How will the 13 States Rule Themselves?

By declaring their independence from Great Britain on July 4, 17___, the Continental C_________ became the acting government for the American people.

NOW every state would write their own laws (or constitution) for just the people of a state to obey.

BUT each state would have different l_____ (or constitution).

A state c_________________ is a written agreement of how the people of a specific state will be go_________ (or ruled).

Even though each s______ had their own written g__________, many members of Congress believed that the country still needed a national government with written rules to hold the United States t__________. A n__________ government has a written set of rules, or a constitution, that apply to everyone living in a specific c__________ (or nation).
"We can rule o__________.
We must pr__________ the
people. No more k______!"

Our First National Government

ARTICLES OF
CONFEDERATION
AND PERPETUAL UNION
BETWEEN THE STATES

was called the Articles of Confederation
1781 - 1787

A Confederation is similar to a "club" and its members.

13 states
When Congress finally sat down to create a written n_________ government, they selected one representative from each state to form a committee. This c______________ was responsible for creating a document that would hold the 13 states together as one c_______________. The confederation created was a group of independent states that could suggest rules to each other, but could not f_________ any states to follow specific r_____.

The committee of 13 worked cautiously to make sure that the national laws they created, did not interfere with any of the r_________ set up by individual state constitutions. After nearly a year of planning, the committee created a written government known as the Articles of Confederation. The A_________ of C______________ set up a loose u__________ between the 13 united States, and gave Congress the responsibility of making certain decisions for the n______________ to follow.

**Our National (US) Government**

Under the Articles of C______________, C_________ would act as the national government of the United States.

The purpose of the national g ___________ is to write laws for the people of an entire n_________ (or country) to follow. One of the responsibilities given to Congress in the Articles of Confederation was to create national l_______.

When Congress began writing n_________ laws, each state received one vote to either a_________ or r_______ these laws. Although Congress was given the authority to make n_________ laws, their p__________ over the individual states was limited.
Problems with the Articles

1. No taxes Allowed
   To avoid a national government similar to British P__________, Congress intentionally limited their own powers. Congress was given the power to mint coins for the new nation, but they were not allowed to collect t__________ from the American people (states).

2. No Army to Protect the US
   Without the power to collect t______, Congress could not raise enough m_____ to pay for a national a_____ to protect the American people. Since states were not willing to help pay for a national army, each s_____ was responsible for protecting their own p_______.

3. No leadership
   Not only was C__________ afraid of creating a national government with the powers similar to P__________________, they were also fearful of having a dominating ruler similar to King G_______. For this reason, the A_______ of Confederation did not create a leadership position (President) with enough p__________ to help guide the young nation through difficult times.

Time for Change

With states arguing over how the n_______ should be run, and without a leader strong enough to step in and solve the problems, the Articles of Confederation was viewed as a f__________ by most members of Congress. Realizing that the national government they created was far too w_______, the members of C__________ agreed that it was time to sit down and make improvements to the Articles of C__________________.
1787 The First Months...

In May 1787, some of the original members of Congress invited leaders from each of the 13 states to Philadelphia to discuss the future of the Articles of Confederation. At first, the 55 delegates who met in P__________ agreed that the Articles would only need minor improvements.

were unsuccessful so.....

After four long m_______ of discussion and frustration, the 55 delegates to the convention decided that a completely new national g__________ was necessary.

THE US CONSTITUTION...NEW AND IMPROVED

This new set of rules, which replaced the Articles of Confederation as the n_______ government of the American people, was called the United States Constitution. We still follow its laws today.

We the People

Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States. Constitution, Article 1.

Who is most important?

_______
Who would be leader of the Convention?

There was only one man who, during the Revolutionary War, had any success in bringing men from various backgrounds together to act as one; his name was ____________ ____________.

With a leader of the Convention now in place, the 55 d________ immediately began discussing ways to improve the n________ government.

THE FATHER OF THE CONSTITUTION

Fearful of making the same mistakes that they made in writing the A________ of C______________, the delegates were determined to give more p__________ to the new central government.

James Madison

A young Virginia lawyer named James M________ submitted a plan that provided the n________ government with the power it would need to hold the u_________ together.

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