

Essential Questions

What decisions did Washington and the Congress have to make about the new government?

How did the economy develop under the guidance of Alexander Hamilton?



I. Washington Takes Office

A major change under the new _____ was the creation of a strong _____ headed by a single _____.

George Washington was sworn in as president and _____ as vice-president.

The president knew that their actions would set _____ that would shape the nation's future.

a. The Cabinet

- i. The _____ branch of government took shape during the summer of _____.
- ii. The Congress created _____ departments. The heads of each department along with the _____ gave the president advice and together were known as the _____.
- iii. The Senate voted to allow the president to _____ cabinet officers thus establishing presidential power over the whole executive branch.

b. Establishing the Court System

- i. The first Congress had to create the first _____.
- ii. The Judiciary Act of _____ established a federal court system that had the power to _____.
- iii. The _____ was the final authority on many issues.

c. The Bill of Rights

- i. As a protection from the powers of a _____, many Americans wanted a _____ that guaranteed civil liberties.
- ii. James _____ introduced a set of amendments and the Congress approved _____ of them and the states ratified _____. In December _____, this 'Bill of Rights' became part of the _____.
- iii. The Bill of Rights _____ the power of the national government and protects individual _____.

II. The New Economy

President Washington focused on two key matters: _____.

He depended on _____ to handle the government's economy.

The nation faced serious _____ trouble because of the _____ from the American Revolution.

a. Hamilton's Plan

- i. The House of Representatives asked Hamilton to make a plan for the _____. The United States needed to be able to _____ money.
- ii. Hamilton proposed that the _____ take over and pay off the states' wartime debts.

b. The Plan Faces Opposition

- i. Congress agreed that the national government should pay money owed to _____ but not money owed to _____.
- ii. Individuals were issued _____ when they loaned money to the government. Many _____ sold their bonds and accepted less money than the face value.
- iii. Hamilton proposed paying off the bonds at _____. This idea made many original bond holders upset.
- iv. The _____ were opposed to the idea of the national government paying off state debts because they had _____ much less debt and/or already paid back their debt.

c. Compromise and a Capital

- i. Hamilton won support for his plan by _____. In return for supporting his plan, the nation's capital city would be moved to the _____.
- ii. Congress created a special _____ between VA and MD. George Washington selected the site for the new capital city, later named _____ in his honor.

d. The Fight for a National Bank

- i. Hamilton also asked Congress to create the _____. This bank would hold government _____ and make _____ payments. It would also issue a single form of _____ for the US.
- ii. _____ and _____ opposed a national bank and argued that the _____ did not give Congress the power to create a bank. However, Washington and the majority of Congress agreed with Hamilton.

e. Tariffs and Taxes

- i. Hamilton also believed the country needed more _____ and he proposed high _____, or taxes on imports. Congress only passed _____ tariffs. Congress also passed several _____ to help pay back the national debt.
- ii. Jefferson and Madison believed that _____ was building a dangerously powerful government run by the _____ and they began to _____ to Hamilton and his policies.