**Review Sheet for Assessment:**

**The Confederation and the New Constitution**

**People**

**George Washington** – he presided over the Constitutional Convention

**James Madison** – the “father of the Constitution” who kept very detailed records of the Constitutional Convention meetings

**Benjamin Franklin** – the oldest delegate at the Constitutional Convention; his wisdom helped keep the convention from breaking up

**John Jay** –one of the authors of the essays for The Federalist

**Alexander Hamilton** – framer who supported a strong central government; an author of the essays for The Federalist

**Nationalists** – leaders who wanted the Articles of Confederation to be replaced or strengthened

**Federalists** - those people who supported the ratification (approval) of the Constitution

**Anti-Federalists** – those people who did not support ratification of the Constitution

**Key Terms**

**Articles of Confederation** – the first constitution for the United States; proved to be too weak to be effective

**Shays’ Rebellion** – uprising of debt-ridden Massachusetts farmers protesting increasing state taxes

**Constitutional (Philadelphia) Convention**

**Republicanism –** government run by the people through their elected representatives

**New Jersey (Small state) Plan –** plan providing for a single legislative house with equal representation for each state

**Virginia (Big state) Plan –** a plan proposed at the Constitutional Convention providing for a legislative of two houses; each state would have a different number of representatives based on the state's population

**Great (Connecticut) Compromise -** Constitutional Convention agreement to establish a two-house legislature, with all states having equal representation in Senate and each state having representation based on its population in the House of Representatives

**Three-Fifths Compromise** – Constitutional Convention’s agreement to count three-fifths as a state’s slaves as population for purposes of representation

**Ratification** – the process of the states approving the Constitution

***The Federalist*** *-* series of essays written by Hamilton, Madison, and Jay urging that the Constitution be ratified

**Bill of Rights** – the first ten amendments of the Constitution

**Legislative branch** – lawmaking branch of the government (Congress)

**Executive branch** – the part of the government that executes or carries out the laws (the President)

**Judicial branch** – the part of the government that interprets the laws (Court system including the Supreme Court)

**Separation of Powers** – power is divided into three separate branches of government

**Preamble** – the introduction of the Constitution that states the reasons for the document

**Checks and balances** – system incorporated into the Constitution that prevents one branch from becoming too powerful

**Federalism** – the division of power between the national (central or federal) government and the state governments

**Congress** – the lawmaking body of the national government that is comprised of the Senate and the House of Representatives

**Mayflower Compact** – the Pilgrims agreed in 1620 that laws passed by the majority would be obeyed. This early belief in self-government would become one of the founding principles of the United States.

**Main Ideas**

Be able to:

* Explain the weaknesses of the American government under the Articles of Confederation and why the Nationalists wanted them to be either strengthened or replaced.
* Describe how the Constitution strengthened the power of the national government but while also ensuring state powers and individual rights.
* Compare and contrast the beliefs of the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists