

## Power Struggle Answer Key

Student responses should show analytical understanding:

1. States held most of the power; national authority was limited.
2. States supplied money based on land wealth; national government could not enforce payments, leading to financial struggles.
3. Government was too weak to act as a true nation; lacked real power to handle national issues.
4. Weak national power created inability to solve major problems (e.g., economy, defense, unity).
5. Leaders realized a stronger national structure (Constitution) was needed to form a functioning, united country.

Answers may vary in wording but must be supported with evidence from documents.

### Teacher's Guide

- Introduce or review "primary source," "sovereignty," and "national unity" before reading.
- Encourage close reading: students should underline phrases showing state control or national weakness.
- **Differentiation strategies:**
  - Provide sentence frames for developing writers.
  - Allow advanced students to reference additional historical examples (e.g., trade disputes, Shays' Rebellion).
- **Engagement approach:** Use a quick debate — "Who should have more power: states or the national government?" — before answering questions.
- **Extension activity:** Students write a short thesis statement explaining how the Articles failed to unify the nation and what the Constitution changed.