Chapter 8, Section 1 Reading Guide - The Confederation Era

Pg 235- One American's Story

1. Describe the economy of the United States after the Revolutionary War.

2. Who was Daniel Shay? Be sure to tell what he does in your answer.

Forming a New Government

3. What was the main goal of the first planners of our nation?

4a. What type of government was chosen for the new nation? 4b. Define the answer.

5a. Who were the "ins" - those with power?

5b. Who were the "outs" - those who did not share in the power?

States Lead The Way (236)

6a. States led the way by writing their own ____________________.

6b. What important ideas did the states write into these documents to show they "led the way".

Articles of Confederation (236)

7a. All states agreed that the government should be a ____________. On what two points did the states disagree?

7b. What was the Northwest Territory? And, see page 237. List the six states. In what direction are they from the Mississippi River?

7c. What was the first plan of our national government called?

7d. Under the Articles, the Continental Congress became the ____________________ Congress.
   Under the the Articles, each state had ________ vote.

7e. List plainly below the powers that were GRANTED to CONGRESS under the Articles.
7f. What level of government kept most of the important powers?

7g. Copy the “Powers Denied Congress” from Page 236 in the left hand column below.

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<th>Powers Denied Congress</th>
<th>Effects of Denying Congress Powers</th>
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The Articles Are Ratified (237)

8. What does RATIFICATION mean?

9. Why did many small states refuse to ratify the Articles?

10a. How did this problem get resolved (settled)?

10b. Which was the last state to ratify the Articles of Confederation?

STRENGTHS And WEAKNESSES of the ARTICLES (237)

11. In what area did Congress have success?

Land Ordinance of 1785 (237)

12a. What LAW by the Congress established how the Northwest Territory was divided?

12b. The Northwest Territory was divided into _____________. (See page 240) How big were they? ____________ What shape did they have? ____________ How many sections did each have? ____________ Guess: For what was one of the section’s used for? ____________ (Hint: YOU’RE IN ONE!!)

13. (240) How did the national government benefit from the sale of land?
Governing the Northwest Territory (238)

14a. What law was passed by Congress which established how the Northwest Territory would be governed?

14b. In what ways was it democratic?

14c. How was the reality in the treatment of the Native Americans different from the law?

Problems with Britain and Spain

15a. From the paragraph, what general problem faced the Confederation Congress in dealing with foreign nations?

15b. Give three examples of international challenges the United States faced.

Economic Problems/Shays’s Rebellion (239)

16a. What was the root (main) problem between government and the former soldiers of the Revolution?

16b. What power did the Confederation Congress lack to raise money?

16c. On whom did Congress rely for money?

16d. In your own words, what was Shays’s Rebellion?

17. What did Shays’s Rebellion indicate about the condition of the national government?
Problems with the Articles of Confederation:

1. Federal government could not amend needed all states' approval.
2. Approval of states needed to enact laws.
3. National government could not raise an army.
4. States did not have to follow laws and treaties.
5. States had their own laws and did not follow other states' laws.
6. Could not regulate foreign or interstate laws.
7. No executive branch or national court system so it could not enforce laws.