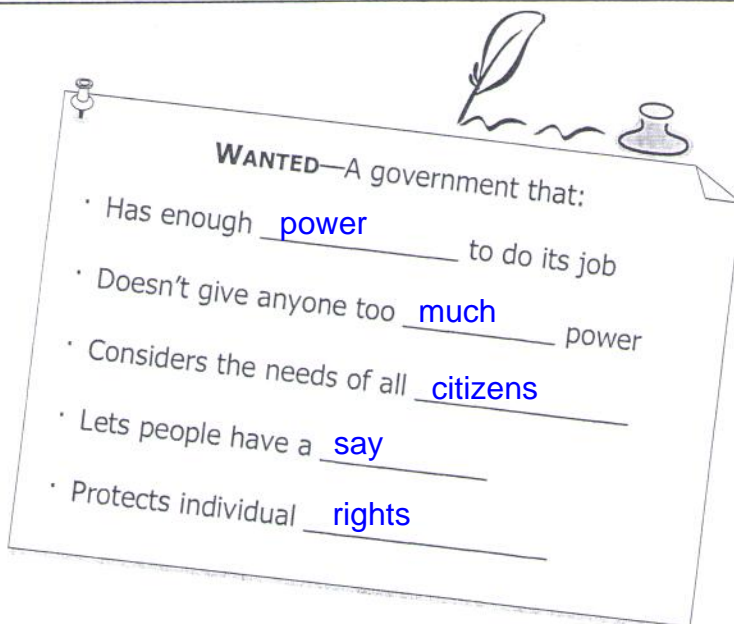


Wanted: A Just Right Government Name: _____

Starting From Scratch

After the American colonists declared independence from Great Britain, the first thing they had to decide was what kind of government to have. The colonists were tired of living under British control. The British government had treated them unfairly, and the colonists set out to make sure their new government would be much, much better!





The First Attempt:

The Articles of Confederation year: 1781

A **confederation** is a group of individuals united together for a purpose.

what is a confederal system?

- Each state was independent and had its own government.
- Each state sent representatives to the "Congress of the Confederation."
- The Congress was the only central government. There was no president.
- In Congress, each state got one vote.

 Hey, this sounds great!	Wait! Not so fast... 
States get to keep their <u>power</u> and <u>independence</u> .	Congress had no way to <u>enforce</u> its laws!
No <u>government</u> telling states what to do.	Congress had no power to collect <u>taxes</u> to pay for the military!
Congress had the power to create a <u>military</u> to <u>protect</u> all the states.	The Articles could only be <u>changed</u> if <u>ALL</u> the states agreed!