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**Chapter 4 Outline Packet: “Foundations of Government”**

* **Limited Government**
  + Documents like the *Magna Carta* and the *English Bill of Rights* created a tradition of \_limited government\_\_\_ in England – the colonists that would come to settle in what would become the 13 English colonies would be influenced by these documents and the idea of limited government later on….
* Even today, Great Britain continues to have a \_parliamentary\_ government that is run by a Prime Minister (Executive) and Parliament (Legislative). The Prime Minister is part of the \_Parliament\_\_ and gets his/her authority from the Parliament – because of this the legislative and executive bodies are closely connected. They have a unitary (uni – means “1”) system of government where all power lies with one central body. In a unitary system, the national government has all governmental power and can decide if they wish to share or delegate any of their powers down to the state or local governments
* **Common Law**
  + In the earliest days, England had ***\_no written laws.*** People had developed rules to live by and these customs had the force of laws. In addition, the court system developed and the court’s decisions were the basis of law.
  + When judges ruled on cases, they looked for \_precedent\_, or a ruling in an earlier case that was similar. This helped to keep court rulings consistent and fair.
  + **Common Law** is a system of law based on *precedent\_*and *customs\_*where *court decisions* determine law, not regulations made by lawmakers.
  + Today, *American property, contract,* and *personal injury* laws are based on this English idea of “common law”.

1. **Bringing English Heritage to America**

* When the American \_colonies\_, a group of settlements owned by a parent country elsewhere, were established in the mid 1600s, they brought with them English traditions of government and law.
* *\_Jamestown\_\_* was the first permanent English settlement in America. They were issued a *\_charter\_\_* - a written document granting land and authority to set up a colonial government.
* **The Mayflower** **Compact (1620)**
  + In 1620, a new group of colonists came to settle in America; the pilgrims settled in Plymouth, Massachusetts.
  + These colonists drew up the Mayflower Compact that served as a written plan for their new government.
  + 41 of the men aboard the Mayflower agreed to this compact. A *Compact\_* is an agreement or contract among a group of people.
  + The Mayflower Compact established a tradition of \_Direct Democracy\_ and is the first example of **SELF GOVERNMENT\_\_** in the colonies.

1. **Early Colonial Governments**

* The success of \_JamesTown\_\_ and \_Ply mouth led to the development of other colonies.
* By 1733, there were 13 English colonies that stretched from Massachusetts to Georgia. Each colony maintained its own colonial government.
  + Each colony had a governor that was either elected or appointed by the people.
  + Each colony had a legislature that was modeled after Parliament.
  + The colonial governments took on more power over time, as the king and Parliament were preoccupied at home...

**Lesson 3 - “Birth of a Democratic Nation”**

1. **American Ideals vs British Control**
   * For almost 100 years, American colonial governments enjoyed relative “self -government” from Britain. But in 1760, *\_King George III\_\_* took the throne and demanded more control over America.
   * **Mercantilism**

* King George wanted to adopt the idea of \_\_mercantilism\_\_\_ in Great Britain. ***Mercantilism*** states that a country should sell more goods to other countries than it buys.
* King George saw the colonies as a source of ­­­­cheap, \_raw materials\_\_ and \_revenue\_ (via taxes). He wanted to get as much wealth out of the American colonies as possible.
  + **French and Indian War (1754-1763)**
    - The \_French & Indian war\_ made things worse. The war was extremely expensive for the British government**.**
    - Parliament demanded that the colonies help pay for the war and *\_increased taxes*  in America to raise revenue (money).
  + **The Stamp Act (1765)**
    - The \_Stamp Act\_\_ of 1765 was the first significant tax imposed on colonists. This act required colonists to attach expensive tax stamps on all newspapers\_ and legal documents.
  + ***No Taxation Without Representation***
    - American colonists resented these new taxes by the British. Since they had *\_no representation*  in the *British Parliament\_*, they felt they should not have to raise revenue for the King (by paying taxes).
    - Their slogan no taxation without representation*\_”* embodied this!

*(taxation without representation is tyranny)*

* + - In protest, many Americans began to *boycott\_*or refuse to buy British goods. As a result of pressure from British merchants in the colonies, the British government \_repealed\_or cancelled the act.
  + **Townshend Acts (1767)**
    - The new *\_Townshend Acts\_* of 1767 replaced other British taxes. This act allowed taxes to be levied on \_basic goods\_\_ imported to the colonies from Great Britain(glass, tea, paper, etc.) Once again, the colonists would boycott.
  + **Tea Act (1773)**
    - The *\_Tea Act\_\_* followed, which allowed the *British East India Company* to bypass colonial government tax requirements. It *lowered taxes\_* on British tea --which made merchants have to buy British tea over other tea. American merchants were outraged and decided to act…. (Boston Tea Party)
  + **Coercive (“Intolerable”) Acts (1774)**
    - To respond to the *“Boston Tea party\_”,* the British Parliament created the *\_Coercive Acts\_\_\_\_\_\_.* Called the “\_Intolerable Acts\_” by American colonists, these acts \_restricted colonial rights\_!!

1. **Movement toward Independence**
   * **First Continental Congress (1774)**
     + In 1774, *12* of the 13 American colonies (not Georgia) sent \_delegates\_, or representatives, to Philadelphia to express their concerns with Britain’s new taxes. This meeting would be called the *\_First Continental Congress\_\_.*
     + The First Continental Congress sent a letter called the *\_Olive Branch Petition\_* to *King George* demanding the rights of the colonists be restored. All agreed to meet again within a year if the king did not agree.
   * **The Shot Heard Around the World**
     + King George was not happy and responded with force. In April 1775, the battles of *\_Lexington\_\_* and *\_Concord\_\_* began the American Revolutionary War - “the shot heard around the world!”
   * **Second** **Continental Congress (1775)**
     + During the second meeting, called the \_\_Second Continental congress\_, the delegates were split and argued over the best solution.
     + Some delegates wanted \_independence\_ while others wanted to remain \_loyal\_ to Great Britain. Many did *NOT* want independence because they feared they could not win a war with Britain.

* ***Common Sense* (1776)**
  + - In 1776, \_Thomas Paine\_\_ wrote a pamphlet called *“Common Sense*” to try to sway public opinion toward independence.
    - In his pamphlet, Paine argued that it was only “*\_Common Sense\_*” for America to break ties with Great Britain.
    - He stated that there was a \_social contract\_ between the people and the government and that the government had broken this “contract”.
    - He said that *Kind George\_* was a “royal brute” and America had every right to sever ties with Great Britain.
  + **Second** **Continental Congress (1776)**
    - After many months of debate, more than half of the delegates agreed to declare independence from Great Britain. The writings of Paine and the idea of social contract were very influential.
    - They decided to write a *\_Declaration of Independence\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

1. **The Declaration of Independence**
   * In the Declaration of Independence, *\_Thomas Jeffereson\_\_*, the main author, detailed the colonies’ reasons for breaking away from Great Britain. Jefferson claimed that the king did not look after the interests/ rights of the colonies anymore. He listed all of the *grievances\_\_*, or complaints, that the colonists had towards the crown.
   * Jefferson was also influenced by the ideas of two important Enlightenment philosophers:

* **John Locke** - believed in natural law & social contract
  + \_Natural Law means that you are born with certain rights not granted by the government.
    - He called these rights “*\_\_natural rights\_\_*” because we are guaranteed these rights by the Heavens (God)…
    - Natural rights = \_\_life, liberty, property*\_ (Jefferson would change this slightly)*
* “*\_Social contract\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”* – the idea that people have a contract with their government and the government should protect its people. (“**Locke**d into a contract”)
  + - **Baron de Montesquieu** (“3 Names, 3 Words, 3 Branches”) – Separation of Power
      * **\_\_\_\_Separation of Powers\_\_\_-** each branch of government is responsible for specific powers
      * Americans would see the impacts of Montesquieu later (in the *U.S. Constitution*)
* There are four parts to the Declaration of Independence:
  + - Part I – Introduction “Causes”
      * Jefferson wrote that “a decent respect for the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation”
    - Part II – “Rights”
      * The document clearly expresses that the purpose of government is to protect *\_natural (inalienable) rights\_\_\_,* which are the basic rights that are entitled to all humans.
    - Part III – Complaints / “Grievances”
      * Jefferson listed the many “complaints” that the colonists had against the King and Parliament
    - Part IV – “Declaration of a New Nation”
      * We were now 13 free and independent “united” States of America.
  + The Second Continental Congress approved the Declaration of Independence on \_July 4 1776\_\_\_\_. However, true freedom came only when Britain officially recognized the United States at the end of the Revolutionary War.

**Lesson 4 - The Declaration of Independence**

* Who was the main author of the Declaration of Independence? \_Thomas Jefferson\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* During the rewrite of the Declaration, it was cut and cut and ended up with only \_1337\_ words - but these were powerful and strong words.
* What was the committee that decided that a Declaration of Independence was needed? \_Second Continental Congress
* By signing the DOI, these 56 men were committing an act of treason\_ against the crown. What could happen to them if they were caught? \_\_They risked their lives their fortunes and their sacred honor.\_\_\_\_
* Why were the 56 signers willing to risk their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor by signing the Declaration? \_\_\_To gain American Independence from great Britain
* What day did the Second Continental Congress finally approved the Declaration of Independence? \_\_\_July 4th\_\_\_
* The Unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America – why was there a little “u”? \_\_The states now had the power to wage war, to form alliance and to trade with other nations. Unite to fight.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**4 Parts of the Declaration of Independence (IRCD=annoyed)**

1. **Introduction -explains why the Second Continental Congress drew up the Declaration of Independence**
2. **Rights of the People (Natural Rights)**
   * + - * Unalienable (inalienable) rights are the rights that cannot be taken away from people
         * Social contract = natural rights + the role of the government

***According to this, what is the relationship between natural rights and the role of the***

***government?***

1. **Complaints against the King – lists the colonists’ \_grievances\_\_ against King George** 
   * He refused assent to \_\_law\_\_\_ (laws written by the Colonies)
   * He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without Consent of our legislature (quartering \_soldiers \_\_)
   * He…has imposed \_\_taxes on\_ us without our consent\_.
   * He has taken away our right to a trial by jury\_\_\_.
   * He has limited our \_\_judicial \_powers.
   * He has dissolved our \_\_\_legislatures\_\_\_.

Overall, the colonists were oppressed (unjust treatment) by the tyranny of the King.

***What is the connection between these grievances and natural rights?***

***Natural rights was the most important job of government. Grievances was violating the natural rights of life liberty.***

1. **Declaration of a new nation – the “united” States of America**

***Why did we need to unite?***

***(unite to fight)***

**( I don’t have the powerpoint for lesson 5)**

**Lesson 5 - “Our Nation’s First Governments”**

1. **Early State Constitutions**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was the first colony to organize as a state AND draft a state \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which is a detailed, written plan for government.
* **The Massachusetts Constitution**
  + Massachusetts would eventually become a great example for our future government*:*
    - They split power among 3 branches (Baron de Montesquieu) – *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
    - They had a system of checks and balances – the Governor could “check” the power of the legislature.
    - They also had a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ legislature, meaning it was divided into *\_\_* houses or parts.
* This constitution would later become the model for the U.S. Constitution.

1. **The Articles of Confederation**

* In 1777, in order to unite, the 13 states created the Articles of Confederation. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was the *first attempt* at a *constitution* for the “u”nited States.
* A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a group who bands together for a common purpose *- a league of friendship!*
* The AofC established a system for cooperation among independent states. The states wanted the power of government to stay with them.
* The AofC created a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (one house) legislature called Congress, with each state having one vote. The main powers of the Articles of Confederation Congress included overseeing the army and dealing with foreign countries.
* By 1781, all 13 states \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or approved, the AofC, but the government under the AofC was not very strong!
* **Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation**
  + No strong national \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­
  + No power to regulate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(trade)
  + No power to enforce it’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_(required 9 of 13 states to pass laws)
  + No national \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ system to carry out justice
  + No power to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the people. (left country deep in debt)
  + Any changes to the Articles themselves required \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ consent of all 13 states!! This made it very difficult to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or change the AofC!!
* In 1783, the “*united States*” defeated Great Britain after 7 years of war. The *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* ended the conflict. The Articles of Confederation was successful in accomplishing its goal! But the new Congress found itself deep in \_\_\_\_\_\_ (as did the states).
* **Shays’ Rebellion (1786-1787)**
  + In Massachusetts, a farmer named *Daniel Shays* led over 1,200 farmers on a raid against a federal arsenal. This was called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Shays was upset because the government’s inability to tax and large debt meant that the soldiers were not getting paid for their service in the Army and thus were losing their farms/homes. Shays was protesting the seizure of his farm by the government.
  + The government stopped the rebellion, but realized there was a BIG problem!
* **Constitutional Convention (1787)**
  + After Shays’ Rebellion, 12 of the 13 states (not Rhode Island) agreed to return to Philadelphia to revise/fix the “*Articles of Confederation*”. At the meeting, it became obvious right away that the Articles of Confederation were not fixable. They were just too WEAK!
  + So the delegates at the convention decided that they needed to start completely over and write a new constitution all together. This meeting would turn into the *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* where the delegates would write a whole new plan of government called the U.S. Constitution.
  + The AofC had created a *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* system of government that was weak!!! The delegates wanted to create a *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* system with a stronger central government where power would be shared between the national government and the states.
* **Confederal vs Federal vs Unitary**
  + Under the AofC we had a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** system of government where ALL the power belonged to the states…there was no central power.
  + Under the US Constitution we have a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** system of government where power is shared between the national government and the states.
  + Some countries have a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ system of government where ALL power belongs to a strong national government (i.e., France, North Korea, etc.)