

The Federalist Era

Lesson 1 The First President

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

What are the characteristics of a leader?

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. *What decisions did Washington and the new Congress have to make about the new government?*
2. *How did the economy develop under the guidance of Alexander Hamilton?*

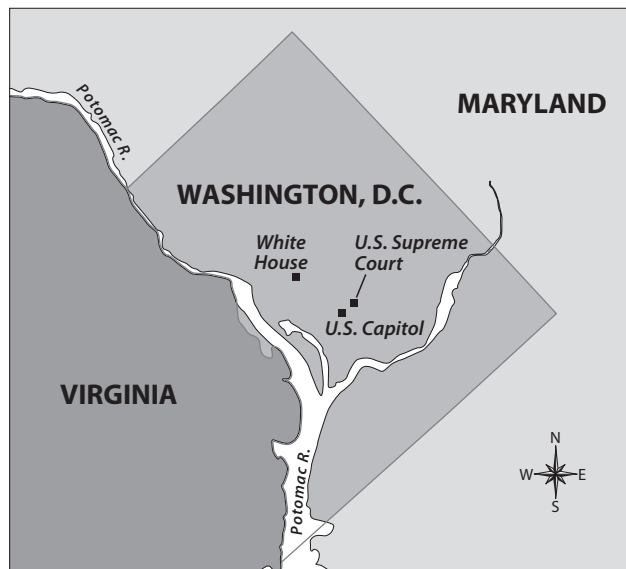
Terms to Know

precedent something done or said that becomes an example for others to follow

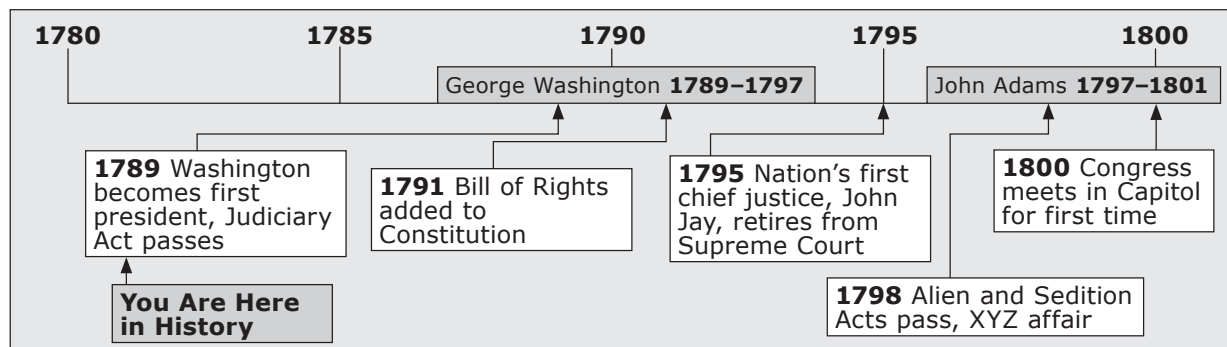
cabinet a group of advisers to a president

bond certificate that promises to repay borrowed money in the future—plus an additional amount of money, called interest

Where in the world?



When did it happen?



The Federalist Era

Lesson 1 The First President, *Continued*

Washington Takes Office

George Washington was the first president of the United States. He knew that the **precedents**, or traditions, he started would be important. They would shape the future of the country and the government. With Congress, Washington set up departments within the executive branch. Washington and Congress also set up the court system. Congress added the Bill of Rights to the Constitution.

The executive branch began with three departments and two offices. These advisors were called the **cabinet**:

Department or Office	Head	Function
State Department	Thomas Jefferson	Relations with other nations
Department of the Treasury	Alexander Hamilton	Handled financial matters
Department of War	Henry Knox	Provided for the nation's defense
Attorney General	Edmund Randolph	Handled legal affairs
Postmaster General	Benjamin Franklin	Managed postal system

The Judiciary Act of 1789 created a federal court system. It had district courts at the lowest level. Courts of appeal were at the middle level. The Supreme Court was at the top of the court system. It would make the final decision on many issues. State courts and laws stayed the same. However, the federal courts had the power to change state decisions.

The first ten amendments, or changes, to the Constitution are known as the Bill of Rights. They were passed during the first meeting of Congress. The amendments limit the powers of government. They also protect the rights of the people.

The New Economy

The new United States faced serious financial problems. The national debt—the amount of money owed by the nation's government—was very large. Alexander Hamilton was secretary of the treasury. He worked to solve the nation's financial problems.

Critical Thinking

1. Why do you think it was important to set up a federal court system?

Marking the Text

2. Underline the sentence that describes Washington's first cabinet. What branch of the government is the cabinet in?

Reading Check

3. What were three important actions taken by President Washington and Congress?

The Federalist Era

Lesson 1 The First President, *Continued*

Analyzing

4. Why do you think Alexander Hamilton wanted to pay back the bonds from the confederation government?

Describing

5. Why did some people oppose Hamilton's plan to pay off government bonds?

Reading Check

6. Why did Hamilton support locating the United States capital in the South?

During the Revolutionary War, the confederation government had borrowed a large amount of money. It had issued **bonds**. These are certificates promising to pay back money in a certain length of time. Hamilton argued that the United States should pay back money borrowed from other countries and from American citizens. Hamilton believed that the national government should also pay the war debts of the states.

Some people did not like Hamilton's plan. Many people who bought bonds were worried that they would never be paid back. To get some money for their bonds, many people sold their bonds to speculators for less than the bonds were worth. Speculators hoped to make money later if the government finally paid back the bonds. The original bondholders saw that speculators would get rich and the bondholders would get nothing. Southern states also complained about the plan to pay state war debts. They had built up much less debt than the Northern states. They argued that the plan would make them pay more than their share.

Hamilton worked out a deal with Southern leaders. If they voted for his plan, he would support putting the new capital in the South. A new district called Washington, D.C., would be created between Virginia and Maryland.

To help build a strong national economy, Hamilton asked Congress to start a national bank. It would issue a single type of money for use in all states. Some people were against the idea, but Washington agreed with Hamilton. A national bank called the Bank of the United States was started.

Hamilton also proposed a tariff that would help protect American products. A tariff is a tax on goods bought from foreign countries. It makes products from other nations more expensive than those made at home. This tariff would help American companies compete against foreign companies.

Hamilton's Actions

- Paid back bonds
- Created Bank of the United States
- Introduced a protective tariff to help U.S. companies
- Supported putting the nation's capital in the South

The Federalist Era

Lesson 1 The First President, *Continued*

Check for Understanding

List the 3 departments that were part of Washington's executive branch.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

List 4 important actions taken by Alexander Hamilton.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____



7. Place a two-tab Foldable along the dotted line to cover Check for Understanding. Write the title *George Washington* on the top tab and *Alexander Hamilton* on the bottom. On both sides of the tabs, list three things you remember about *both* as they helped form the new nation. Use the Foldable to help answer Check for Understanding.

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Lesson 2 Early Challenges

ESSENTIAL QUESTION
Why does conflict develop?

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. *What challenges on the frontier did the new government face?*
2. *Why did Washington want to remain neutral in foreign conflicts?*

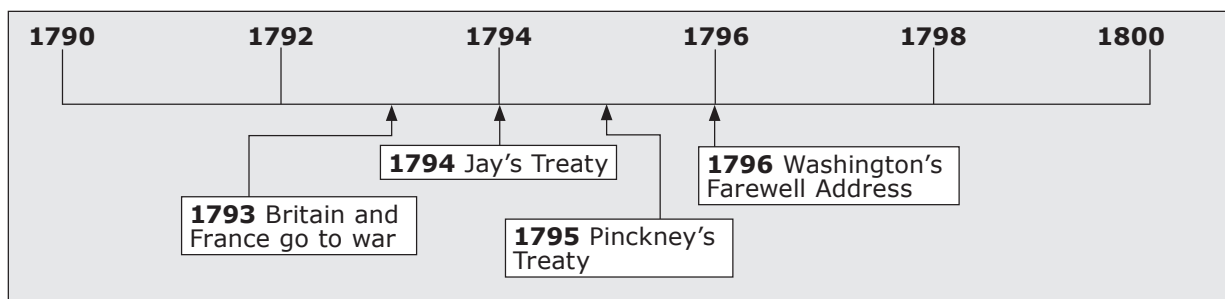
Term to Know

impressment seizing people against their will and forcing them to serve in the military or other public service

Where in the world?



When did it happen?



The Federalist Era**Lesson 2** Early Challenges, *Continued***Trouble in the New Nation**

The new government faced many problems. In western Pennsylvania farmers opposed a tax on whiskey. In 1794, an armed mob attacked tax collectors. They burned down buildings. This armed protest was called the Whiskey Rebellion. It worried government leaders. President Washington and his advisers decided to crush the protest using the army. This sent a message to people: the government would use force when necessary to maintain, or keep, order.

In the Northwest Territory, Native Americans tried to stop American settlers from moving west. Washington signed treaties with the Native Americans. He did not want the Native Americans to be influenced by Great Britain or Spain. American settlers ignored the treaties. They moved into lands promised to the Native Americans. Fighting broke out. Washington sent General Arthur St. Clair to restore order, but St. Clair was defeated in 1791.

Britain and France wanted to bring the United States into their own conflicts. The British were afraid that the United States would help France. They asked Native Americans to attack American settlements west of the Appalachian Mountains. Washington sent an army under General Anthony Wayne. The army defeated the Native Americans at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794. The Native Americans signed the Treaty of Greenville. They agreed to give up most of the land in what is now Ohio.

CONFLICTS

Where?	Who?	What happened?
Western Pennsylvania	Farmers and others	Whiskey Rebellion crushed by Washington
Northwest Territory	Gen. Arthur St. Clair	U.S. troops defeated by Native Americans
West of Appalachian mountains	British	Asked Native Americans to attack American settlers
Ohio	Gen. Anthony Wayne	Defeated Native Americans at the Battle of Fallen Timbers; Native Americans signed Treaty of Greenville

**Identifying**

1. What three European countries were involved in American affairs?

**Evaluating**

2. Underline the sentence that describes the message the government sent by crushing the Whiskey Rebellion. Do you think the message was effective?

**Reading Check**

3. How did settlers moving west react to the treaties signed by Native Americans?

The Federalist Era

Lesson 2 Early Challenges, *Continued*



Vocabulary

4. What was *impressment*?



Determining Cause and Effect

5. What was the result of Pinckney's Treaty?



Reading Check

6. What did the Proclamation of Neutrality do?

Problems with Europe

Britain and France went to war in 1793. Some Americans sided with France and others supported Britain. Washington hoped that the United States could stay neutral. Neutral means not taking sides in a conflict.

The French tried to get American volunteers to attack British ships. In response, President Washington issued a Proclamation of Neutrality. It declared that American citizens could not fight in the war. It also stopped French and British warships from using American ports. The British captured American ships that traded with the French. They forced the American crews into the British navy. This practice was called **impressment**. It angered the Americans.

Washington sent John Jay to work out a peaceful solution with Britain. Jay proposed a treaty. In Jay's Treaty, the British would agree to leave American soil. But the treaty did not deal with the problems of impressment. It also did not deal with the British interfering with American trade. Jay's Treaty was unpopular, but the Senate approved it.

Spanish leaders feared that the United States and Great Britain would work together against them in North America. Thomas Pinckney went to Spain to settle the differences between the United States and Spain. In 1795 he proposed a treaty that said Americans could travel on the Mississippi River. Pinckney's Treaty also gave Americans the right to trade at New Orleans.

Jay's Treaty

- British agreed to leave American soil
- Did not deal with impressment
- Did not deal with British interfering with American trade
- Unpopular

Pinckney's Treaty

- Between Spain and the U.S.
- Gave Americans right to travel the Mississippi River
- Gave Americans right to trade at New Orleans

Washington decided to retire and not run for a third term as president. In his last speech, he warned the country not to get involved in foreign problems. He also warned against creating political parties.

The Federalist Era

Lesson 2 Early Challenges, *Continued*

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Check for Understanding

List four challenges faced by the new government within the United States.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

List the two treaties that the United States signed with foreign countries to resolve conflicts.

1. _____
2. _____



7. Place a two-tab Foldable along the dotted line to cover Check for Understanding. Write the title *Challenges* on the anchor tab. Label the tabs—*Conflicts in U.S.* and *Foreign Conflicts*. Use both sides of the tabs to record what you recall about each and write facts about who was involved and what happened. Use the Foldable to help answer Check for Understanding.

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Lesson 3 The First Political Parties

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How do governments change?

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. *How did different opinions lead to the first political parties?*
2. *What important events occurred during the presidency of John Adams?*

Terms to Know

partisan firmly favoring one party or faction

caucus a meeting of members of a political party to choose candidates for upcoming elections

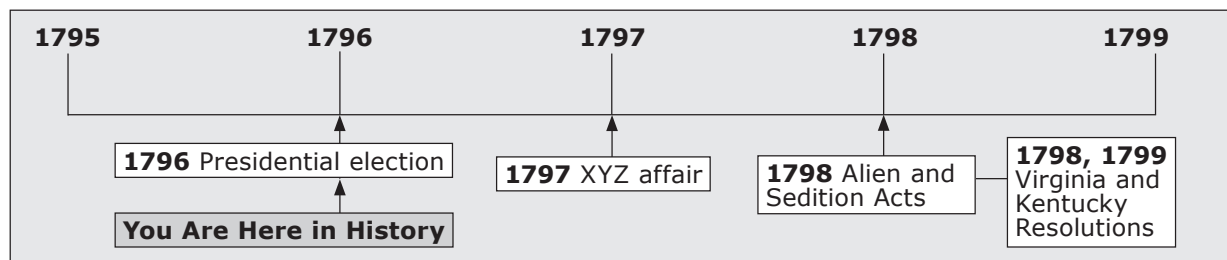
alien a person living in a country who is not a citizen of that country

sedition activities aimed at weakening the established government by inciting resistance or rebellion to authority

nullify to legally overturn

states' rights the idea that states should have all powers that the Constitution does not give to the federal government or forbid to the states

When did it happen?



What do you know?

In the first column, answer the questions based on what you know before you study. After this lesson, complete the last column.

Now...		Later...
	How did people feel about political parties when Washington was president?	
	What were the first two political parties in America?	
	Did President John Adams and Vice President Thomas Jefferson have similar views about government?	
	Why were Americans suspicious of aliens during this period?	
	Why did some states believe they had the power to overturn federal laws?	

The Federalist Era

Lesson 3 The First Political Parties, *Continued*

Opposing Parties

President Washington warned against political parties. He was afraid that political parties would divide the nation. Others thought that it was natural for people to disagree about issues. By 1796, Americans were beginning to split into two different groups.

In Washington's cabinet, Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson often disagreed. They disagreed about economic policy and foreign relations. They disagreed about how much power the federal government should have. They also disagreed on the rules of the Constitution. Even Washington was **partisan**—favoring one side of an issue. Washington usually supported Hamilton's positions. These disagreements caused both Hamilton and Jefferson to resign from, or leave, the cabinet. The two political parties that formed were called Federalists and Republicans.

Federalists	Republicans
Headed by Alexander Hamilton	Headed by Thomas Jefferson
Supported government by representatives	Feared strong central government controlled by only a few people
Believed government had broad powers implied by the Constitution	Believed government only had powers specifically stated in the Constitution

In 1796, there was a presidential election. Before the election, the two parties held meetings called **caucuses**. At the caucuses, members of Congress and other leaders chose their parties' candidates for office.

The Federalists chose John Adams for president. The Republicans chose Thomas Jefferson. This was the first time candidates identified themselves as members of political parties.

Adams received 71 electoral votes to win the election. Jefferson finished second with 68 votes. Under the Constitution at that time, the person with the second-highest number of electoral votes became vice president. Jefferson became the new vice president. The new government in 1797 had a Federalist president and a Republican vice president.

? Defending

- Underline the sentences that describe two opinions about political parties. Which opinion do you agree with? Why?

Identifying

- Name the two political parties and the leader of each.

✓ Reading Check

- What was different about the election of 1796?

The Federalist Era

Lesson 3 The First Political Parties, *Continued*

FOLDABLES®



Describing

4. Place a four-tab Foldable along the dotted line to cover the text beneath the title *John Adams as President*. Write the title *John Adams* on the anchor tab. Label the four tabs—*Who*, *What*, *When*, and *Where*. On both sides of the tabs, write what you recall about President John Adams and how he handled the capture of American ships by the French.



Identifying

5. Who were the people that President Adams referred to as X, Y, and Z?
- _____
- _____



Reading Check

6. What was important about the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions of 1798 and 1799?
- _____
- _____

John Adams as President

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When Adams became president, France and the United States could still not agree. The French thought that Jay's Treaty allowed Americans to help the British. The French captured American ships that carried goods to Britain.

In 1797, Adams sent a team to Paris to try to end the disagreement. The French officials refused to meet with the Americans. Instead, they sent three agents. They demanded a bribe from America and a loan for France. Adams was angry at the French actions. He called the French agents "X, Y, and Z." Adams urged Congress to prepare for war. This was called the XYZ affair.

XYZ Affair

- French captured American ships carrying goods to Britain
- Adams sent a team to France
- Three French agents, known as X, Y, and Z, tried to get a bribe and a loan from Americans

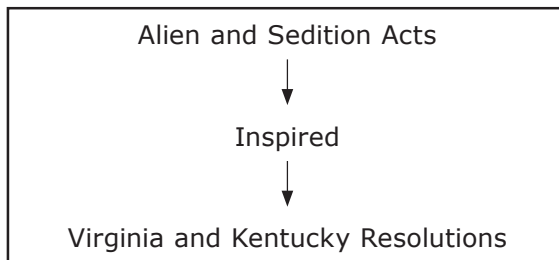
People were angry with France. Americans became more suspicious of aliens. **Aliens** are immigrants living in a country who are not citizens of that country. Federalists passed laws to protect the nation's security. In 1798, they passed a group of laws known as the Alien and Sedition Acts. **Sedition** means activities that weaken the government. The Alien Act allowed the president to put aliens in prison. He could also send them out of the country if he thought they were dangerous. Later, France and the United States signed a treaty which stopped French attacks on American ships.

The Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions were passed in 1798 and 1799. They claimed that the Alien and Sedition Acts did not follow the rules of the Constitution. They also said the states should not put them into action. The Kentucky Resolutions said that states might **nullify**, or legally overturn, federal laws if they thought the laws went against the Constitution.

The resolutions supported the idea of **states' rights**. This idea says that the powers of the federal government should be limited. Its powers should be only those clearly given to it in the Constitution. The states should have all other powers. The issue of states' rights would be important in the future.

The Federalist Era

Lesson 3 The First Political Parties, *Continued*



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Check for Understanding

List the president and vice president elected in 1796 and the political parties they belonged to.

1. _____
2. _____

List the two states that passed resolutions opposing the Alien and Sedition Acts.

1. _____
2. _____



7. Place a one-tab Foldable along the dotted line to cover Check for Understanding. Write the title *Alien and Sedition Acts* in the middle of the Foldable tab. Create a memory map by drawing arrows from the title. List three words or phrases that you recall about the Alien and Sedition Acts. Use the Foldable to help answer Check for Understanding.