

Name: _____

Date: _____

The First American Government

1. Define constitution: a written plan of government
2. List two reasons why Americans wanted a written constitution.
 - (1) limit the power of the government
 - (2) clearly list the people's rights
3. What is the purpose of a bill of rights?
to list the rights the gov't promises to protect
4. What did Americans name their first constitution in 1777?
ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION
5. Answer the following questions about the Articles of Confederation. Keep in mind that this government only had one branch of government - Congress
 - A. How many votes did each state have in Congress?
one
 - B. How many states were needed to pass a law?
9 out of 13
 - C. What were the four main powers of Congress?
 - (1) declare war
 - (2) coin money
 - (3) appoint military officers
 - (4) deal with foreign affairs
 - D. Who was the leader of the government under the Articles of Confederation?
There was no leader
 - E. There were two very important powers that Congress did NOT have. What were they?
 - (1) no power to tax
 - (2) no power over the states