



# Foundations of the United States Government

Instructional Slides



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**

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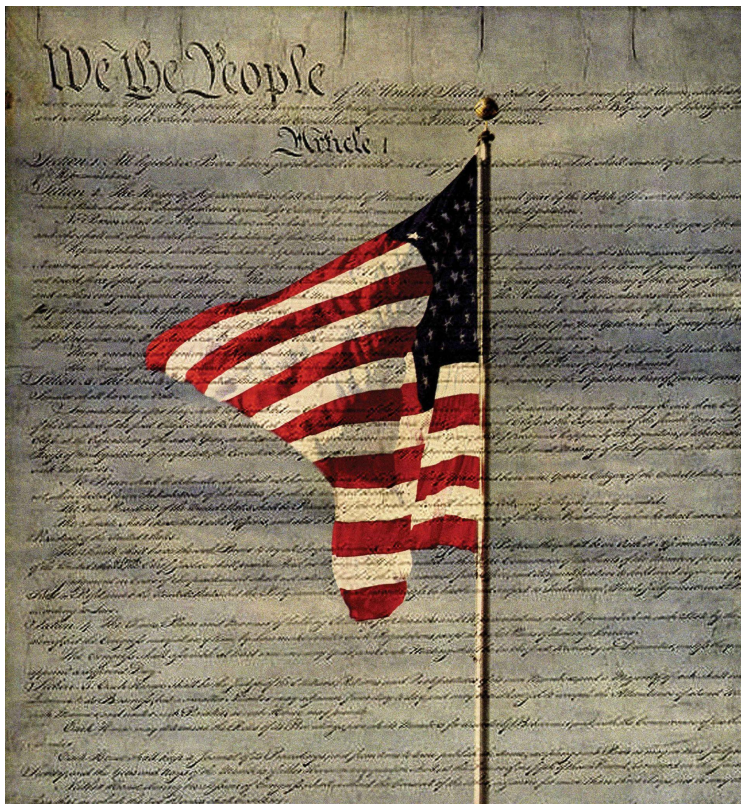
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## Topic 2: Principles and Events That Influenced the Formation of the U.S. Government

**Framing Question:** What ideas and events influenced the formation of the U.S. government?



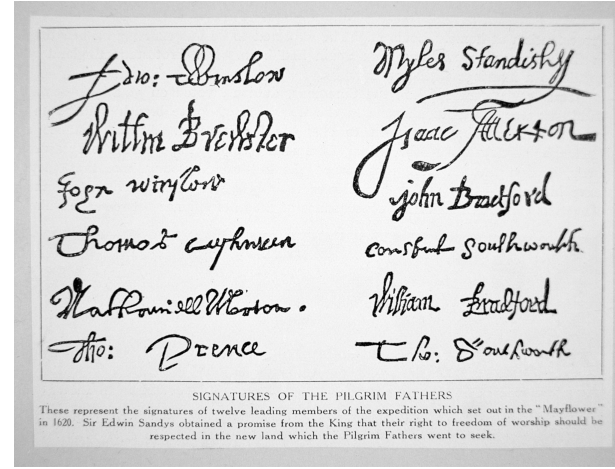


## Topic 2: Principles and Events That Influenced the Formation of the U.S. Government



In agreeing to the Magna Carta in 1215 CE, King John of England accepted an important principle: that the monarch, like those he ruled, had to follow laws.

# Topic 2: Principles and Events That Influenced the Formation of the U.S. Government



This stylized painting shows how the Mayflower Compact represented people from different walks of life, including soldiers, sailors, and farmers. Some of the signatures on the compact are also shown here.

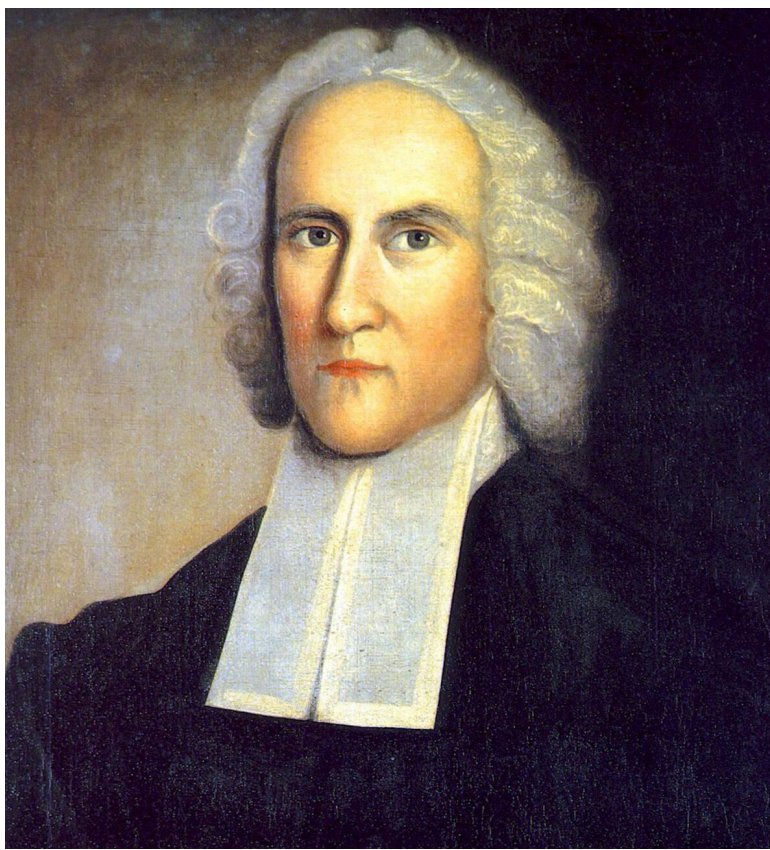
said late King James the second having  
abdicated the Government and the Throne  
being thereby vacant his highness the Prince  
of Orange (whom it hath pleased Almighty God  
to make the glorious Instrument of delivering  
this Kingdom from Popery and Arbitrary Power)  
did (by the Advice of the Lords Spirituall and  
Temporall and divers principall persons of  
the shewment) cause Letters to be written to  
the Lords Spirituall and Temporall being  
Protestants and other Letters to the severall  
Counties Cities Universities Burroughs and Cinque  
Ports for the moving of such persons to represent  
them as were of right to be sent to Parliament  
to meet and sitt at Westminster upon the five  
and twentieth day of January in this yeare  
One thousand six hundred eighty and eight  
In order to such an Establishment as that might

## Topic 2: Principles and Events That Influenced the Formation of the U.S. Government

The original parchment manuscript of the English Bill of Rights is preserved by Parliament to this day. Like the founding documents of the United States, it is considered an important piece of history to be preserved for future generations.







## Topic 2: Principles and Events That Influenced the Formation of the U.S. Government

Known for his fiery sermons, Jonathan Edwards was a leading figure of the Great Awakening.



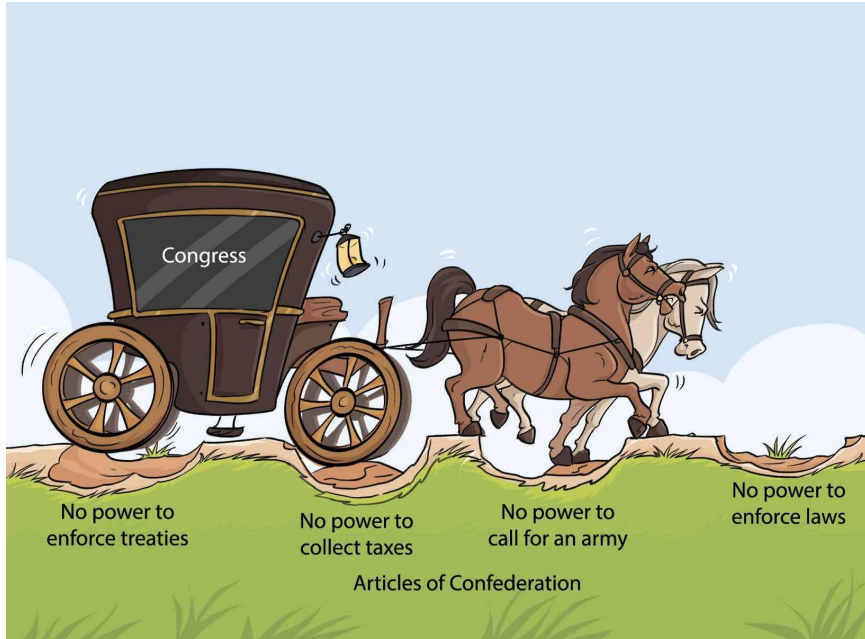
## Topic 2: Principles and Events That Influenced the Formation of the U.S. Government



Among the signers of the Declaration of Independence were many leaders of the early United States, including Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and John Hancock.



## Topic 2: Principles and Events That Influenced the Formation of the U.S. Government



Under the Articles of Confederation, the powers of Congress were very limited, resulting in a bumpy, arduous start for the new government.

## Topic 2: Principles and Events That Influenced the Formation of the U.S. Government



The State House in Philadelphia, now better known as Independence Hall, was the site of many important events in the early history of the United States. In 1787, it hosted the meeting that became the Constitutional Convention. It was also the home of the Pennsylvania government, whose capital was in Philadelphia until 1799.



# Topic 2: Principles and Events That Influenced the Formation of the U.S. Government

## From the American Revolution to the Constitution



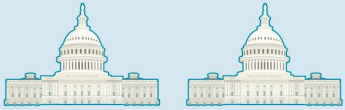


# Topic 2: Principles and Events That Influenced the Formation of the U.S. Government

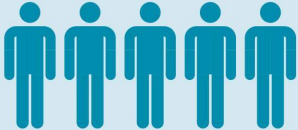
## Two Plans for a New Federal Government

### Virginia Plan

Legislature  
Bicameral



Representation  
Population-based  
(higher population yields  
more representation)



Role of National Government  
Can legislate for states and override state law

### New Jersey Plan

Legislature  
Unicameral



Representation  
State-based  
(each state equally represented)



Role of National Government  
Provides defense but does not override  
state authority

The Virginia Plan and the New Jersey Plan represented different states' desires for how the new federal government would exercise its power.



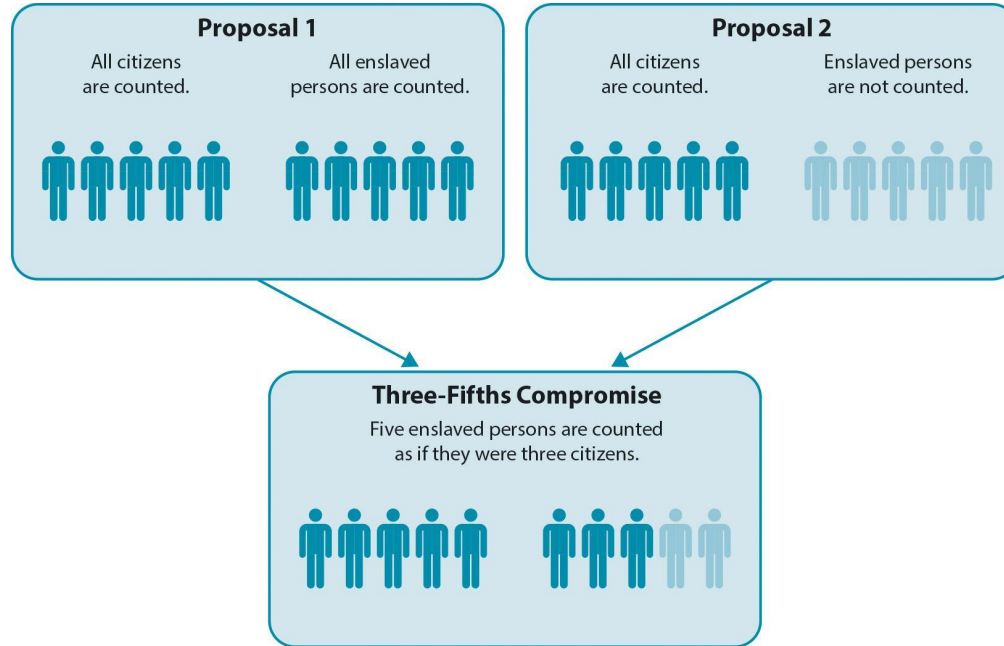
# Topic 2: Principles and Events That Influenced the Formation of the U.S. Government

State Support for the Virginia and New Jersey Plans



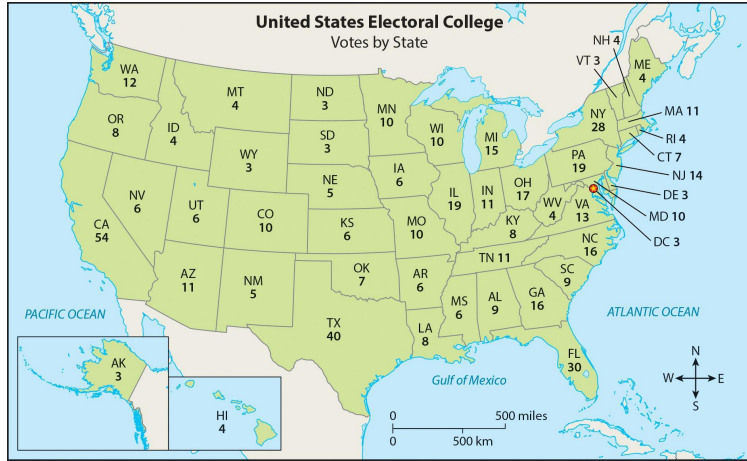
The population data shown in the map comes from the country's first census, conducted in 1790.

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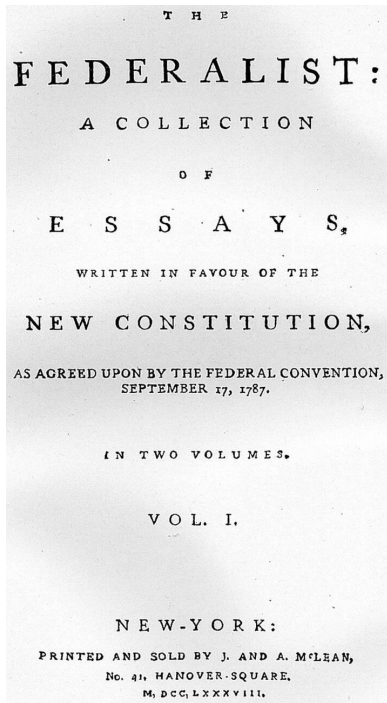


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In forty-eight U.S. states, electors cast their votes for the candidate who won the popular vote in their state. In Nebraska and Maine, two electoral votes are allocated to the winner of the statewide popular vote, and the rest are allocated to the candidate who won the popular vote in each congressional district.

# Topic 2: Principles and Events That Influenced the Formation of the U.S. Government



The Federalists were ultimately successful in securing ratification of the Constitution.



## Subject Matter Expert

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