

SECTION
1

Reading for Understanding

▶ Key Ideas

BEFORE, YOU LEARNED

Americans emerged from the Revolution as citizens of a unified nation that valued the ideal of liberty.

NOW YOU WILL LEARN

The Articles of Confederation created a weak national government.

▶ Vocabulary

TERMS & NAMES

Shays's Rebellion uprising of Massachusetts farmers who demanded debt relief

Northwest Territory lands northwest of the Appalachians, covered by the Land Ordinance of 1785

Articles of Confederation plan for national government ratified in 1781

Confederation Congress national legislative body formed by the Articles of Confederation

Land Ordinance of 1785 law that established a plan for dividing the federally owned lands west of the Appalachian Mountains

Northwest Ordinance law that described how the Northwest Territory was to be governed

BACKGROUND VOCABULARY

republic state, country or nation in which people elect representatives to govern.

ratification act of official confirmation

levy impose or raise a tax

arsenal place where weapons are stored

REVIEW

neutral not siding with one country or another

▶ Reading Strategy

Create an outline like the one shown at right. As you read and respond to the **KEY QUESTIONS**, note the main ideas and supporting details about the Articles of Confederation.



See Skillbuilder Handbook, page R9.

MAIN IDEAS & DETAILS

The Articles of Confederation

I. Features of the A. of C.

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II. Needs addressed by the A. of C.

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