

THE FIX

<i>MAJOR WEAKNESS OR PROBLEM</i>	<i>EXPLANATION</i>	<i>THE FIX IN THE CONSTITUTION</i>
Confederation national government had specific & limited powers	Fear of creating another tyrannical central government; caused the Confederation Constitution to be very limited in scope. This allowed for greater sovereignty for the states to do what they wanted.	Necessary & Proper Clause (Article I, sec.8, cl. 18)
Confederation national government needed $\frac{3}{4}$ majority (9/13) for laws to be enacted	National laws were very difficult, if not impossible to pass. This again reflects the fear and mistrust of a strong central government as well as the experience they had just gone through with England during the Rev.	
Confederation needed unanimous consent to change government	Same reason as above- it would be virtually impossible to change the way the national government operated. Point out to the kids that the Constitutional Convention was supposed to be for the purpose of amending the Conf. - nothing would have passed.	
No independent executive to enforce the laws	Fear of a tyrannical ruler- All the Confederation national govt. could do was to ask that the states comply.	
No power to collect taxes	Again fear of a strong central government taxing away liberty. All national govt. could do was to request that states pay their fair share. Most could not because of the debt from the Rev. War	
No power to regulate commerce	States were left with this power. States acted like mini-nations, taxing each others' products and discouraging their citizens from purchasing products in another state, even though it would be more convenient for them to do so. Resulted in trade wars between states	
No mandatory power to raise a military for defense	Merchant ships carried tribute money to buy off pirates because there was no naval strength. When Indian uprisings occurred on the frontier, it was up to the states to deal with the problem. Again, all the national govt. could do was to ask states to help each other.	
No national court system to interpret national laws	States were free to use their own court systems to nullify any national law passed- made enforcement and compliance of Confederation laws nearly impossible.	

HOW DID THE CONSTITUTION ADDRESS THE CONCERN THAT THE STATES WERE GIVING UP POWER TO A CENTRAL GOVT?

THE FIX

<i>PRINCIPLE OF CONSTITUTION</i>	<i>EXPLANATION ON POWER LIMITATION</i>
Separation of Powers	
Checks and Balances	
Federalism	
Bicameralism	
Differing Terms of Office	
Differing Qualifications for Office	
Different Means of Selecting Officials	
Powers Denied to Congress	