

The Quiet Revolution

A. Read the first set of letters and answer the following questions.

1. Who wrote these letters?
2. When were they written?
3. What do all three letters have in common?

B. Read the Articles of Confederation and answer the following questions.

1. Why were the Articles of Confederation written?
2. List familiar phrases/words you find while reading.
3. Describe the Congress under the Articles.
4. What were some of the causes of the American Revolution? How do you think these causes influenced what our first government could and could not do?
5. How does the federal government under the Articles get money?

C. Read the excerpt from Hamilton's letter and answer the following questions.

1. What power, ultimately, "must rule" according to Hamilton? (holds the purse)
2. What group(s) have that power under the articles? (state legislatures)
3. What does Hamilton propose be done? A convention to change the articles must be held.
4. The delegates held a convention and did something much more radical that change the Articles, does anyone know what they did?

D. Read Article I, section 8 of the Constitution and answer the following questions.

1. What is the first power given to Congress in the Constitution? (taxation, talk about how b/c it is first it is the most important)
2. Would Hamilton agree with the way this document is written? (probably, strengthens the federal power and gives congress taxation powers)
3. Why do you think the power of taxation was not included in the Articles? (just fought a war to end unfair taxation)

Exit Slip Question – Should the government's power to tax be unlimited?