

GRADE 11

Did the Character strengths of Hamilton and Jefferson contribute to the formation of the Federalist and Anti-Federalist parties?

Name _____

Date _____

Part III: This part consists of a document-based question. On this part, you will be provided with one version of the test based on your readiness to handle critical thinking challenges. (You may opt for a more difficult version than your teacher provides, but you will be graded on the version that you complete).

Document Based Questions

Directions: The task below is based on documents 1 through 6. The task is designed to test your ability to work with documents. Examine each document and answer all questions beneath the document. Use the answers to the questions to help write your essay.

Background

In the years following the American Revolution, an ongoing debate took place regarding government reform. The Articles of Confederation had failed, and the Constitution had just been implemented. Among those who were very vocal about government reform, were Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson. Both founding fathers of our nation, the two men strongly opposed one another in their political views while both serving in President George Washington's cabinet. Their strong personalities were perhaps their only commonality. Hamilton pushed for a strong, centralized, federal government, while Jefferson believed more power should be given to state governments.

Task: Use the information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies, write an essay in which you:

Use the information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies, write an essay in which you:

- Discuss the character strengths of Alexander Hamilton.
- Discuss the character strengths of Thomas Jefferson.
- Evaluate whether the differences in character traits of Hamilton and Jefferson led to the foundation of the Federalist and Anti-Federalist parties.

In your essay remember to

- Write an opinion essay, arguing whether the character strengths of Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson contributed to the formation of the Federalist and Anti-Federalist parties.
- Include an introduction, a body, and a conclusion.
- Use information from *at least three* documents in your answer.
- Include historical facts, relevant details, and reason in developing your ideas.

Document #1:

The map below shows the division between Federalists and the Antifederalists in the north and south. Alexander Hamilton was from the North, where citizens typically preferred a strong central government, while Jefferson was from the south, where citizens typically preferred a small Federal government. Use the map and the information provided to answer the questions below.



1. Where were most of the Federalist's located? Where were most of the Federalists located?

_____ [2]

2a. Which area of the country was Thomas Jefferson associated with?

_____ [1]

2b. Which area of the country was Thomas Jefferson associated with?

_____ [1]

Document #2

Jefferson was the spokesman of liberty and a racist slave owner, the champion of the common people and a man with luxurious and aristocratic tastes, a believer in limited government and a president who expanded governmental authority beyond the wildest visions of his predecessors, a quiet man who abhorred politics and the most dominant political figure of his generation. The tensions between Jefferson's principles and practices make him all the more apt a symbol for the nation he helped create, a nation whose shining ideals have always been complicated by a complex history.

1. Based on the document above, what was Jefferson's basic belief of our government?

[2]

2. What makes Jefferson a symbol for the complex history of the United States?

[2]

Document #3:

Federalist No. 1

“To the People of the State of New York:

AFTER an unequivocal experience of the inefficiency of the subsisting federal government, you are called upon to deliberate on a new Constitution for the United States of America. The subject speaks its own importance; comprehending in its consequences nothing less than the existence of the UNION (of states to form a federal government), and a wrong election of the part we shall act may, in this view, deserve to be considered as the general misfortune of mankind.”

-Alexander Hamilton, The Federalist Papers, General Introduction

1. According to the document, what did Hamilton feel about the need for Union?

[2]

2. What did Hamilton feel a wrong decision would result in?

[2]

Document #4:

Read the excerpt from a letter that Thomas Jefferson, an Anti-Federalist, wrote to James Madison, a Federalist, and respond to the questions below.

Paris Dec. 20. 1787

“I think our governments will remain virtuous for many centuries; as long as they are chiefly agricultural; and this will be as long as there shall be vacant lands in any part of America. when they get piled upon one another in large cities, as in Europe, they will become corrupt as in Europe.” -Thomas Jefferson

1. How, according to Thomas Jefferson, can the government remain “virtuous” for many centuries?

[2]

2. According to Jefferson, What would corrupt America?

[2]

Document #5

[A]

{1} How does a bastard, orphan, son of a whore and a Scotsman, dropped in the middle of a forgotten

{3} Spot in the Caribbean by providence, impoverished, in squalor
Grow up to be a hero and a scholar?

{5} The ten-dollar Founding Father without a father

Got a lot farther by working a lot harder

{7} By being a lot smarter

By being a self-starter

{9} By fourteen, they placed him in charge of a trading charter

And every day while slaves were being slaughtered and carted

{11} Away across the waves, he struggled and kept his guard up

Inside, he was longing for something to be a part of

{13} The brother was ready to beg, steal, borrow, or barter

[B]

"Hamilton was a great statesman and a terrible politician. He was too honest, too candid," explains historian Karl Walling. On the one hand, Hamilton was a skilled policy maker and gifted writer, capable of great charm and persuasiveness. But he could also be arrogant and uncompromising. "With his brilliance and sheer force of personality, Hamilton won many battles, but he also made bitter enemies," says writer Ronald Blumer. "His direct honesty gave him a contempt for the game of popular politics." These characteristics, paired with a scandalous and well-publicized love affair, prevented Hamilton from ever being considered for president.

1. According to lines 5 through 8 in Document 5A, what did Hamilton have to overcome to become an important figure in American History?

[2]

2. According to Document 5B, which of Hamilton's character traits would have made him a poor president?

[2]

Document #6

Character Strengths
Hamilton v. Jefferson

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Zest</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Vitality● Enthusiasm● Vigor● Energy● Feeling Alive <p><i>Example: Hamilton creating the Federalist Papers to try to win over the Antifederalists in order to ratify the Constitution.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Humility</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Modesty● Letting one's accomplishments speak for themselves● Owning up to one's shortcomings. <p><i>Example: Hamilton coming from a modest background of a poor immigrant. Hamilton writing the Reynolds Pamphlet, which exposed his own romantic affair, and therefore owned up to his mistake in front of the public.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Appreciation of Beauty & Excellence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Awe● Wonder● Elevation <p><i>Example: Jefferson being a supporter of a traditional agricultural society, also being the owner of a luxury plantation</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Social Intelligence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Aware of the motives/feelings of self/others● Knowing what makes other people tick <p><i>Example: Thomas Jefferson creating the Declaration of Independence, that supports the cries for liberty from the general public.</i></p>

1. Which two character strengths best apply to Alexander Hamilton?
_____ [1]

2. Which two character strengths best apply to Thomas Jefferson?
_____ [1]

Document Based Question Essay

Background

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In your essay remember to

- Write an opinion essay, arguing whether the Native Americans were a more advanced society than the Europeans who colonized America.
- Include an introduction, a body, and a conclusion
- Use information from *at least three* documents in your answer
- Include historical facts, relevant details, and reason in developing your ideas