

Name:

Date:



Geographical Context - Northwest Ordinance (1787)

Building Context

AIM

What was the Northwest Ordinance? How did it impact the United States?

Directions: Carefully review the infographic on the next page and answer the analysis questions below.

Analysis Questions:

- 1) *Close Reading:* Which government passed the Northwest Ordinance - the Articles of Confederation or the US Constitution?

- 2) *Close Reading:* How did the Northwest Ordinance impact the US Constitution?

- 3) *Close Reading:* Which of the promises to settlers listed in the infographic did NOT appear in the Bill of Rights?

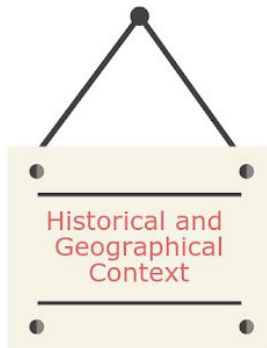
- 4) *Close Reading:* Which states came out of the Northwest Ordinance?

- 5) *Analysis:* How do you think the Northwest Ordinance impacted Native Americans?

- 6) *Analysis:* The Northwest Ordinance inspired a movement across the US later known as “*Manifest Destiny*”, a term that describes the attitude or belief that American expansion that the United States not only could, but was destined to, stretch from the east coast (Atlantic Ocean) to west coast (Pacific Ocean). How might the Northwest Ordinance have shaped and developed this movement?



Northwest Ordinance



For eight years (1781 - 1789), the original 13 American states were organized by the Articles of Confederation. The Articles of Confederation was not successful and eventually proved to be unstable, leading to the US Constitution in 1789.

The Northwest Ordinance (1787) was one of the few successes of the Articles of Confederation.

The Northwest Territory was granted to the US by Great Britain after victory in the American Revolution.

The territory included lands that were north of the Ohio River, and east of the Mississippi River.

The ordinance outlined how the territory could be settled by American citizens, the following was promised to all settlers:

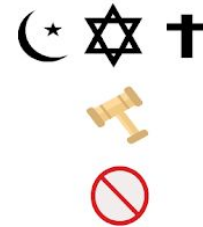
Many of these ideas later appeared in the Bill of Rights

Freedom of Religious Worship

Right to a trial by jury for anyone accused of a crime

No cruel or unusual punishments for a crime

No slavery in the territory



Territory ↔ State

The ordinance also outlined how a territory could become a state:



When an area is settled by a few hundred Americans, the US Congress approves and appoints a Governor for the region



When the population reaches 5,000 free men, those men can elect a legislature (local congress)



When the population reaches 60,000 free men, the territory can write a constitution and apply to the United States for statehood

The Northwest Ordinance ultimately created 6 states:
Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio

Name: _____ Date: _____

On the map below:

- Shade or color in the 13 Original Colonies
- Make a pattern of your choice to mark the Northwest Territory

