◆ Congress had to ask states for money—it had <u>no authority to collect taxes</u></li> <li>◆ <u>Single branch</u> of government (legislative branch): <u>No president</u> (executive branch) to carry out laws passed by Congress <u>No national court system</u> (judicial branch) to settle disputes between states</li> </ul>
<b>One Success of the A/C</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <u>Northwest Ordinance</u> (NWO) set up a government in 1787 for the <u>Northwest Territory</u> (lands north of Ohio River and east of Mississippi River)</li> <li>◆ Highlights: NWO <u>outlawed slavery</u>, allowed territory to be subdivided (to create future states), population of <u>60,000 free settlers</u> could apply for statehood, and each new state received the <u>same privileges as the original 13 states</u></li> </ul>
<b>Shays' Rebellion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ In 1786, farmers in MA protest to prevent the state from seizing farms for unpaid loans</li> <li>◆ Event signaled that A/C did <u>NOT</u> work to solve the national debt nor organize militia</li> </ul>
<b>Constitutional Convention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ May to September 1787 in <u>Philadelphia, PA</u> (all states sent delegates except RI)</li> <li>◆ <u>Original goal</u>: Revise the A/C (Articles of Confederation)</li> </ul>
<b>Leading Delegates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <u>Benjamin Franklin</u> (oldest at 81), <u>George Washington</u> (elected <u>president</u> of the convention), <u>Alexander Hamilton</u>, and <u>James Madison</u> ("<u>Father of the Constitution</u>") (Absent: Thomas Jefferson was in France at the time)</li> </ul>
<b>Virginia Plan (Proposed Plan 1)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Supported by <u>large</u> states</li> <li>◆ Called for <u>strong national government</u> with <u>three branches</u>: <u>legislative</u> (pass laws), <u>executive</u> (carry out laws), and <u>judicial</u> (interpret laws)</li> <li>◆ Legislative branch has <u>two houses</u>—seats in both awarded on the basis of <u>population</u></li> <li>◆ Larger states have <u>more representatives</u> (and <u>more power</u>) than smaller states</li> </ul>
<b>New Jersey Plan (Proposed Plan 2)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Supported by <u>small</u> states</li> <li>◆ Also proposed <u>three branches</u> of government</li> <li>◆ Legislative branch has <u>only one house</u>—each state has <u>only one vote</u>, regardless of <u>size</u> (<u>similar to A/C</u>)</li> <li>◆ Power would be <u>equal</u> among all the states</li> <li>◆ National government has power to <u>collect taxes</u> and <u>regulate trade</u> (<u>NOT part of A/C</u>)</li> </ul>
<b>Great Compromise (1 + 2 = Solution!)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Two houses of Congress</li> <li>◆ <u>Senate</u>: Each state has two members (supported by <u>small</u> states)</li> <li>◆ <u>House (of Representatives)</u>: Based on state's population (supported by <u>large</u> states)</li> </ul>

<b>Three-Fifths Compromise</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Another disagreement over representation in Congress</li> <li>◆ <u>Southern states</u> wanted <u>slaves</u> included in their population count (if slaves not counted, <u>northern states</u> would have more members in the House)</li> <li>◆ Delegates agreed to let the South count <u>three-fifths</u> (3 out of every 5) of the slaves</li> <li>◆ Slave trade could <u>NOT be outlawed for at least 20 years</u></li> </ul>
<b>Ratification</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <u>Nine out of 13</u> states had to ratify (<u>approve</u>) the Constitution for it to go into effect (<u>First</u> to ratify: Delaware) (<u>Last</u> to ratify: Rhode Island)</li> </ul>
<b>Federalists</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <u>Supporters of the Constitution</u> who favored a strong federal (national) government</li> <li>◆ Believed the Constitution still protected the rights and powers of the individual states</li> </ul>
<b><i>The Federalist Papers</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Written by <u>James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay</u> to explain and defend the Constitution</li> </ul>
<b>Antifederalists</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <u>Opposed the Constitution</u> because it had <u>no bill of rights</u>—needed to protect basic liberties (such as freedoms of speech and religion)</li> <li>◆ Three <u>problems</u>: It made the national government too strong, left the states too weak, and gave the President too much power</li> <li>◆ Remember: <b>A-B-C ... Antifederalists</b> want a <b>Bill of Rights</b> for the <b>Constitution!!</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bill of Rights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Written by <u>James Madison</u></li> <li>◆ Added by the <u>amendment</u> process (12 proposed/10 added)</li> <li>◆ First ten amendments to <u>prevent the kind of abuses</u> Americans suffered under British rule and to <u>protect individual freedoms</u> (such as religion, speech, and press)</li> </ul>
<b>End of Notes</b>	
<b>Social Studies DA</b>	<p><b>Monday, 17 November 2014</b>  How do I prepare? <b>Notebook Pages 8</b> (UNIT 1), <b>16</b> (UNIT 2), and <b>18</b> (CONSTITUTION)</p>
<b>Chapter 7 Test</b>	<p><b>Thursday, 20 November 2014</b>  <b>Chapter 7 Review</b> due on same day for Daily Grade</p>