

ATTACHMENT 1A

Nikki Shrader

Articles of Confederation Analysis

TAH Module 1

Directions: Using a copy of the Articles of Confederation, answer the following questions. Your group can work together to discover the answers, but each of you will turn in your own copy.

Common Questions:

1. When were the Articles of Confederation written?
2. When were the Articles of Confederation ratified?
3. Hypothesize at least one reason for the large gap in time between the writing and the ratification of the Articles.
4. Which level of government seems to have all of the power, according to the Articles you read?
5. Incorporating what you remember from US History class, explain *WHY* you think the government was set up in this way?
6. What is one potential problem you see with this set up?

Preamble through Articles I-III

1. What is the name of the new nation?
2. In Article 2, who retains sovereignty?
**Vocab Review!—What is sovereignty?
3. What, exactly, have states entered into?
4. Under what circumstances will the states uphold their agreement from #3?

Articles IV and V

1. Why are all inhabitants “entitled to all privileges and immunities...in several states”?
2. Define “ingress” and “regress”.
3. Can the United States be taxed by the states?
4. What happens to a fugitive from justice if they’re caught in another state?
5. How does the fugitive policy demonstrate a “firm league of friendship”?
6. Do we still abide by any of these policies, listed in Article 4?
7. Who chooses members of Congress? Who “controls” members of Congress?
8. What are the term limits of Congress?
9. Who solves problems when they arise in Congress?
10. Can someone get arrested while serving their term in Congress?

Articles VI

1. What are the restrictions on states in the first part of Article 6?
2. What can you infer about the balance of power between Congress and the states, based on section 2 of Article 6?
3. Why would France and Spain be specifically mentioned in section 3?
4. What can states **not** have? What shall they **always** have?
5. Can states go to war? If so, under what conditions?
6. If you were a state governor, how would you perceive your power, according to the last paragraph? Offer at least 1 quote for support.

Articles VII and VIII

1. What is the main message of Article 7?
2. What is a possible explanation for *why* Article 7 was necessary?
3. Where does the money for war come from?
4. How much money are states supposed to contribute to Congress?
5. Who must enforce the collection of taxes?
6. Is there a provision for the failure of the states to contribute? Predict the outcome if states fail to contribute to the war fund.

Article 9 Part 1

1. Who determines peace and war?
2. Who enters into treaties? When can Congress *not* enter into a treaty?
3. What can you infer about the *real* power holder in foreign affairs from the first paragraph?
4. Who decides boundary disputes between the states?
5. The rest of the second paragraph is very long, and gives extremely elaborate directions for how disputes are to be settled. What does this tell you about the level of trust between the 13 states and the Congress?

Article 9 Part 2

1. Who sets the value of money, and regulates trade?
2. Discuss the pros and cons of having Congress in charge of all military action. Provide at least one pro and one con.
3. Paragraph 2 of this section is very long. How would you generalize the essential purpose of this Article? (Hint: focus early)
4. How many states must agree for Congress to approve any of the listed actions? What criticisms can be made of this provision?
5. Using the last paragraph, explain how Congress would “justify” their actions to the states?

Articles 10-13

1. How many states are on the committee? When does the committee meet?
2. Why is Article 10 necessary?
3. Who is being invited to join the United States in Article 11? How is Canada connected to the newly independent United States? (Provide at least 2 non-geographical answers)
4. Use your answers to # 1-3 in the “common questions” section to analyze article 12. What is the value in the new nation officially taking on the old debts that had been around for several years?
5. When can the Articles of Confederation be altered?
6. Think back to the Revolutionary War and ideas about power from the original Founding Fathers. Which of those supports and validates this provision? What is the most significant *problem* with this system of amendment?