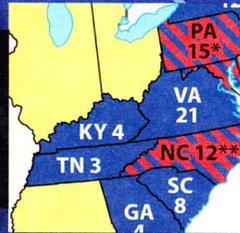


There's More Online!

- ✓ BIOGRAPHY Alexander Hamilton
- ✓ BIOGRAPHY George Washington
- ✓ BIOGRAPHY Thomas Jefferson
- ✓ MAP Louisiana Purchase
- ✓ VIDEO The Young Republic
- ✓ INTERACTIVE SELF-CHECK QUIZ



## LESSON 2

# The Young Republic

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS • *What characteristics define a society?*  
 • *Why do people form governments?* • *How should societies settle disputes?*

### IT MATTERS BECAUSE

Soon after the American Revolution, political problems prompted Congress to seek revisions to the Articles of Confederation. In response, the Constitution was drafted and the emergence of a new federal government—and political parties—began.

#### Reading HELPDESK



#### Academic Vocabulary

- framework • revenue

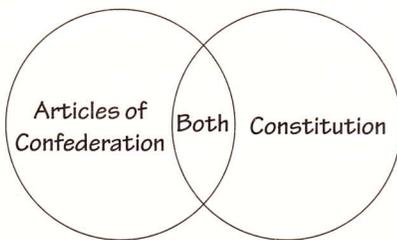
#### Content Vocabulary

- separation of powers
- enumerated powers
- implied powers

#### TAKING NOTES:

##### Key Ideas and Details

**Comparing and Contrasting** As you read the lesson, use a graphic organizer like the one below to compare and contrast the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution.



## Establishing the American Republic

**GUIDING QUESTION** *How did the constitutions created during the Revolutionary War attempt to limit the power of government and protect the rights of citizens?*

The leaders who created the United States of America knew that they were creating something new. They made a deliberate choice to replace royal rule with a republic. In a republic, power is held by citizens who are entitled to vote. Elected officials are responsible to the citizens and must govern according to laws or a constitution.

### Political Ideas of the New Nation

In an ideal republic, all citizens are equal under the law, regardless of their wealth or social class. These ideas contradicted traditional practices that restricted the rights of many people on the basis of their race, class, or gender. Despite these contradictions, republican ideas began to change American society. By the end of the Revolution, each state had drawn up its own written constitution. Many, based on the models of Massachusetts and Virginia, called for separate branches of government, two-house legislatures, and a list of rights guaranteed to citizens.

### The Articles of Confederation

Initially adopted in 1777 during the Revolution, the Articles of Confederation were ratified in 1781, formally establishing the **framework** for a central national government. The Articles loosely unified the states under a single governing body, the Congress. There were no separate branches of government, and Congress had only limited powers. After fighting to free themselves from British rule, the states did not want a new government that might become tyrannical.

Under the Articles, each state had one vote in Congress. Congress's power, however, was limited. It could negotiate with other nations, raise armies, and declare war, but had no authority to regulate trade or impose taxes. Congress could not raise enough money to pay its debts or expenses.

**READING PROGRESS CHECK**

**Describing** How did the republic established by the United States differ from Britain's government?

## The U.S. Constitution

**GUIDING QUESTION** What are the key compromises and provisions incorporated in the U.S. Constitution?

The young United States faced several political and economic problems after the end of the American Revolution. Many American leaders believed that the new nation would not survive without a strong national government and that the Articles of Confederation had to be revised.

In May 1787, 55 of the most distinguished leaders in the United States met in Philadelphia to discuss weaknesses in the Articles of Confederation. They soon decided that a new form of government was needed. All the delegates supported a national government with the power to levy taxes and make laws that would be binding upon the states. The delegates also accepted the idea of dividing the government into executive, legislative, and judicial branches.

### Debate and Compromise

Debate arose about how each state should be represented in the legislative branch. The larger states insisted that representation be based on population; smaller states wanted each state to have an equal vote. The convention appointed a special committee to find a compromise. Benjamin Franklin warned the delegates that if they failed to agree, they would "become a reproach and a by-word down to future ages. And what is worse, mankind may hereafter, from this unfortunate instance, despair of establishing governments by human wisdom, and leave it to chance, war, and conquest."

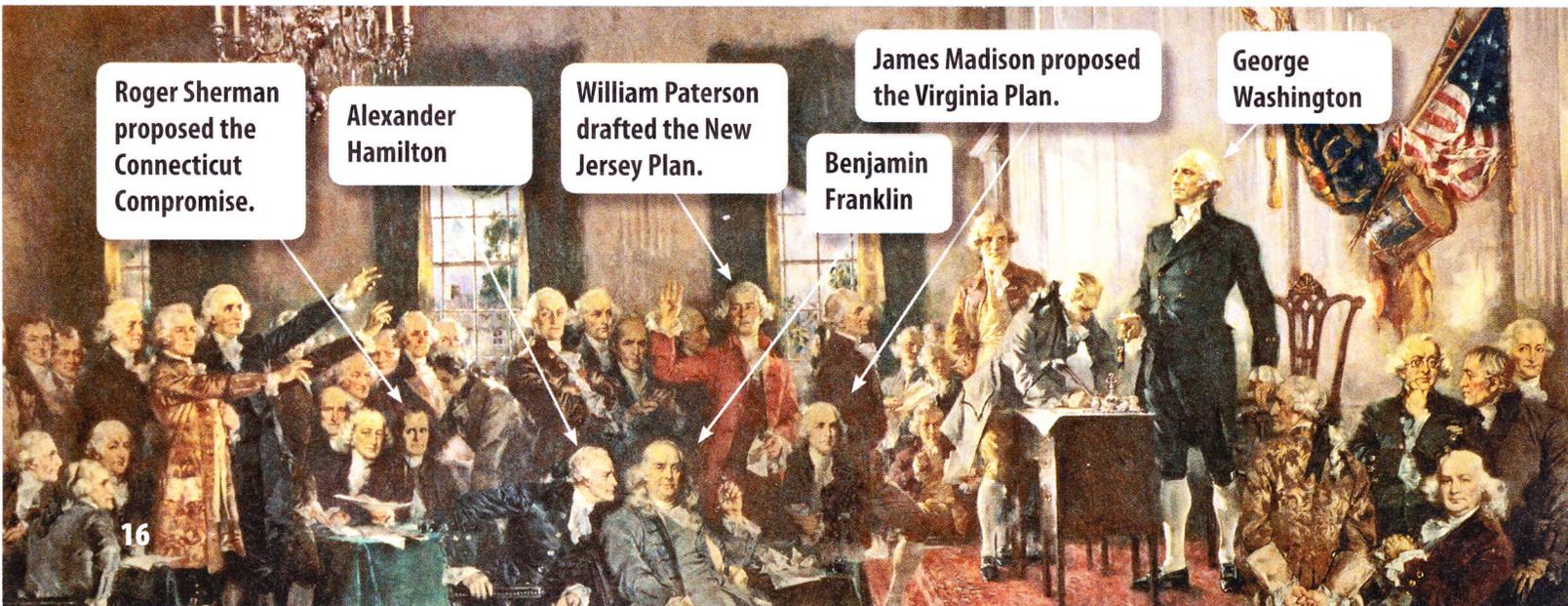
Roger Sherman of Connecticut suggested the basis of the committee's solution. The legislature would be divided into two houses. In the House of Representatives, the number of a state's representatives would depend on its population. In the Senate, each state would have equal representation. Voters in each state would elect the members of the House of Representatives, but the state legislatures would choose the senators. This proposal came to be known as the Connecticut Compromise, or the Great Compromise.

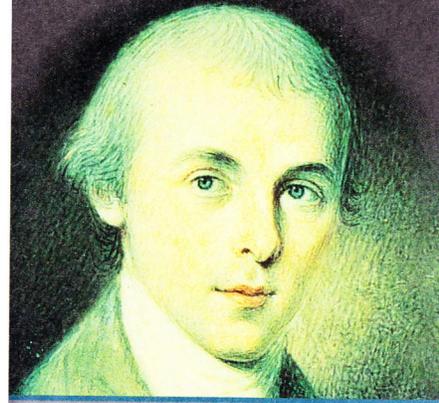
Delegates at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, 1787

**CRITICAL THINKING**

- 1 **Making Inferences** Why do you think Benjamin Franklin is pictured in the middle of this painting?
- 2 **Describing** How does the artist portray Washington's role at the convention?

PHOTO: The Granger Collection, New York





**James Madison**  
(1751–1836)

Although many individuals contributed to the framing of the U.S. Constitution, James Madison proposed the Virginia Plan, which defined a separation of powers between the legislative, executive, and judicial branches. He was a leader in the First United States Congress and was responsible for the first 10 amendments of the Constitution, known as the Bill of Rights. In 1808 he was elected the fourth president of the United States.

#### ► CRITICAL THINKING

**Drawing Conclusions** Why do you think it is important to have a separation of powers?

The Connecticut Compromise sparked a fresh controversy: whether to count enslaved people when determining how many representatives each state would have in the House of Representatives. Southern delegates wanted to count enslaved people. Northern delegates objected, pointing out that enslaved people could not vote. The matter was settled by the Three-Fifths Compromise. Every five enslaved persons would count as three free persons for determining both representation and taxation. In another compromise, the delegates dealt with the power of Congress to regulate trade, agreeing that the new Congress could not tax exports. They also agreed that it could not ban the slave trade until 1808.

### Framework of Government

Next, the delegates focused on the details of the new government. The government was based on the principle of popular sovereignty, or rule by the people. It created a representative system of government in which elected officials speak for the people. To strengthen the central government but still preserve the rights of the states, the Constitution describes a system known as federalism. Under federalism, power is divided between the national and state governments.

The Constitution also provides for a **separation of powers** by dividing power between three branches of government: the legislative branch, which makes laws; the executive branch, which implements and enforces the laws, among other duties; and the judicial branch, which interprets federal laws and renders judgment in cases involving those laws. A system of checks and balances prevents any one of the three branches from becoming too powerful. Each branch has some ability to limit the power of the other two.

The success of the Constitutional Convention in creating a government that reflected the country's many viewpoints was, in Washington's words, "little short of a miracle." The convention, John Adams declared, was "the greatest single effort of national deliberation that the world has ever seen."

### Ratification and the Bill of Rights

On September 28, Congress voted to submit the Constitution to the states, each of which would hold a convention to ratify, or approve, it. Nine states had to vote to approve the Constitution for it to go into effect.

Debate over whether the Constitution should be ratified took place everywhere. One group, the Federalists, supported the Constitution because it established a more powerful national government. Another group, called Anti-Federalists, were determined to protect the states' powers. Some also wanted a bill of rights added to the Constitution guaranteeing individual freedoms such as freedom of speech, press, and religion, and freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures.

On December 7, 1787, Delaware became the first state to ratify the Constitution. Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, and Connecticut quickly followed. On June 21, 1788, New Hampshire became the ninth state to ratify the Constitution, assuring that the new Constitution would be put into effect. Two states, however, still had not ratified the Constitution. North Carolina waited until a bill of rights had been proposed, and Rhode Island was still nervous about losing its independence. After both states were satisfied, all the states had ratified the Constitution by May 1790. The United States now had a new government.

#### ✓ READING PROGRESS CHECK

**Explaining** Why did the Anti-Federalists oppose the ratification of the Constitution?

**separation of powers**  
government principle in which power is divided among different branches

# The Rise of Political Parties

**GUIDING QUESTION** Why did political parties emerge in the new republic, and what were the consequences?

George Washington served as the first president under the new Constitution. Congress created three executive departments and organized the judicial branch. Washington appointed the heads of the executive departments, including Thomas Jefferson as secretary of state and Alexander Hamilton as secretary of the treasury.

## Jefferson and Hamilton

One of the new government's most pressing concerns involved the national debt. Hamilton proposed a plan to pay off the debt and to create a national bank to manage the country's finances. Jefferson, James Madison, and others opposed the plan, arguing that Congress could not establish a bank because it was not among the federal government's **enumerated powers** specifically listed in the Constitution. Hamilton disagreed, stating that the bank was among the **implied powers**—not explicitly listed in the Constitution but necessary for the government to do its job. Hamilton eventually won approval for his program, and the Bank of the United States was established in 1791.

That same year, Congress enacted a tax on whiskey, to bring in much-needed **revenue**. The tax infuriated many. Some western Pennsylvania farmers resisted tax collectors and destroyed the whiskey stills of those who paid the tax. In August 1794, Washington sent nearly 13,000 troops to put down what was called the Whiskey Rebellion.

The debate over Hamilton's financial program divided Congress into rival political parties. The Federalists supported Hamilton's plans and a strong national government. The Democratic-Republicans, led by Jefferson and Madison, favored a limited federal government and more power for the states.

### enumerated powers

powers listed in the Constitution as belonging to the federal government

### implied powers

powers not specifically listed in the Constitution but claimed by the federal government

**revenue** the total income produced by a given source

## GEOGRAPHY CONNECTION

The election of 1800 was a major turning point in American political history because it was the first transfer of power between political parties under the federal Constitution.

- 1 THE WORLD IN SPATIAL TERMS** Which states were split in their choice for president?
- 2 PLACES AND REGIONS** What region of the country primarily supported Jefferson?

## The Election of 1800

Washington's successor was fellow Federalist John Adams. A series of unpopular taxes and laws passed during his first term gave Adams a disadvantage in seeking reelection in 1800. The Democratic-Republican nominees were Jefferson for president and Aaron Burr for vice president.

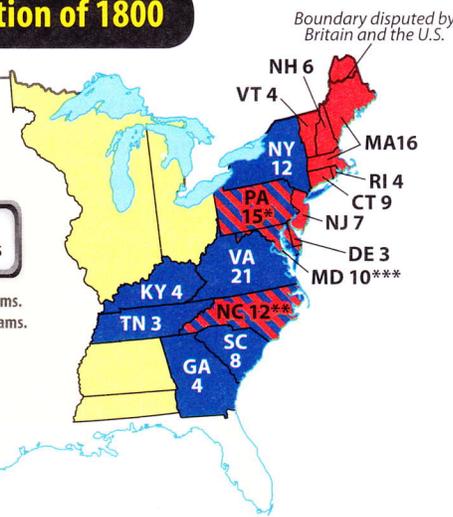
Under the Constitution, each state chooses electors—the same number as it has representatives and senators. This group, the Electoral College, then votes for the president. In 1800 each elector was to vote for two people of their choice for president, even if one were nominated for vice president.



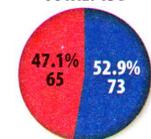
## Presidential Election of 1800



\* Eight electors in Pennsylvania voted for Jefferson and seven for Adams.  
 \*\* Eight electors in North Carolina voted for Jefferson and four for Adams.  
 \*\*\* Five electors in Maryland voted for Jefferson and five for Adams.



ELECTORAL VOTE  
TOTAL: 138



NOTE: In most states, electors were chosen by the state legislature, not by popular vote.

When the votes were counted, the Federalist candidates had lost and Jefferson and Burr were tied at 73 votes each. Since neither had a majority, the House of Representatives had to choose a president and chose Jefferson.

### **READING PROGRESS CHECK**

**Explaining** Why did Jefferson and others oppose Hamilton's financial program?

## The Nineteenth Century Begins

**GUIDING QUESTION** *How did the United States assert itself as an independent nation?*

President Jefferson attempted to limit federal powers and helped expand the size of the country. Later, the United States faced war with Britain.

### Jefferson in Office

Thomas Jefferson took office committed to limiting government. He began paying off federal debt, cut government spending, eliminated the hated whiskey tax, and planned to rely on local militia instead of a standing army.

Weakening the Federalists' control of the judiciary was another aim of the new administration. On his last day in office, President Adams had appointed dozens of new Federalist judges and court officers. Jefferson asked the incoming Democratic-Republican Congress to abolish some of the new positions and to withhold the paperwork confirming other appointments. One of those who did not receive his documents, William Marbury, took the matter to the Supreme Court. The Court sympathized with Marbury but ruled in 1803 that it could not issue an enforcement order. According to Chief Justice John Marshall and his colleagues, the law that authorized the Court to write such orders actually was unconstitutional and invalid. The decision established the Court's power of judicial review—the power to declare laws unconstitutional and invalid.

### Westward Expansion

Under Jefferson, the size of the country increased considerably. The Treaty of Paris of 1783 had already established the Mississippi River as the nation's western border. After the defeat of Native Americans in the Northwest Territory and the Treaty of Greenville in 1795, more settlers poured into the region. During Washington's term, Kentucky and Tennessee had become states, and Ohio followed in 1803.

In 1800 Spain had given Louisiana back to France. To finance his plans for European conquest, the French leader, Napoleon Bonaparte, now offered to sell all of the Louisiana Territory, as well as New Orleans, to the United States. Congress overwhelmingly approved the Louisiana Purchase on April 30, 1803. The United States paid \$11.25 million and also agreed to take on French debts of about \$3.75 million owed to U.S. citizens. With the purchase, the nation had more than doubled its size.

Even before Louisiana became part of the United States, Jefferson had asked Congress to fund a secret expedition into the Louisiana Territory. After receiving approval from Congress, Jefferson chose Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to lead the expedition. During their explorations, they found a path through the Rocky Mountains and eventually reached the Pacific Ocean.

## Analyzing SUPREME COURT CASES



### Marbury v. Madison

William Marbury based his request for a court order on the Judiciary Act of 1789, which said that requests for federal court orders go directly to the Supreme Court. In the 1803 case *Marbury v. Madison*, the Supreme Court decided that part of the Judiciary Act was unconstitutional and thus invalid. The Constitution specifies which cases can go directly to the Supreme Court, and court orders are not mentioned. In the Court's opinion, Marshall wrote: "So if a law be in opposition to the constitution; if both the law and the constitution apply to a particular case . . . the court must determine which of these conflicting rules governs the case. This is of the very essence of judicial duty."

### CRITICAL THINKING

**Drawing Conclusions** What principle did the ruling in *Marbury v. Madison* establish?

With the help of their Native American guide and interpreter, Sacagawea, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark explored the territory acquired by the Louisiana Purchase.

### CRITICAL THINKING

**Predicting Consequences** Why was the Louisiana Purchase a significant event for the young United States?



## The War of 1812

In 1809 James Madison succeeded Jefferson as president, and a foreign-relations crisis loomed. The British regularly seized American ships at sea and often practiced impressment, a legalized form of kidnapping that forced people into military service. Britain claimed the right to stop American ships and search for British deserters. On several occasions they impressed American citizens into service as well. Americans in the West also blamed Britain for encouraging attacks by Native Americans along the frontier. President Jefferson had tried economic sanctions against Britain with the Embargo Act of 1807, but the actions mostly hurt the American economy.

Like Jefferson, President Madison first responded with economic measures. After several attempts, the measures finally began to have the desired effect. Unfortunately, word of British cooperation came too late—Congress had already declared war against Britain.

At the beginning of the War of 1812, conquering Canada was the primary objective of the United States. U.S. forces were victorious on Lake Erie and Lake Champlain. The British, however, easily entered Washington, D.C. They dispersed the poorly trained militia defending the capital and set fire to the White House and the Capitol. In Baltimore, however, the city militia inflicted heavy casualties on the British. British forces bombarded Fort McHenry throughout the night of September 13, 1814, and then abandoned their attack. The sight of the U.S. flag still flying over the fort at dawn inspired Francis Scott Key to write “The Star-Spangled Banner,” which became the national anthem.

As battles raged, peace talks began in the Belgian city of Ghent. The Treaty of Ghent, signed on December 24, 1814, ended the war and restored prewar boundaries, but did not mention impressment. At about the same time, British and U.S. forces faced each other in New Orleans. Unaware that a treaty had been signed, U.S. general Andrew Jackson led his troops to a decisive victory over the British in the Battle of New Orleans in January 1815. Jackson became a national hero.

The War of 1812 increased the prestige of the United States overseas and generated a new spirit of patriotism and national unity. The American victory also weakened the Federalist Party, which had strongly opposed war with Britain.

### **READING PROGRESS CHECK**

**Identifying** What actions by Britain caused the United States to impose economic sanctions against them?

## LESSON 2 REVIEW



### Reviewing Vocabulary

- 1. Explaining** Explain the difference between enumerated powers and implied powers.

### Using Your Notes

- 2. Comparing and Contrasting** Use the notes you completed during the lesson to compare and contrast the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution.

### Answering the Guiding Questions

- 3. Identifying** How did the constitutions created during the Revolutionary War attempt to limit the power of government and protect the rights of citizens?

- 4. Describing** What are the key compromises and provisions incorporated in the U.S. Constitution?

- 5. Explaining** Why did political parties emerge in the new republic, and what were the consequences?

- 6. Identifying** How did the United States assert itself as an independent nation?

### Writing Activity

- 7. NARRATIVE** Suppose you are a delegate at the Constitutional Convention. Write a journal entry describing the arguments from each side of the debate that led to the Connecticut Compromise.