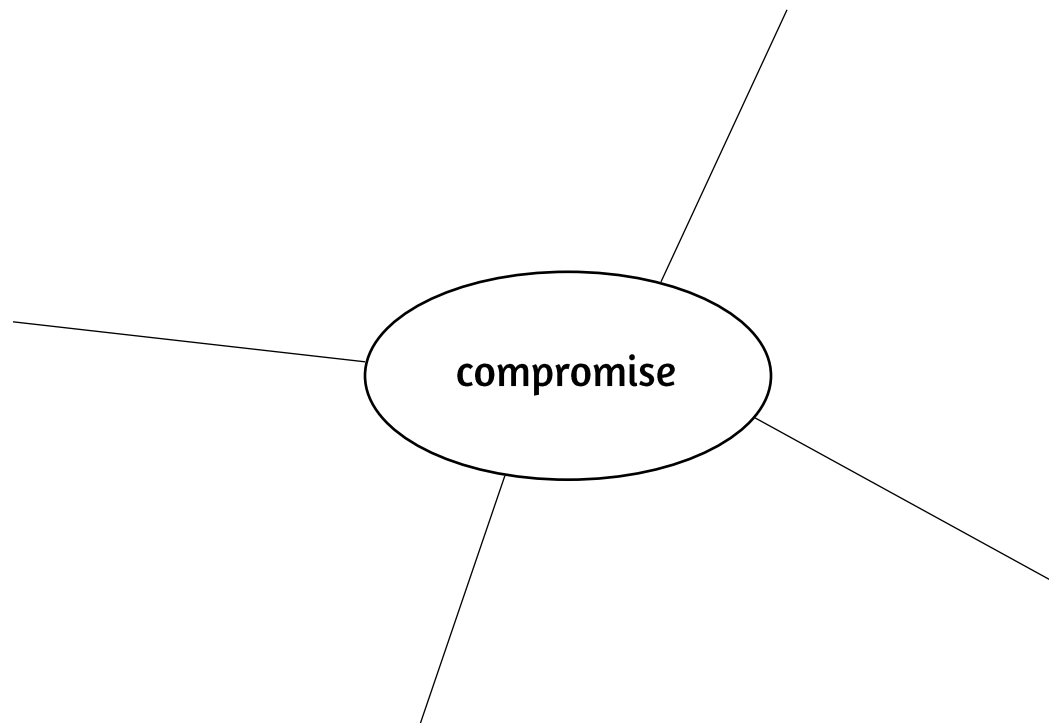


Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Mind Map: Compromise





Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise

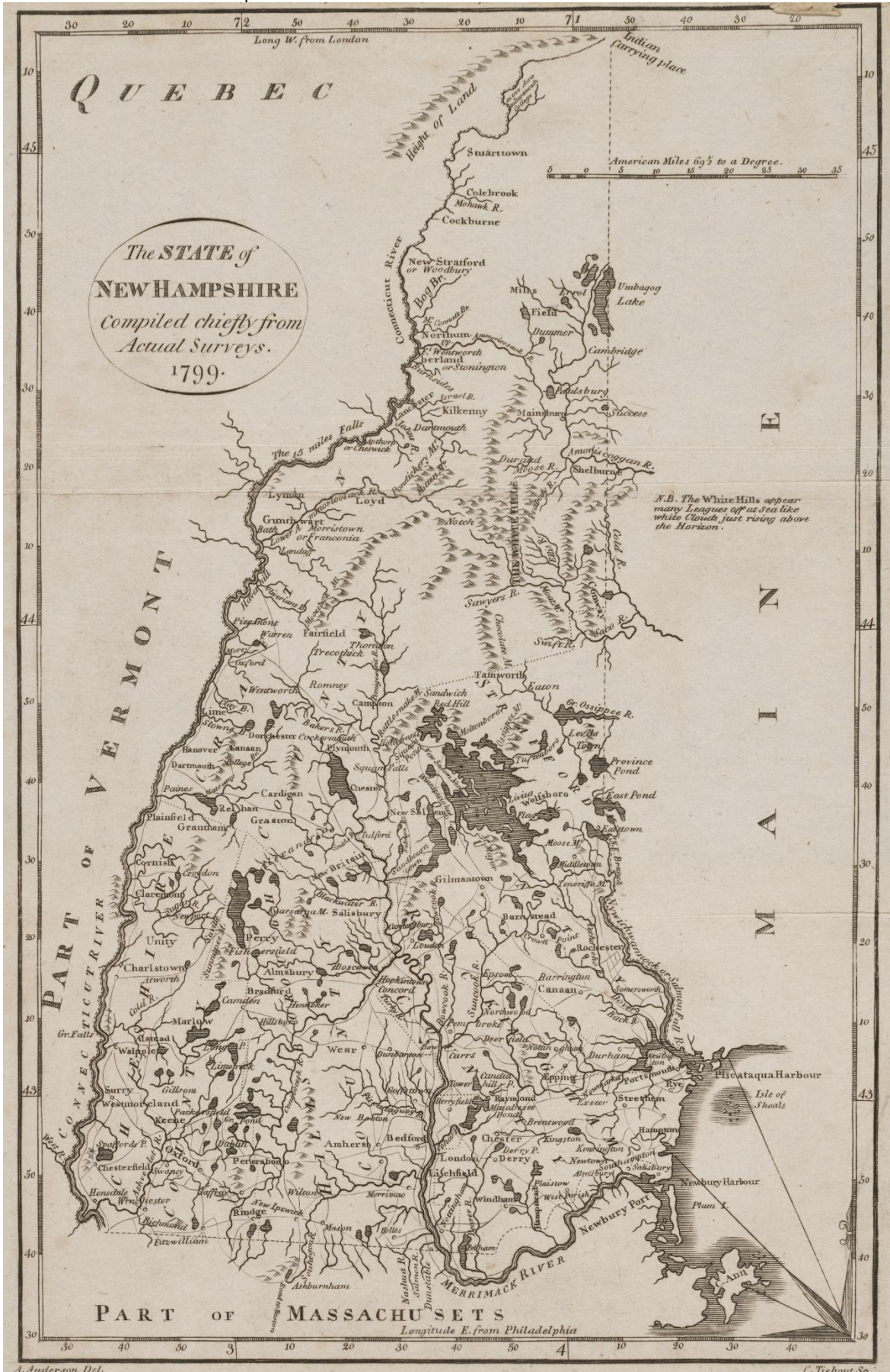
## Great Compromise Cards

One of the biggest challenges during the Constitutional Convention of 1787 was deciding how the voices of the people would be represented in Congress. It took weeks of debate to come to a compromise. Read the cards in order and have students move to the corresponding spot on the “see saw.” Copy and cut the cards to make decks for students doing the activity independently.

1. Edmund Randolph of Virginia (a large state) presents the Virginia plan. Congress will be <b>bicameral</b> , meaning it will have two sections or “houses.” Membership in both houses will be in proportion to a state’s population. So, the more people in the state, the more representatives it will have.	2. William Paterson of New Jersey (a small state) presents the New Jersey plan: Congress will only have one house. Each state will only have one representative regardless of size.
3. Representatives from New York, a large state, do not like this. Smaller states with fewer people shouldn’t be represented equally to states with more people. It’s unfair to give smaller groups more say.	4. Representatives from small states like Delaware disagree. They may be small but they have needs too. If representation is proportional, their needs will never be heard because they will have few people representing them. Equal representation is fair!
5. Southern states like South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia have to think ahead. Their populations are small now, but they think they’ll probably grow. Proportional representation is better!	6. Roger Sherman and Oliver Ellsworth of Connecticut draft a compromise for a bicameral legislature. The House of Representatives will be based on state population and the Senate will have equal representation.



Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise



Map of New Hampshire, 1799

Source: New Hampshire Historical Society





Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise

1782  
STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.  
A  
**PROCLAMATION.**

**W**HEREAS a number of Towns, in the Counties of Cheshire and Grafton in this State, did at the Commencement of the American Revolution, by a full Representation, by their Delegates in the Congress assembled on that Occasion, unite with the Delegates from the several Towns in the other Counties, in the then Colony, now State of *New-Hampshire*, in an Application to the United States in Congress assembled, requesting Leave to take up Government; and by their Advice did accordingly concur in forming and adopting a Constitution and Plan for the governing this State, during the Contest with *Great-Britain*; and afterwards, affected to join themselves to a Body of People, dwelling on the Western Side of *Connecticut-River*, claiming to be a separate and independent State, by the Name of *Vermont*; and have since their Union as aforesaid, refused Submission to the Authority and Government of *New-Hampshire*, or to contribute their proportionable Part of Taxes and Supplies, for prosecuting the War.

And whereas the United States in Congress assembled, always have, and still do, in all Requisitions for Men, Monies and Stores of every kind, calculate the Quota of *New-Hampshire* according to the Number of Inhabitants, contained on the Territory under its Jurisdiction, at the Time of the Revolution: And as the said Congress, by the Confederation, particularly the first and second Articles thereof, guarantee to the several States, that they shall severally retain their "Sovereignty, Freedom and Independence; and every Power, Jurisdiction and Right, which was not by the Confederation delegated to the United States in Congress assembled."

And also, did enter into a "firm League of Friendship with each other, for their common Defence, binding themselves to assist each other, against any Force offered to, or Attacks made upon them, or any of them, on account of Religion, Sovereignty, Trade, &c." And likewise, by their Resolutions of the seventh and eighth of August Seventeen Hundred Eighty-one, do expressly confine the *New-Hampshire Grants* and the State called *Vermont*, to the West Side of *Connecticut River*—and resolve in the Words following, viz. "That, in case Congress shall recognize the Independence of said People of *Vermont*, they will consider all the Lands belonging to *New-Hampshire* and *New-York* respectively, without the Limits of Vermont aforesaid, as coming within the mutual Guarantee of Territory, contained in the Articles of Confederation; and that the United States, will accordingly guarantee such Lands, and the Jurisdiction over the same, against any Claims or Incroachments from the Inhabitants of *Vermont* aforesaid." And as by a following Resolution, passed on the Twenty-first of August, A. D. 1781, they do in the most explicit and peremptory Terms, declare their fixed Purpose, to adhere to the guaranteeing of the States of *New-Hampshire* and *New-York*, as contained in the Resolution above recited, making it the Preliminary of admitting *Vermont* to Independence and the federal Union.

Yet notwithstanding, that *New-Hampshire* hath at all Times had the undoubted Right as aforesaid, to the Jurisdiction over the Towns in the Counties of Cheshire and Grafton; she hath forborn fully to enforce the same, in expectation that Time and lenient Methods, would awaken their Attention, conciliate their Affection, and dispose them to consult their Interest, by peaceably acceding to her rightful Authority. And at the same Time, *New Hampshire* hath been in Expectation, that the Honorable the Congress, would finally determine, respecting its Claim to the Jurisdiction on the Western Side of the *River Connecticut*; but while waiting for this Event, so earnestly to be wished, certain Persons on the Eastern Side of the said River, who, in some Instances at least, have appeared unfriendly to the Revolution; and who may therefore be suspected of the most dangerous Designs against the United States, have taken Advantage of the unsettled State of Things in that Territory; and under the Pretext of joining *Vermont*, and establishing the Authority thereof, have openly and avowedly resisted the Authority of *New-Hampshire*; and proceeded to molest some of the good Citizens thereof—to threaten and injure others for the supposed Crime, of denying and resisting their assumed Authority; and even to drive them from their Habitations:

**THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, in GENERAL COURT assembled,** have found themselves reduced to the painful Necessity, of ordering such an armed force into that Quarter, as may effectually protect the Civil Magistrates, acting under their Authority in performing the Duties of their respective Offices, and in carrying the good and wholesome Laws of this State into Execution, for the Restoration of Order, and the Protection of all their good Citizens. And they do hereby **SOLEMNLY DECLARE**, that in pursuing this necessary, tho' disagreeable Measure, they have no other Object in view, than the preserving and restoring the public Peace.

And whereas, the Authority of *New-Hampshire* earnestly wish, the late glorious struggle for American Liberty, now apparently approaching to an happy Issue, may not be tarnished by Civil Diffentions; they hereby call on, and exhort the Inhabitants of the said Counties of Cheshire and Grafton, to keep a watchful Eye on the insidious Arts, of Faction and Evil-minded Persons, who, to serve their ambitious Views, and disturb the general Peace, would sacrifice their best Interests. And to convince the People of those Counties, of the Mildness and Lenity of that Government, to which they wish them to return, they hereby engage to all Persons therein, who may have accepted Offices under the said State of *Vermont*, or who under the pretended Authority thereof, have imprisoned; or by any Means molested, hindered or disturbed, the public Officers of *New-Hampshire*, or broke the Peace thereof, that they shall receive full Indemnity therefor, so far as the State is concerned, on the Condition, that within **FORTY DAYS**, from and after, the issuing this Proclamation, they repair to some Magistrate of the State of *New-Hampshire*, and who hath not joined *Vermont*; and in his Presence subscribe a Declaration in the Words following, viz.-----*WE whose Names are hereunto subscribed, do acknowledge and declare, that the State of New-Hampshire doth, and of Right ought, to extend to the Western Bank of Connecticut River; and that we will demean Ourselves in future as peaceable Citizens of said State.*

And in case any Person or Persons, shall from and after the first Day of February next, presume to disturb or molest the Exercise of the lawful Authority of *New-Hampshire*; or to exercise, aid or abet, the pretended Authority of *Vermont* aforesaid within those Counties, he or they, shall be deemed Enemies to this, and the United States, and dealt with accordingly.

By order of **COUNCIL and ASSEMBLY.**

*M Weare* President.

**EXETER**, January 12th, 1782.

Printed at **EXETER**, 1782.





Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise

## Excerpt from Proclamation of Rebellion, 1782

This is a transcription of the first paragraph of this document.

At the start of the American Revolution, the delegates of a number of towns in the counties of Cheshire and Grafton in this state were in full agreement to unite with the delegates from the towns in the other counties, in the then colony, now State of New Hampshire. United, they requested to the United States Congress to take up government in the state. By the advice of the United States Congress, they did agree to form and adopt a state constitution and plan for governing the state during the war with Great Britain. Afterwards, however, they joined themselves to a group of people, living on the western side of Connecticut River, who were claiming to be a separate and independent state by the name of Vermont. These towns in the counties of Cheshire and Grafton have now refused to submit to the authority and government of New Hampshire, or to contribute their part of the taxes and supplies for waging the war against Great Britain.

**Important note:** This selection has been edited to make it easier for you to read. Some of the original punctuation, spelling, word choice, and capitalization have been changed.

Source: New Hampshire Historical Society

## Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise

**Excerpt from Proclamation of Rebellion, 1782**

(original first paragraph)

WHEREAS a number of Towns, in the Counties of Cheshire and Grafton in this State, did at the Commencement of the American Revolution, by a full Representation, by their Delegates in the Congress assembled on that Occasion, unite with the Delegates from the several Towns in the other Counties, in the then Colony, now State of *New-Hampshire*, in an Application to the United States in Congress assembled, requesting Leave to take up Government ; and by their Advice did accordingly concur in forming and adopting a Constitution and Plan for the governing this State, during the Contest with *Great Britain*; and afterwards, affected to join themselves to a Body of People, dwelling on the Western Side of *Connecticut-River*, claiming to be a separate and independent State by the Name of *Vermont*: and have since their Union as aforesaid, refused Submission to the Authority and Government of *New-Hampshire*, or to contribute their proportionable Part of Taxes and Supplies, for prosecuting the War,

Source: New Hampshire Historical Society

## Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Investigate a Rebellion: Town Viewpoint

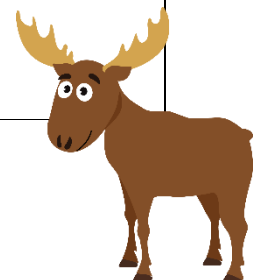
Read the following description of the difference between the towns in the west and the towns in the southeast of New Hampshire in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and then answer the questions:

"Life in the Seacoast circled around sawmills, shipyards, merchant's warehouses, and established village and town centers. Wealthy merchants built large homes, put the finest luxuries in them, and invested their money in trade and land. There also came to be a lasting lower class of day laborers, sailors, indentured servants, and even enslaved people who worked for the businesses of the wealthy. In the central and western parts of the area, however, the people were farmers. Many, if not most, had come from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Northern Ireland, and their ties to Portsmouth were weak. They spread themselves over the countryside, clearing small lots and building simple one- and two-story farmhouses. Their towns had a few sawmills and gristmills, a number of taverns, a meetinghouse, and perhaps a store or public school. During the War for Independence, farm towns in the Connecticut Valley became so unhappy with political leaders in the Seacoast area that they tried to secede. Only by agreeing to hold several legislative meetings in the Merrimack Valley, and particularly in the town of Concord, did New Hampshire keep itself from breaking apart."

R. Stuart Wallace, "New Hampshire History in Brief"  
 This reading has been edited to make it easier for you to read.

1. Highlight or underline information about the Seacoast and its people in blue or green.
2. Highlight or underline information about the central and western parts of the area in red or yellow.
3. Use the reading to complete the chart.

	Seacoast towns	Central and western towns
4. What were towns like?		
5. What was work like?		





6. What else made the people in the western towns feel different from the people on the seacoast?
7. Consider your source: The selection you read is a secondary source. What makes it a secondary source?
8. **Reflect** Imagine you live in one of the western towns. How would you explain to a person from the seacoast why you thought it would be better if your town was part of Vermont? Write your response in full sentences as if you were talking to the seacoast resident.



## Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Answer Key \_\_\_\_\_

## Investigate a Rebellion: Town Viewpoint

Read the following description of the difference between the towns in the west and the towns in the southeast of New Hampshire in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and then answer the questions:

"Life in the Seacoast circled around sawmills, shipyards, merchant's warehouses, and established village and town centers. Wealthy merchants built large homes, put the finest luxuries in them, and invested their money in trade and land. There also came to be a lasting lower class of day laborers, sailors, indentured servants, and even enslaved people who worked for the businesses of the wealthy. In the central and western parts of the area, however, the people were farmers. Many, if not most, had come from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Northern Ireland, and their ties to Portsmouth were weak. They spread themselves over the countryside, clearing small lots and building simple one- and two-story farmhouses. Their towns had a few sawmills and gristmills, a number of taverns, a meetinghouse, and perhaps a store or public school. During the War for Independence, farm towns in the Connecticut Valley became so unhappy with political leaders in the Seacoast area that they tried to secede. Only by agreeing to hold several legislative meetings in the Merrimack Valley, and particularly in the town of Concord, did New Hampshire keep itself from breaking apart."

R. Stuart Wallace, "New Hampshire History in Brief"  
 This reading has been edited to make it easier for you to read.

1. Highlight or underline information about the Seacoast and its people in blue or green.
2. Highlight or underline information about the central and western parts of the area in red or yellow.
3. Use the reading to complete the chart.

	Seacoast towns	Central and western towns
4. What were towns like?	<b>Older, more developed</b> <b>Bigger populations</b> <b>Lots of houses and businesses</b>	<b>Smaller, less developed</b> <b>People lived further apart</b>
5. What was work like?	<b>People worked in businesses like sawmills, shipyards, warehouses</b> <b>Some people owned businesses and some people were lower class</b>	<b>Most people were farmers</b>



Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise

6. What else made the people in the western towns feel different from the people on the Seacoast?

**The people in the western towns of New Hampshire were mostly from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Northern Ireland. They didn't have personal connections to Portsmouth. They also felt that the government was too focused in the Seacoast region.**

7. Consider your source: The selection you read is a secondary source. What makes it a secondary source?

**This is a secondary source because it was created after the events described by someone who was not involved with the events. It is written by a historian, who read other sources to learn about this time period.**

8. **Reflect** Imagine you live in one of the western towns. How would you explain to a person from the seacoast why you thought it would be better if your town was part of Vermont? Write your response in full sentences as if you were talking to the Seacoast resident.

**I understand that we have been part of your colony for a while, but we are very different from you. We are far away and our towns are not like yours with businesses. We are farmers and we have more in common with people and towns in Vermont than we have with you. We don't feel like we have a say in our government, which is too far away and doesn't give us enough attention. It is time for us to break with New Hampshire and go to a colony which is better for us.**

## Investigate a Rebellion: State Viewpoint

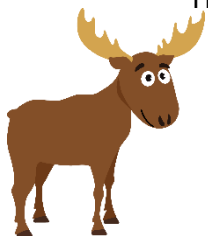
Read the first paragraph from "Proclamation of Rebellion, 1782" and then answer the questions.

At the start of the American Revolution, the delegates of a number of towns in the counties of Cheshire and Grafton in this state were in full agreement to unite with the delegates from the towns in the other counties, in the then colony, now State of New Hampshire. United, they requested to the United States Congress to take up government in the state. By the advice of the United States Congress, **they did agree to form and adopt a state constitution and plan for governing the state during the war with Great Britain.** Afterwards, however, they joined themselves to a group of people, living on the western side of Connecticut River, who were claiming to be a separate and independent state by the name of Vermont. These towns in the counties of Cheshire and Grafton have now **refused to submit to the authority and government of New Hampshire, or to contribute their part of the taxes and supplies for waging the war against Great Britain.**

Source: New Hampshire Historical Society  
This reading has been edited to make it easier for you to read.

1. Which counties did the state government feel were rebellious?	2. What area did the towns in those counties want to join?
3. Read the phrases in bold. What did the towns do that the state thought was "rebellious?"	4. Consider your source: The selection you read is a primary source. What makes it a primary source?

5. **Reflect** Imagine you live in a town on the seacoast and think that the towns in the west are rebelling against New Hampshire. How would you explain your viewpoint to someone from one of those towns? Write your response on the back of this page.





Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Answer Key \_\_\_\_\_

## Investigate a Rebellion: State Viewpoint

Read the first paragraph from "Proclamation of Rebellion, 1782" and then answer the questions.

At the start of the American Revolution, the delegates of a number of towns in the counties of Cheshire and Grafton in this state were in full agreement to unite with the delegates from the towns in the other counties, in the then colony, now State of New Hampshire. United, they requested to the United States Congress to take up government in the state. By the advice of the United States Congress, **they did agree to form and adopt a state constitution and plan for governing the state during the war with Great Britain.** Afterwards, however, they joined themselves to a group of people, living on the western side of Connecticut River, who were claiming to be a separate and independent state by the name of Vermont. These towns in the counties of Cheshire and Grafton have now **refused to submit to the authority and government of New Hampshire, or to contribute their part of the taxes and supplies for waging the war against Great Britain.**

Source: New Hampshire Historical Society  
This reading has been edited to make it easier for you to read.

<p>1. In which counties were the "rebellious" towns located?</p> <p><b>The towns were in Cheshire and Grafton counties.</b></p>	<p>2. What area did the towns in those counties want to join?</p> <p><b>The towns wanted to join an area on the western side of the Connecticut River that was called Vermont. It claimed to be an independent state.</b></p>
<p>3. Read the phrases in bold. What did the towns do that the state thought was "rebellious?"</p> <p><b>The state said the towns had agreed to be part of the state of New Hampshire in order to fight against the British. But, the towns decided they would rather be part of Vermont. This meant that they had stopped obeying state laws and contributing taxes, which were needed to pay for the war.</b></p>	<p>4. Consider your source: The selection you read is a primary source. What makes it a primary source?</p> <p><b>This is a primary source because it was created during the time of the events that are being studied. It was written by the state government in 1782 about the towns that wanted to join Vermont.</b></p>

5. **Reflect** Imagine you are a resident of the seacoast who agrees that the towns in the west are rebelling against New Hampshire. How would you explain your viewpoint? Write your response on the back of this page.

**I understand you are a different kind of town from us, but you made an agreement to be a state together. You will be breaking your word and leaving us to pay the cost of the war against Great Britain if you go with Vermont right now. You are in rebellion if you do not follow state laws and leave us.**



Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Matching Concerns and Compromises

The 1776 New Hampshire constitution needed to be changed to meet the needs of citizens, especially those who lived in the western towns along the Connecticut River. Beginning in 1778, lawmakers spent five years making compromises to improve the constitution. Read the examples listed in the chart of concerns people had with the original constitution. Read the examples of constitutional compromises in the boxes at the bottom. Then, cut and paste the constitutional compromises to match each to the concern it solves.

Concerns	Matching Compromises
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>It did not list or acknowledge any of the people's rights.</li></ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>There was no official process to change or amend it.</li></ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Only white men who owned a large amount of property could vote in state elections.</li></ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All power to make laws was in the legislature; there wasn't an executive or judicial branch.</li></ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Population determined the representation of a town in the state legislature; seacoast towns had more power.</li></ul>	

Every town would have a representative, even if the population was very small.	The government would have three branches: an executive (headed by a president), a judicial, and a legislative.
White men who paid taxes could vote; they did not have to own a lot of property.	A bill of rights was added that listed 38 specific rights for the people.
Constitutional conventions would be held in the future to make changes.	

## Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Answer Key \_\_\_\_\_

## Matching Concerns and Compromises

The 1776 New Hampshire constitution needed to be changed to meet the needs of citizens, especially those who lived in the western towns along the Connecticut River. Beginning in 1778, lawmakers spent five years making compromises to improve the constitution. Read the examples listed in the chart of concerns people had with the original constitution. Read the examples of constitutional compromises in the boxes at the bottom. Then, cut and paste the constitutional compromises to match each to the concern it solves.

Concerns	Matching Compromises
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It did not list or acknowledge any of the people's rights.</li> </ul>	<b>A bill of rights was added that listed 38 specific rights for the people.</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There was no official process to change or amend it.</li> </ul>	<b>Constitutional conventions would be held in the future to make changes.</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only white men who owned a large amount of property could vote in state elections.</li> </ul>	<b>White men who paid taxes could vote; they did not have to own a lot of property.</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All power to make laws was in the legislature; there wasn't an executive or judicial branch.</li> </ul>	<b>The government would have three branches: an executive (headed by a president), a judicial, and a legislative.</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population determined the representation of a town in the state legislature; seacoast towns had more power.</li> </ul>	<b>Every town would have a representative, even if the population was very small.</b>

Updates to New Hampshire constitution include:

- An expanded bill of rights that lists 87 specific rights for individuals.
- Any state resident 18 or older may vote in state elections, regardless of race, gender, or property ownership.
- The head of the executive branch is called a governor rather than president.
- Constitutional conventions do not happen frequently, but the constitution has been amended 200 times since 1784.





Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Capital Compromise

During the western towns' rebellion in New Hampshire, one of the biggest problems they had with the state's government was that it was so far away from them. As a compromise, the government started holding legislative meetings of the General Court in different towns and finally moved the capital to Concord in the 1810s. Use the "Map of New Hampshire, 1799" to complete the following tasks:

1. Highlight the town names along the Connecticut River.
2. Highlight Exeter, the former center of government.
3. Highlight Concord, the current capital of New Hampshire.
4. Circle some of the locations where the General Court met:
  - Portsmouth      • Dover      • Salisbury
  - Hopkinton      • Charlestown      • Exeter
  - Amherst      • Hanover      • Concord



### Reflect

5. How was making the General Court meet in different towns a compromise?
6. Look at the location of the towns where the meetings were held. What do you notice about them?
7. Why do you think the government ultimately picked one place for the government to meet? What about Concord's location made it a good choice?



Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Answer Key \_\_\_\_\_

## Capital Compromise

During the western towns' rebellion in New Hampshire, one of the biggest problems they had with the state's government was that it was so far away from them. As a compromise, the government started holding legislative meetings of the General Court in different towns and finally moved the capital to Concord in 1816. Use the "Map of New Hampshire, 1799" to complete the following tasks:

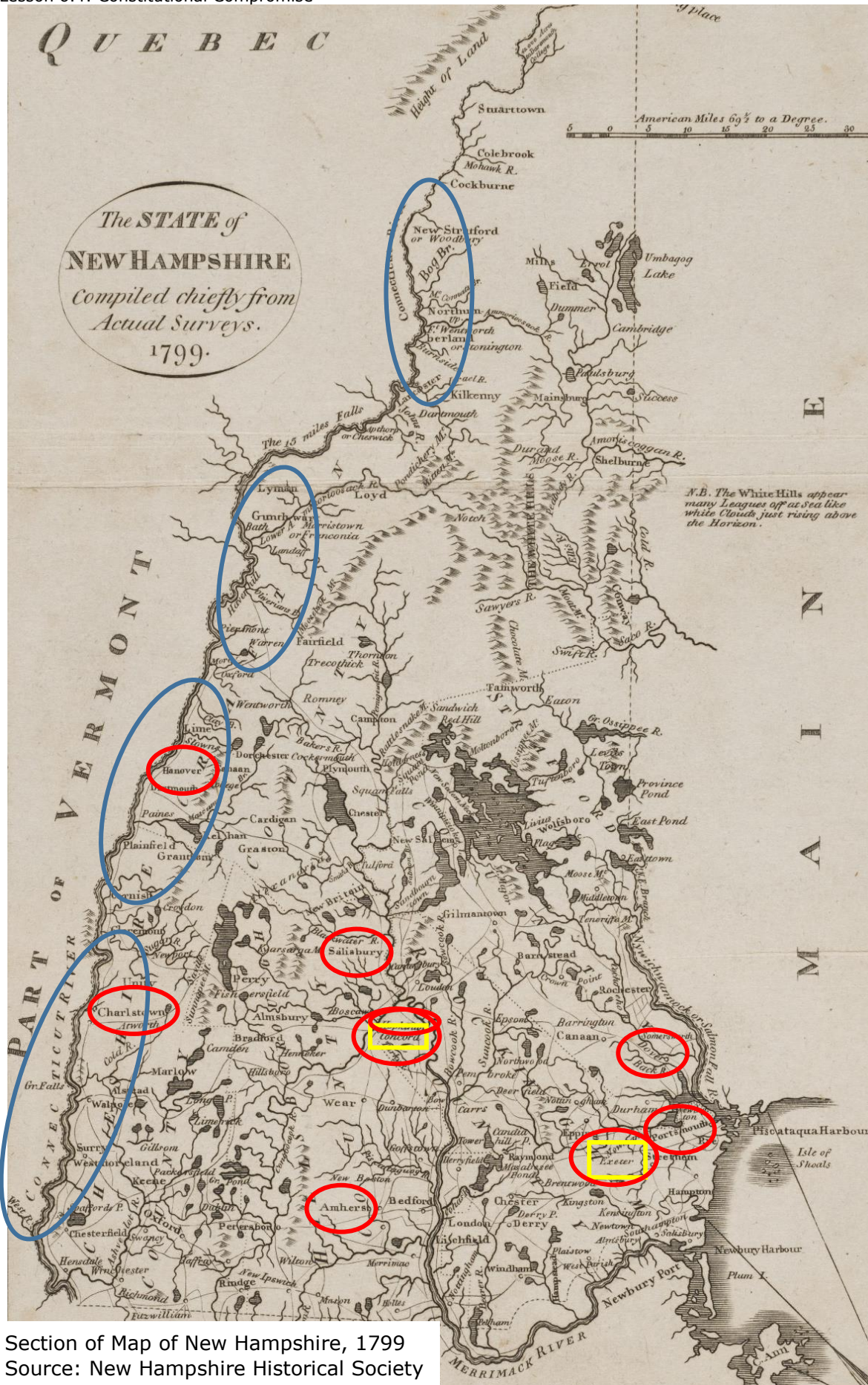
1. Highlight the town names along the Connecticut River. **(Circled in blue.)**
2. Highlight Exeter, the former center of government. **(Rectangle in yellow.)**
3. Highlight Concord, the current capital of New Hampshire. **(Rectangle in yellow.)**
4. Circle some of the locations where the General Court met: **(Circled in red.)**
  - Portsmouth      • Dover      • Salisbury
  - Hopkinton      • Charlestown      • Exeter
  - Amherst      • Hanover      • Concord

### Reflect

5. How was making the General Court meet in different towns a compromise?  
**Meeting in different towns around the state spread out government, geographically, so that people who were not near the seacoast could feel like it was their government too. It also made it so it was easier for some people to travel to some meetings.**
6. Look at the location of the towns where the meetings were held. What do you notice about them?  
**That they are spread all over the state.**
7. Why do you think the government ultimately picked one place for the government to meet? What about Concord's location made it a good choice?  
**I think they picked one place in the end because you have to have a place where everyone knows the government will be. They needed to build a state house and courts. Concord is a good location because it's in the middle of the state, east to west and north to south.**



Lesson 6.4: Constitutional Compromise



Section of Map of New Hampshire, 1799  
Source: New Hampshire Historical Society