

ABOUT THIS PACKET

The Reading Passages in this packet allow students to work on comprehension skills after reading the passage several times searching for evidence.

TASK	OVERVIEW
TASK 1: FILL IN THE BLANKS	Using Close Reading strategies, students will use context clues to fill in the missing words in the reading passage. This will then be used as the main passage to use for the remaining tasks.
TASK 2: VOCABULARY	The vocabulary activity helps kids identify and understand new or unfamiliar words before they complete further activities.
TASK 3: RESPOND	Students will choose from three writing prompts and write their answer to just one of them using complete sentences.
TASK 4: TRUE OR FALSE	Students complete this activity to show overall comprehension of the passage. They may refer back to the passage when necessary. In the end, they add up the TRUE statements.
TASK 5: MULTIPLE CHOICE	For a quick formative check for understanding, students will answer 10 multiple choice questions.
TASK 6: WORD SEARCH	Students will search for key vocabulary words related to the topic. Several unused letters will spell out a secret message.
FINAL TASK: SUMMARY (OPTIONAL)	This is an optional summary graphic organizer to use if needed. Could be used for early finishers as an extension activity, or as a final check for understanding.
GRADE LEVEL	RANGE
4	MIDDLE
4	END
5	BEGINNING
5	MIDDLE
5	END
6	BEGINNING
6	MIDDLE
6	END
7	BEGINNING

TASK 1: FILL IN THE BLANK

EARN THIS!

Directions: Use the words below to fill in the reading.

approval	1777	Britain
week	5	Virginia
first	states	powerful

The Articles of Confederation was a document that outlined how the federal government would operate. It was the nation's _____ Constitution. The word 'constitution' simply means a plan of government. After the Revolutionary War, the leaders of the nation felt that an official document was necessary to outline the government. Six drafts were prepared of the Articles of Confederation. Each one was unique in different ways. In _____, Congress selected a final version. There was much deliberation (discussion) about what should be included in the Articles of Confederation.

The document provided a firm, written set of rules for the government of the 13 states. The Founding Fathers were concerned about a government that was too powerful. The Founding Fathers did not want to create a government that was out of touch and too powerful. Having just come out of the Revolutionary War, they were afraid of being ruled by another abusive government like _____. The hope was to create a federal (national) government with just the right amount of power. They wanted it to be powerful enough to be effective but not excessively _____. A committee of thirteen men from the Second Continental Congress prepared the document. The Articles of Confederation was only _____ page long and included 13 articles. The document was then sent to the states for ratification, or _____, in 1777. The Articles provided a framework for the government to operate and went into effect on March 1, 1781. In order for the Articles to become official, all thirteen _____ had to approve it. _____ was the first state to ratify it while Maryland was the last.

The Articles of Confederation had many flaws or weaknesses. The States basically operated as independent countries. The federal government was so _____ that it could barely operate under the Articles of Confederation, and there was concern that the government needed to be stronger. The Articles of Confederation _____ were filled with major flaws.

TASK #4: TRUE OR FALSE



EARN THIS!

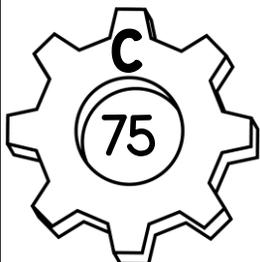
Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color the gear that corresponds to that question. If it is false, cross out the gear. When you are finished add the **TOTAL** of ALL TRUE gears.



A. The Articles of Confederation was the nation's first Constitution.

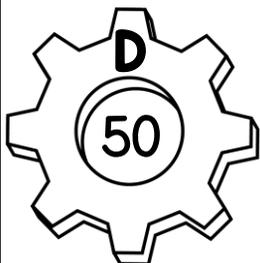


B. The word 'constitution' means plan of government.

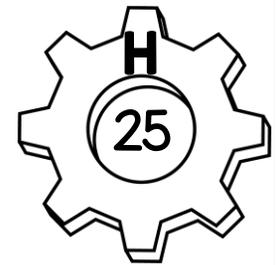


C. Four drafts were prepared of the Articles of Confederation.

D. James Madison is known as the "Father of the Constitution".



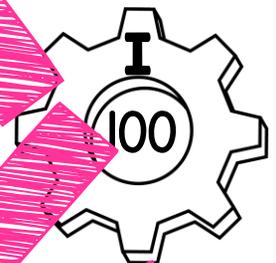
E. The Constitutional Convention took place in Washington, DC.



F. The Founding Fathers were concerned about a government that was too powerful.

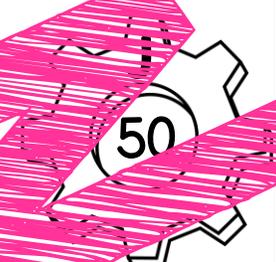


G. The Articles of Confederation is 13 pages long.



H. To ratify means to refuse to use or refuse to buy.

I. Another word for federal is national.



J. At the time, the U.S. had just come out of the Revolutionary War.

TOTAL: _____

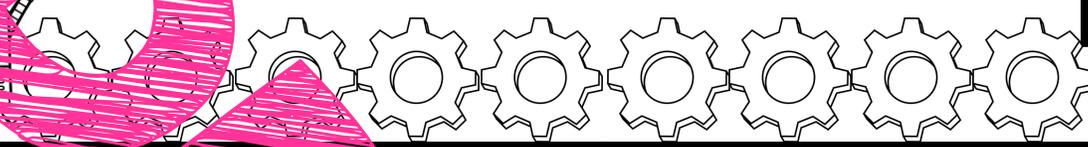
TASK #5: MULTIPLE CHOICE



EARN THIS!



Complete the multiple choice questions below by circling the correct answer.



1. When did Congress select a final version of the Articles of Confederation?

- A. 1765
- B. 1768
- C. 1773
- D. 1777

6. What word means plan of government?

- A. Constitution
- B. Debt
- C. Article
- D. Confederation

2. A committee of _____ from the Second Continental Congress prepared the document.

- A. Thirteen
- B. Fifteen
- C. Seventeen
- D. Nineteen

7. Under the Articles of Confederation, there was no _____.

- A. President
- B. Court system
- C. Trade regulation
- D. All of the above

3. When was the Constitutional Convention held?

- A. 1776
- B. 1781
- C. 1787
- D. 1791

8. What words means 'did not have'?

- A. Ratify
- B. Debt
- C. Lacked
- D. Existed

4. The U.S. Constitution created _____ branches of the government.

- A. 2
- B. 3
- C. 4
- D. 5

9. At the time, Americans broke away from the tight rule of the _____ government.

- A. British
- B. Spanish
- C. German
- D. French

5. When did the Articles of Confederation go into effect?

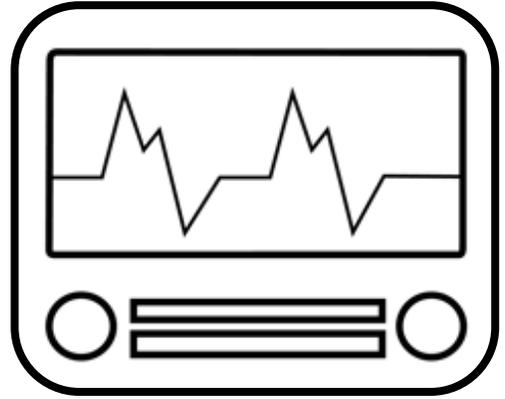
- A. February 16, 1780
- B. March 1, 1781
- C. April 14, 1782
- D. June 4, 1789

10. What was Shay's first name?

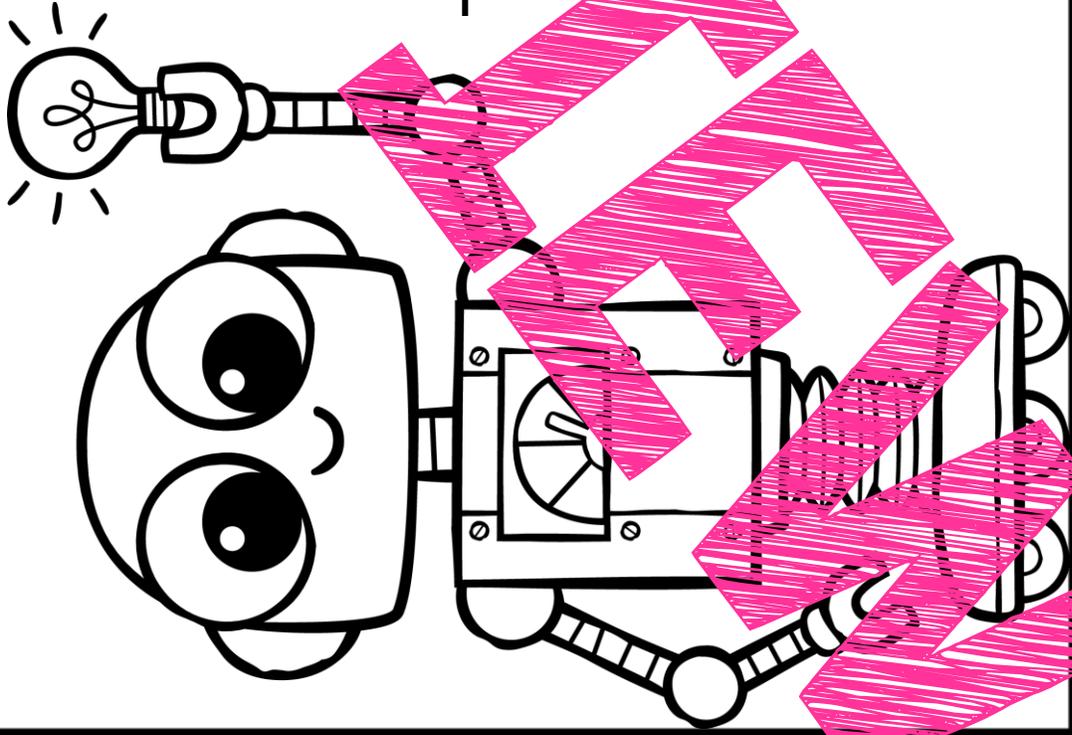
- A. Daniel
- B. David
- C. Donovan
- D. Dennis

BOT CARDS

Complete all 6 tasks correctly, then color and assemble your robot.



Brilliant Bot Builder



a *read*

*For successfully
completing 6 reading
comprehension tasks.*

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