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Period\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Unit 6 Day 2 Homework

**National Government Under the Articles of Confederation**

In 1781, Congress adopted a plan of government called the Articles of Confederation. It was the first **constitution** [written plan of government] for the United States. This **central government** [the government for all the states] was weak because each state would keep its “sovereignty [supreme power], freedom and independence,” while cooperating with the others

Read the following list about the limits of the Articles of Confederation and answer the following questions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CONGRESS COULD** | **CONGRESS COULD NOT** |
| Maintain an army and a navy | Levy [charge] taxes on States |
| Declare war and peace | Prevent states from issuing their own money. |
| Make treaties and alliances with other nations | Elect a president |
| Borrow money | Amend [change] the articles without the consent of all 13 states |
| Establish a post office | Require states to provide money for running the national government |
| Regulate coinage | Regulate trade and commerce |
| Manage affairs with Native Americans | Draft soldiers for war. |

Answer the following questions in COMPLETE SENTENCE!

1. Under the Articles of Confederation, do you think the national government could tax the states to pay for war debt and rebuild the country? **Explain.**

***No, because Congress could not charge taxes on the states or require states to provide money for running the national government.***

1. Why do you think the writers of the Articles of Confederation did not want a president?

***They were fearful of a strong central government or a single ruler being charge. It would be like having a King all over again.***

1. Do you think the writers of the Articles of Confederation wanted a strong or a weak national government? Explain.

***Weak national government because each state was used to governing themselves individually. They did not want to give up power to a central government/person because it would be the same type of government that Great Britain used to rule over them.***