

Name _____

The Articles of Confederation: A Weak Central Government

Short Answer Key

1. The main reason for creating a weak central government under the Articles of Confederation was to prevent the kind of tyranny experienced under British rule.
2. The lack of a national currency made trade between states difficult because their currencies were not always interchangeable.
3. The central government had difficulty maintaining order during Shays' Rebellion because it lacked the power to raise an army or enforce its decisions effectively.
4. One economic challenge faced by the central government was its inability to impose taxes, relying instead on voluntary contributions from the states.
5. The significant change that occurred when the Constitution was ratified in 1788 was the establishment of a stronger central government with a president, executive branch, and the ability to impose taxes.