

HOW DID THE US CONSTITUTION ADDRESS THE WEAKNESSES OF THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION?

SS.7.C.1.5

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: The Articles of Confederation had six major weaknesses. The U.S. Constitution was written to replace the Articles of Confederation and address the weaknesses. Below are six excerpts from the U.S. Constitution. Read each excerpt and summarize the main idea on the lines below. Then, match each excerpt with the weakness from the Articles of Confederation that it addresses.

Six Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation:

1. No central leadership (executive branch)
2. Congress had no power to tax
3. No national court system (judicial branch)
4. Congress had no power to enforce its laws
5. Congress had no power to regulate trade
6. Changes to the Articles required unanimous consent of 13 states

U.S. CONSTITUTION EXCERPTS

Article 1, Section 8: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, ... to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the Unites States;

Summary

Weakness Addressed

Article 1, Section 8: The Congress shall have Power... To regulate Commerce foreign Nations, and among the several States

Summary

Weakness Addressed

Article II, Section 3:...he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed...

Summary

Weakness Addressed

Article III, Section 1: The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish.

Summary

Weakness Addressed

Article II, Section 1: The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America.

Summary

Weakness Addressed

Article V: The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution...

Summary

Weakness Addressed

