

## Study Guide: New Republic

SS8H4 The student will describe the impact of events that led to the ratification of the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

a. Analyze the strengths and weaknesses of both the Georgia Constitution of 1777 and the Articles of Confederation and explain how weaknesses in the Articles of Confederation led to a need to revise the Articles.

Essential Question

What were the strengths and weaknesses of both the Georgia Constitution of 1777 and the Articles of Confederation and how did the weaknesses in the Articles of Confederation lead to a need to revise the Articles?

	What was it?	Strengths	Weakness
Georgia Constitution 1777	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unicameral Legislature</li> <li>• Legislature elected the governor</li> <li>• Governor 1-year term</li> <li>• Superior court in each county</li> <li>• Freedom of religion, press, and Trial by jury</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Separation of Powers</li> <li>• Republican form of government</li> <li>• Basic Right Protected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One chamber legislature too powerful</li> <li>• No Check on legislative power</li> <li>• Weak governor</li> </ul>
Articles of Confederation	<p>Went into effect March 1, 1781. First written governmental charter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Republican form of Government</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congress Could not levy taxes</li> <li>• Could not regulate trade</li> <li>• Could not enforce Laws</li> <li>• Each state had one vote</li> <li>• Could not raise an army</li> </ul>

How did the weakness of the Articles lead to the need to revise them?

- Finance Problems worsen, central government could not pay its bills.
- Many feared the weak central government would collapse creating 13 individual countries.
- Shay's Rebellion in Massachusetts create fear of Anarchy.

b. Describe the role of Georgia at the Constitutional Convention of 1787; include the role of **Abraham Baldwin and William Few**, and **reasons why Georgia ratified the new constitution**.

Essential Question: What was the role of Georgia at the Constitutional of 1787 including the role of **Abraham Baldwin** and **William Few** and giving the reasons why Georgia ratified the new constitution?

1. What was the role of Abraham Baldwin and William Few at the Constitutional Convention?

- a. *Abraham Baldwin* helped to formulate the *Great Compromise* that called for *bicameral legislature: House of Representatives based on population and the Senate based on equal representation among the states.*
- b. *William Few* also signed the Constitution and fought for its passage.

2. Why did Georgia ratify the Constitution?

- a. *Help to fight the Indians and Spanish attacks from Florida. The Spanish regained Florida after the American Revolution.*
- b. *Hope for increase of trade for its harbors of Savannah, Sunbury, and Brunswick.*

Essential Question:

What was the **purpose of the Bill of Rights?**

1. What was the purpose of the Bill of Rights?

- a. To limit the power of the central government.
  - b. To enumerate the rights of the citizen
- **First Amendment:** Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.
  - **Second Amendment:** A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.
  - **Third Amendment:** No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.
  - **Fourth Amendment:** The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.
  - **Fifth Amendment:** No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.
  - **Sixth Amendment:** In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.
  - **Seventh Amendment:** In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.
  - **Eighth Amendment:** Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.
  - **Ninth Amendment:** The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.
  - **Tenth Amendment:** The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.