

## OUTLINE

### Chapter 8 Securing the Republic, 1790-1815

This chapter examines the conflicts and controversies during the first three presidential administrations of the new United States. The focus is on the challenges of an evolving democracy, including the rise of political parties, and on continuing conflicts with Great Britain.

#### INTRODUCTION

#### I. POLITICS IN AN AGE OF PASSION

#### II. THE ADAMS PRESIDENCY

#### III. JEFFERSON IN POWER

#### IV. THE “SECOND WAR OF INDEPENDENCE”

## INTRODUCTION

### **STORY:**

In the spring of 1789, Americans celebrated the inauguration of George Washington as the first President of the United States. Washington, along with most people in American society, looked forward to the historic experiment of “democracy” and anticipated a time of peace and cooperation following the long struggle of the Revolution. But what followed was a decade of passionate political discord and renewed warfare.



### **THEMES:**

- \*Strong disagreements arose in American politics, which disappointed many of the Revolutionary leaders.
- \*The rise of political parties, which many people thought a bad idea, turned out to be a key element in the development of democracy.
- \*Despite continuing conflicts, the United States prospered by re-establishing strong economic bonds with Great Britain.

# I. POLITICS IN AN AGE OF PASSION

**FOCUS QUESTION:** Why were the politics of the 1790s so divisive?

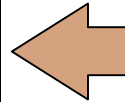
## A. Hamilton's Program

1. As secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton's long-range goal was to make the United States a major commercial and military power
2. His program had five parts
  - a. create credit-worthiness
  - b. create a new national debt
  - c. create a Bank of the United States
  - d. tax producers of whiskey
  - e. impose tariffs and government subsidies



### STUDY HINT

Be able to identify the 5 parts of Hamilton's program.

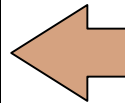


## B. The Emergence of Opposition

1. Opposition to Hamilton's plan was voiced by James Madison and Thomas Jefferson
2. Hamilton's plan depended on a close relationship with Britain
3. Opponents believed the future lay westward, not with Britain
4. At first, opposition to Hamilton's program arose almost entirely from the South

### STUDY HINT

Be able to identify who opposed Hamilton and why.



5. Both Hamilton and his opponents used the Constitution as justification of their cause

6. The South accepted Hamilton's plan after being promised that the national capital would move to the South

### **C. The Impact of the French Revolution**

1. The French Revolution became very radical by 1793 and France went to war with Britain

2. George Washington declared American neutrality

3. Jay's Treaty abandoned any American alliance with France by positioning the United States close to Britain

### **D. Political Parties**

1. The Federalist Party supported Washington and Hamilton's economic plan, and closed ties with Britain

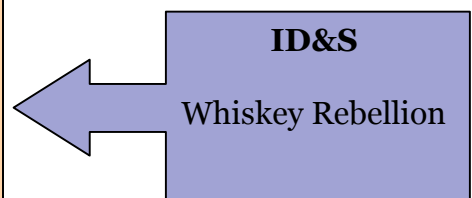
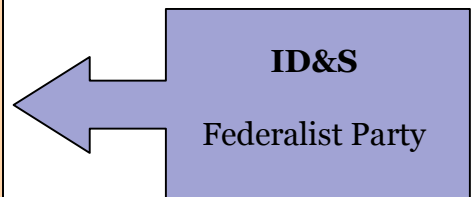
2. Freedom rested on deference to authority

3. Whiskey Rebellion of 1794 proved to Federalists democracy in the hands of ordinary citizens was dangerous

### **E. The Republican Party**

1. Republicans were more sympathetic to France and had more faith in democratic self-government

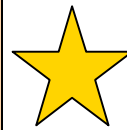
2. Political language became more and more



heated

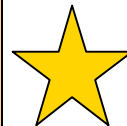
### **F. An Expanding Public Sphere**

1. The political debates of the 1790s expanded the public sphere
2. Newspapers and pamphlets were a primary vehicle for political debate
3. William Manning's *The Key of Liberty*
4. Political liberty meant not simply voting in elections but constant involvement in public affairs
5. Democratic-Republican societies
6. Thomas Paine's *The Rights of Man* inspired Republicans



### **G. The rights of women**

1. The expansion of the public sphere offered women an opportunity to take part in political discussions, read newspapers, and hear orations
2. Mary Wollstonecraft's *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*
3. Judith Sargent Murray
4. A common call was for greater educational opportunities



## II. THE ADAMS PRESIDENCY

**FOCUS QUESTION:** In what ways was freedom at issue in the political divisions of the 1790s?

### A. The Election of 1796

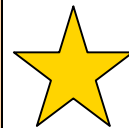
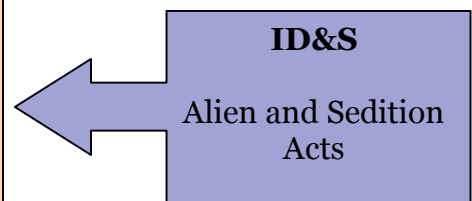
1. Adams won with 71 electoral votes and Jefferson became vice president with 68 electoral votes
2. His presidency was beset by crises
3. Quasi-War with France
4. Fries's Rebellion

### B. The "Reign of Witches"

1. The Alien and Sedition Acts limited civil liberties
2. As the main target was the Republican press, Thomas Jefferson charged the Acts as reminiscent of the Salem Witch Trials
3. The Sedition Act thrust freedom of expression to the center of discussions of American liberty
4. Virginia and Kentucky resolutions

### C. The "Revolution of 1800"

1. Jefferson defeated Adams in the 1800 presidential campaign
2. A constitutional crisis emerged with the



election

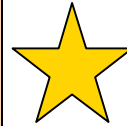
3. Twelfth Amendment
4. Hamilton-Burr duel
5. Adams's acceptance of defeat established the vital precedent of a peaceful transfer of power from a defeated party to its successor

#### **D. Slavery and Politics**

1. The First Congress received petitions calling for emancipation
2. Events during the 1790s underscored how powerfully slavery defined and distorted American freedom
3. Haitian Revolution

#### **E. Gabriel's Rebellion**

1. Attempted slave rebellion in Virginia, in 1800
2. The conspiracy was rooted in the institution of Richmond's black community
3. Gabriel spoke the language of liberty forged in the American Revolution and reinvigorated during the 1790s
4. Virginian slave laws became stricter



## III. JEFFERSON IN POWER

**FOCUS QUESTION:** What were the achievements and failures of Jefferson's presidency?

### A. Judicial Review

1. John Marshall's Supreme Court established the Court's power to review laws of Congress and the states
2. Marbury v. Madison
3. Judicial review

### B. The Louisiana Purchase

1. To purchase Louisiana, Jefferson had to abandon his conviction that the federal government was limited to powers specifically mentioned in the Constitution
2. Jefferson's concern with the territory was over trade through New Orleans
3. Jefferson justified his overreach of the Constitution by securing economic stability for his virtuous agrarian farmers

### C. Lewis and Clark

1. Lewis and Clark's object was both scientific and commercial
2. Their journey from 1804 to 1806 brought invaluable information and paved the way for a transcontinental country

#### STUDY HINT

You should understand what "judicial review" means.

#### ID&S

Marbury v  
Madison

#### ID & S

Louisiana  
Purchase





## **D. Incorporating Louisiana**

1. New Orleans
2. Louisiana's slaves had enjoyed far more freedom under the rule of tyrannical Spain than as part of the liberty-loving United States

## **E. Foreign Entanglements**

1. European wars directly influenced the livelihood of American farmers, merchants, and artisans
2. Jefferson hoped to avoid foreign entanglements
3. Barbary Pirates

## **F. The Embargo**

1. War between France and Great Britain hurt American trade
2. Impressment
3. Embargo Act resulted in a crippled U.S. economy
4. Replaced with Non-Intercourse Act

## **G. Madison and Pressure for War**

1. Macon's Bill No. 2 allowed trade to resume
2. War Hawks called for war against Britain
3. Wished to annex Canada

## IV. THE “SECOND WAR OF INDEPENDENCE”

**FOCUS QUESTION:** What was the larger significance of the War of 1812?

### A. The Indian Response

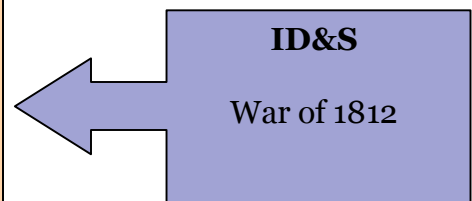
1. The period from 1800 to 1812 was an “age of prophecy” among the Indians
2. Tecumseh and Tenskwatawa tried to revive a pan-Indian movement and unite against the white man

### B. The War of 1812

1. Madison asked for war for the sake of national pride
2. The government found it difficult to finance the war
3. Americans enjoyed few military successes
4. Peace came with the Treaty of Ghent in December 1814

### C. The War’s Aftermath

1. The war confirmed the ability of a republican government to conduct a war without surrendering its institutions
2. The war also strengthened a growing sense of nationalism in Canada
3. A casualty of the war was the Federalist



party

4. Hartford Convention