

Advanced Study Guide—Part IV

1. Why did the state legislatures become “political battlegrounds” in the 1780s? What were the main areas of friction?
2. Why did many prominent Americans view the Roman Republic as a model for their own young republic? Why did they believe that they were best qualified to rule?
3. What were the main arguments of the Federalists? Which groups were attracted to their arguments?
4. What were the main areas of weakness in the Articles of Confederation? What problems resulted from these weaknesses?
5. How did Shays’s Rebellion contribute to the movement to reform the Articles of Confederation?
6. Why did Patrick Henry remark that he “smelt a rat” when he learned of plans to hold a convention in Philadelphia in May 1787? Were his concerns justified?