



AMERICAN HISTORY



JOHN ADAMS & THE FEDERALIST ERA

Name: _____

Date: _____

Multiple Choice

- Who became the second president of the United States after the election of 1796?
 - Thomas Jefferson
 - John Adams
 - George Washington
 - Aaron Burr
- What unique outcome occurred in the election of 1796?
 - Both the president and vice president were from the same party.
 - The election ended in a tie.
 - The president and vice president were from opposing parties.
 - No candidate received enough votes to become president.
- What caused the XYZ Affair during John Adams's presidency?
 - A trade embargo against Britain
 - France demanding bribes to negotiate with the U.S.
 - An invasion of American territory by France
 - A disagreement over the Louisiana Purchase
- How did the United States respond to the XYZ Affair?
 - Declared war on France
 - Increased defense spending and created the Department of the Navy
 - Signed a treaty with Britain to form a military alliance
 - Imposed an embargo on French goods
- What was the purpose of the Alien Acts passed in 1798?
 - To reduce immigration to the U.S.
 - To allow deportation of immigrants deemed dangerous
 - To establish new requirements for citizenship
 - Both b and c



AMERICAN HISTORY

JOHN ADAMS & THE FEDERALIST ERA



6. What did the Sedition Act make illegal?

- a) Voting for opposition parties
- b) Criticizing the president or government policies
- c) Owning anti-government newspapers
- d) Protesting in front of government buildings

7. Why were the Alien and Sedition Acts controversial?

- a) They were considered violations of the First Amendment.
- b) They expanded the power of the judiciary.
- c) They limited the president's ability to act during wartime.
- d) They gave Congress power over state governments.

8. Which resolutions emphasized states' rights and nullification in response to the Alien and Sedition Acts?

- a) New Jersey and Delaware Resolutions
- b) Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions
- c) Federalist and Anti-Federalist Resolutions
- d) South Carolina and Georgia Resolutions

9. What phrase was used to describe George Washington in his eulogy?

- a) "Father of the Revolution"
- b) "Champion of Liberty"
- c) "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen"
- d) "The Hero of Independence"

10. Who won the election of 1800 and became the third president of the United States?

- a) John Adams
- b) Thomas Jefferson
- c) Aaron Burr
- d) Alexander Hamilton



AMERICAN HISTORY

JOHN ADAMS & THE FEDERALIST ERA



Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think having a president and vice president from different political parties, like John Adams and Thomas Jefferson in 1796, might have created challenges? How would it be different from how elections work today?
2. The XYZ Affair caused outrage among Americans because of France's demand for a bribe. Why do you think the American people found this so offensive, and how do you think it affected U.S.-French relations?
3. The Alien and Sedition Acts gave the government the power to deport immigrants and punish people for criticizing the government. Do you think these laws were justified at the time? Why or why not?
4. The Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions argued that states could declare federal laws unconstitutional. Do you agree that states should have this power, or should the federal government always have the final say? Why?
5. George Washington was remembered as "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." Why do you think he was so respected, even by people who disagreed with him politically?





AMERICAN HISTORY

JOHN ADAMS & THE FEDERALIST ERA



Answer Key

1. b) John Adams
2. c) The president and vice president were from opposing parties.
3. b) France demanding bribes to negotiate with the U.S.
4. b) Increased defense spending and created the Department of the Navy
5. d) Both b and c
6. b) Criticizing the president or government policies
7. a) They were considered violations of the First Amendment.
8. b) Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions
9. c) "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen"
10. b) Thomas Jefferson

