

Compare and Contrast Worksheet (some possible answers)

Similarities will not always be completely identical. Most similarities will be in the terms of addressing a topic, e.g. the fact that states are represented in the legislature or the fact that, under both documents, the federal government can coin money (though the Articles allow the states to coin as well).

The Constitution

Federal government has authority to regulate commerce among states (Art I, 8)

Federal government has its own taxing authority (Art I, Sec 8)

Bicameral Legislature (Art 1, Sec 1)

Amendment process involves $\frac{3}{4}$ of states (Article V)

Legislative members in Senate chosen by state legislatures, but legislative members in at least one house chosen by popular vote (Article I, Sec 2)

Article II creates presidency to execute laws

Admission of new states does not require unanimity, nor does Canada get automatic admission (Article IV, Section 3)

Similarities

Both federal governments are limited to a specific list of powers (AoC, IX; US Const, Article 1, Section 8)

Authority to regulate relations with Indian nations, though AoC forbids federal interference in Indians within state border, authority to operate post office, etc (AoC, IX; US Const, Article 1, Section 8) (many possibilities here)

States cannot declare war by themselves (USC, Art 1.10, AoC VI)

States cannot make treaties with foreign countries (USC Art 1.10, AoC VI)

States maintain own militia (USC Art 1.8, Art II.2; AoC VI)

The Articles of Confederation

Federal government lacks authority to regulate interstate commerce (AoC IX) (or other examples)

States provide taxes to the federal government (AoC VIII)

Unicameral legislature in which each state gets one vote (AoC V)

Amendment process requires unanimity (XIII)

Legislative members chosen by states (AoC V)

No free-standing executive branch; states execute most requests

Canada gets automatic admission as new member; other new state candidates require unanimous support (XI)