

THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION

I. The Stile of this Confederacy shall be "The United
 L*name* L*alliance*
 States of America".

II. Each state retains its sovereignty, freedom, and
independence, and every power, jurisdiction, and
right, which is not by this Confederation expressly
delegated to the United States, in Congress assembled.

III. The said States hereby severally enter into a firm league of friendship with each other, for their common defense, the security of their liberties, and their mutual and general welfare, binding themselves to assist each other, against all force offered to, or attacks made upon them, or any of them, on account of religion, sovereignty, trade, or any other pretense whatever.

THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION



The Articles of Confederation were written in 1781 to create a government for the newly formed United States of America. While they were replaced by the U.S. Constitution in 1789, the Articles were an important first step in defining the new country. Read the excerpt of the Articles and answer the questions below.

Why do you think the colonists called the new nation the “United States of America”?

In your own words, what does the second article mean?

What did the states agree to do in the third article?

What was interesting or surprising to you about this excerpt of the Articles of Confederation?