**Review for Q1 Common Assessment**

1. **French and Indian War**

* **Cause:** British wanted to control the Ohio Valley (and the French/Indians were there)
* **Location:** Ohio Valley (the land between the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers)
* **Effect:** Up until 1763, the colonies were left alone and allowed to **govern themselves** (this changed because the French and Indian war cost King George III so much money that he started taxing the colonists to get the money back)

1. **Taxation**

* Colonists were upset because they wanted “*no taxation without representation”* (they were a part of England, but they had no people representing them in British Parliament)
* **Commonly-used items that were taxed:** paper, paint, glass, and tea
* **People began to rebel:** (example) When King George placed a tax on tea, it led to the Boston Tea Party

1. **First Continental Congress**

* Our first Congress was made up of representatives of all the colonies
* They did NOT declare independence from England, but they DID establish the IDEA that being independent from England might be an option for the future

1. **Declaration of Independence**

* **Author:**  Thomas Jefferson
* **Purpose:** to explain WHY the colonists were choosing to separate from England
* Jefferson blamed King George III for the separation -- he said that *the king had taken away the colonists’ basic rights*
* Jefferson said that it was the colonists’ RIGHT to abolish (get rid of) an unjust government

1. **Articles of Confederation**

* First government set by Congress after declaring independence from England
* Totally INEFFECTIVE (unable to do its job)
* **WEAK** central government \*\*\*had no president or court system

1. **Shays’ Rebellion**

* Daniel Shays was a farmer who had left his family (and farm) to fight in the Revolutionary War -- when he returned, he found out that his family had to borrow money from people to survive, and Shays was now in debt
* Being in debt was a crime, and the state of Massachusetts threatened to take away his farm if he couldn’t pay his debts
* He was angry about this, and he (with a bunch of other farmers who were in the same position) led a rebellion (really, it was just an angry mob) against the government
* **This event shocked Congress and led them to call for the Constitutional convention** (because they saw that the current government really didn’t work)

1. **Constitutional Convention**

* Delegates were called “Framers” of the Constitution (like framing in a house – they built it)
* The delegates felt that the best option was to create a stronger central government
* They created a **republic**, a government in which people vote for representatives to make the laws of the land
* The new government would be led by a *president* (only a temporary position, unlike a king)
* **Electoral College** – the people chosen to elect the president
* **One huge challenge for the delegates:** How to meet the needs of both *large* and *small* states

1. **Representative Democracy**

* Government in which the people rule indirectly (they elect or appoint representatives)
* **Examples: (1)** New England town meetings,**(2)** Virginia House of Burgesses, and **(3)** the government under the Constitution