# SS.7.C.1.5 High Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

**Question**

The passage below is from a historical document.

Source: U.S. National Archives and Records Administration

How does the U.S. Constitution address concerns that resulted from the government described in this passage?

According to Article II of this historic document how does the U.S. Constitution address concerns resulting from the government described?

Break down some of the words in the document that include

Sovereignty (supreme power or authority), jurisdiction (legal authority) and delegated (to give power to others or to assign responsibility).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>The new government could enforce treaties between the states.</th>
<th><strong>Incorrect</strong> – The passage does not address making or enforcing treaties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>The new government could settle disputes between the states.</td>
<td><strong>Correct</strong> – The government described gave each state its own jurisdiction and power (“each state retains”). If a dispute arose, it could be settled between the states.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>The new government could regulate trade between the states.</td>
<td><strong>Incorrect</strong> – The passage does not address trade between or among states.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>The new government could levy taxes between the states.</td>
<td><strong>Incorrect</strong> – The passage does not discuss taxes between or among the states.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Art. II. Each state retains its sovereignty, freedom, and independence, and every power, jurisdiction, and right, which is not by this confederation expressly delegated to the United States, in Congress assembled.

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