Extended Notes:

Unit 2: Building the New Nation

Period 3: 1754-1800

“The American Pageant” Chapters 9 and 10

Underlined terms indicate previous vocabulary; **bolded** terms indicate new vocabulary.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chapter 9: “Now What?” | Look here for Extras! |
| RECAP:  The Treaty of Paris (1783) ends the American Revolution. Now the Americans are responsible for themselves. This is going to be an interesting experiment.  The American Revolution is considered to be a rare **conservative revolution**. Life was not seriously disturbed by the conflict overall, and the only major changed that Americans would have to face was creating a new government. This was in part because the Congress was not looking to set up a new monarchical regime or a Parliament of their own. They were, though unbeknownst to them, attempting to create a new type of government. The sense of unity that had helped power them through the Revolution was gone, so were the Loyalists who could have provided a conservative foil to any new ideas. However, all the new states already operated under similar governmental structures, which could be helpful in creating the new nation.  In 1776, the Continental Congress called upon each state to create new constitutions.1 These too had much in common. Unlike British constitutions, which are collections of laws, the new state constitutions were essentially contracts that defined the powers of government and protected the rights of the people. Many were still skeptical of trusting despotic governors and other officials, so legislatures similar to what they had instituted for themselves as colonies were given a large number of powers. Many states also took this opportunity to move their capitals from seaboard cities to more inland options which could be more equally accessed.  The Revolution had also caused an upswing in American manufacturing. This helped during the Revolution, but overall trade took a hit afterward.2 British merchants still offered goods to the new American states, but at a lower quality and higher prices. American ships were not permitted in British harbors, even in the West Indies. The fishing and shipbuilding industries were greatly disrupted, and America felt the real effects of the Navigation Laws now that they were on the other side of them. However, America now had the opportunity to trade relatively freely with foreign powers.  For the average American, the greater social and economic atmosphere was worse than when the war started. Small numbers of American merchants had profited greatly from the war, Congress’ attempts to regulate commerce and the economy had failed, and a new wealthy class had emerged singing the sounds of their riches.3  The Second Continental Congress had trouble regulating things because they had no real authority because the states were sovereign on their own, their actions were more or less suggestion or came in the form of necessity for the benefit of all states. The Congress did draft a national constitution in 1777 known as the **Articles of Confederation**, but it would not be ratified by all thirteen states until 1781.  Although it served as the first constitution for the United States, the Articles of Confederation did not set up the new country for success.4 The Congress was kept weak in favor of allowing states to have more power, a unanimous vote was needed to do anything, and each state had one vote within the Congress despite their population size or how many representatives (they could send up to seven) they sent. The new federal government was also missing an executive—though after King George most saw no need for one, and left all judiciary matters to the states, like most everything else. The Articles also provided no power to the Congress to collect taxes or regulate commerce, so the country as a whole could not make money. This meant debts from the Revolution would be slow to be paid off. “The feeble government in Philadelphia could advise and advocate and appeal. But in dealing with the independent states, it could not command or coerce or control.” For all they didn’t do, they would provide an example for the later US Constitution and what it should do.  Despite its limitations, the Congress did manage to organize land for the future through laws. This land was the **Old Northwest Territory**, which was organized to be settled through the **Land Ordinance of 1785**. This law stated that the proceeds from land sales in the area would go to paying off debts from the Revolution. The land had already been surveyed and divided into townships, and further divided to makes sales easier and keep a section secured for a school. They also provided for the establishment of government in the area through the **Northwest Ordinance** of 1787. It provided for two territorial stages: the territory would be under the supervision of the Congress until the area had a population of 60,000 when it could qualify as a state. The Ordinance also forbade slavery in the area, with the exception of slaves who were already there.  The Congress and their laws about the Northwest Territory had solved a great domestic problem. Congress’ attempts at foreign relations were a different story. France, ally during the Revolution, was eager to repaid the loans it had sent during the war. Spain was still as hostile to the US just as it had been when they were colonies of Britain. The new controller of the Mississippi, Spain closed the river to US commerce, and started fights with the US over Natchez (MS), Florida, Georgia, and North Carolina. Worst of all were the talks with Britain. Britain refused to send an ambassador to the new nation, and refused to institute commerce with the US. Britain opted to keep the Navigation Acts enforced, which left the US out of Britain’s circle of trade. They also kept several squadrons of troops in Canada to make sure the Americans kept good on their promise to repay Loyalists for all they seized from them. John Jay, secretary for foreign affairs, secretly hoped these disruptions abroad would stimulate interest at home for a government that could command respect abroad.  Disagreements between the states were also starting to pile up. Many refused to pay their taxes to Congress for the national debt acquired on their behalf by the Congress.5 The various states bickered over boundaries, and taxed interstate trade to the outrage of one another. The individual’s burden to pay these taxes, as well as creditors that had lent money for homes and farms, quickly became too much. The resulting effects of all this were decreasing credit scores for the country itself *and* its population.  An uprising in Massachusetts demanded this be changed. **Shays’ Rebellion**, led by Revolutionary War veteran Daniel Shays, saw a multitude of farmers and other veterans aggressively call for credible paper money, lighter taxes, and the suspension of property repossession. Authorities in MA responded in kind, sending in what ultimately amounted to a private state militia. The groups met several times, causing Shays’ movement to eventually collapse.  Though the movement had ended6, it was not something Massachusetts ever wanted to revisit. It also worried the landowning class who felt the spirit of “mobocracy” in these movements. Debtor relief laws were put in place shortly thereafter.7 These did not stop people from placing the majority of criticism on the Articles of Confederation. Some thought this was the time to change the Articles, while others simply debated on how to apply them. This was the beginning of the debate between strong government and states’ rights.  The Articles of Confederation would have been difficult to amend, but some historians argue that it could have been done eventually.8 Most of the states had not issued their own money, international shipping was looking up, and the general sense of prosperity was growing. National leaders at the time however, thought it would be easier to scrap the thing and start over. It was commerce more than any other problem that brought the need for this new constitution, as interstate shipping and trade had become a hotbed for disagreement. Virginia, fed up with all the squabbling, called for a convention to take place in Maryland in 1786 which failed. Another convention was planned for Philadelphia the next year. Congress joined in sanctioning this event “for the sole and express purpose of revising” the Articles of Confederation.  Twelve states sent delegates, and the convention formally began on May 25, 1787. The small number of delegates made compromise easy to accomplish when necessary, even though these meetings were closed to the public. “The urgency of the crisis induced the ablest men to drop their personal pursuits and come to the aid of their country,” among them were: George Washington, Ben Franklin, James Madison, and Alexander Hamilton. Noticeably absent were TJ, John Adams, Sam Adams, Patrick Henry, and John Hancock, which meant many of the fiery speakers of the Revolution would not be there to heat up the calm discussion on “fashioning solid political systems.”  The delegates sought to immortalize the ideas that had become truly American9, while putting a system in place that would protect the country from itself and others. This meant that the federal government would have to become stronger overall, so it could craft and enforce treaties, make its own foreign policy, and satisfy the commercial interests of the country. It also needed to pacify the “the unrestrained democracy rampant in many states,” which would preserve private property and end the “mobocracy” many feared.  This meant, though, that the first “problem” that needed to be fixed, was Congress itself. The Congress created by the Articles had many delegates, few votes, and even less power. Two plans were brought to the convention to reform representation. The **Virginia Plan**, wanted representation to be proportional, or based on the population of a state. This meant that more populous states (\*cough\* like Virginia \*cough\*) would have more representatives, and therefore more votes than small states. This of course did not sit well with the smaller states, who countered with the **New Jersey Plan.** This plan would make representation equal between the states; every state would get the same number of representatives and the same number of votes. This also meant the small states could easily over power the larger states. The debate over representation quickly deadlocked until and unlikely hero stepped in. Connecticut proposed a third idea, as a compromise: to have a **bicameral** Congress that would incorporate both previously mentioned plans. This became known as the **Connecticut Compromise**, which created the House of Representatives after the Virginia Plan, and the Senate after the New Jersey Plan.  With this problem solved, another arose: who counted in the population? If the House of Representatives was to be based on the population of a state, did women count toward the population? Children? Slaves? The ultimate answer was unclear, and it was time to create another compromise. Most states agreed that laws made by the Congress would affect women and children in some way or another, but they were split when it came to slaves.10 The Northern states said “no” under the basis that many slaveholders considered them property rather than people. The South, seeing the North trying to create an opportunity to deprive them (the South) of some of their influence, said “yes.” The compromise reached was to count slaves as mostly a person through the **Three-fifths Compromise**. They also compromised again on slavery, allowing the importation of slaves to continue until 1808, after which only domestic slave trading could continue.  The final draft of the **US Constitution** was much shorter than anticipated. Based on **common law** it only contains seven articles that established the new US government. It reformed the Congress, giving it more power, created the executive and judicial branches of government, and listed the necessary qualifications and election processes for all. This really only happened because the delegates to the Constitutional Convention were politically and economically on the same page; they wanted a stable national currency and a stronger federal government. To make their point, they chose their words carefully as to make it clear the people were giving their okay for the states to ratify the Constitution and give the new federal government power. The Constitution was presented for ratification on September 17, 1787.  Delegates to the Constitutional Convention also made their new document much easier to ratify: it would only require nine of the thirteen states. They knew unanimous ratification was unlikely, and presented the Constitution to the states without personal recommendations, leaving the decision purely in the hands of voters. This started a new debate, one of the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists. The **Anti-Federalists** opposed such a strong government, and were wary of the Constitution since it took power away from states and made hardly any mention of individual rights. The **Federalists** fought for quick ratification—they approved of the stronger government, and states having less power as that was the main cause of problems in the Articles of Confederation.  However, five states managed to ratify the Constitution rather quickly between December 1787 and January 1788. Massachusetts became the biggest worry to the nation and the new Constitution. It stood to reason that if the state chose the rickety Articles of Confederation over the new Constitution, many others would as well. Just then, Federalists made promises to safeguard individual rights through a new compromise, the Bill of Rights would easily pass through the first Congress to the states, but the Constitution would have to be ratified first to allow this to happen. Massachusetts had been won over. Maryland, South Carolina, and New Hampshire followed in the next few months, and the Constitution was secured in these nine states by June, 1788.  Virginia was a difficult place for the Constitution. Virginian Federalists like James Madison met worthy Anti-Federalist opponents in Patrick Henry, but the realization that Virginia could not operate on its own came with NH’s ratification. New York experienced a similar struggle, so much so that the characters like Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay took to the newspapers to convince the undecided public. NY was finally convinced in the summer of 1788. NC and RI were the last to ratify the document.  “By ingeniously embedding the doctrine of self-rule in a self-limiting system of checks and balances…the Constitution reconciled the potentially conflicting principles of liberty and order.” This was continued in the states, most of whom eliminated property requirements for voting, and a push for equality had begun. Indentured servitude was basically unknown by 1800, and the **Society of the Cincinnati** was ridiculed for its pretentiousness. States also took larger steps to rid themselves of ties to the past by reforming inheritance laws (like primogeniture), and fought for **disestablishment**—the separation of church and state. The ultimate sign of success, at least for this cause, was the passage of the **Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom** in 1786.  But these new steps toward equality were mostly one-sided, though attempts were made. Anti-slavery societies were formed in Quaker PA, and several states outlawed slavery altogether. Similarly, the status of women did not change easily. Some states, like NJ, gave women the right to vote early on and educational opportunities also expanded. But the idea of **civic virtue** took the majority of women down another path. This idea kept women as a symbol of “selfless devotion” and **republican motherhood** kept them crucial to the extended survival of revolutionary ideas and the nation itself. | **Conservative revolution:** a revolution that does not bring drastic change.  1. At the state level, if that wasn’t clear.  2. Most were manufacturing goods for war, since the war was over and these goods were no longer needed, business suffered.  3. America had a fully established socio-economic hierarchy that held onto the new nation’s economy one way or another (through manufactured or agricultural goods), and Congress was powerless to anything.  **Articles of Confederation (1781):** first American constitution that established in the US a confederacy, and a weak Congress. [(Just in case you’re curious.)](https://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=false&doc=3&page=transcript)  4. Let me save you some time here: The Articles of Confederation allowed the states to keep as much power as they wanted while giving Congress the ability to do things only when the states permitted. This would include very important economic things like collecting taxes and printing money. Basically, the US was poised, through this document, to legally drive themselves into an economic depression.  **Old Northwest Territory:** land northwest of the Ohio River, south of the Great Lakes, and east of the Mississippi River  **Land Ordinance of 1785:** provided for the sale of land in the Old Northwest and set that money aside to pay of the national debt.  **Northwest Ordinance (1787):** created policies for the Northwest Territory, including a clear path to statehood, and the prohibition of the expansion of slavery into the area.  Image result for map of the northwest territory  5. Here’s that economic depression I mentioned earlier.  **Shays’ Rebellion (1786):** armed uprising of western MA debtors seeking lower taxes and an end to property foreclosures, inspired fears of mob rule.  6. It lasted almost a year.  7. So to some extent, this movement was successful.  8. ALL of the states would have to agree to change the thing.  9. Republicanism, organized trade, public voting…there are more.  Hey we’ll talk about a lot of this again in Government:  **Virginia Plan:** proposal out forth by VA to base Congressional representation on population; each state would receive X number of representatives per Y number of people in the state.  **New Jersey Plan:** proposal put forth by NJ to make Congressional representation equal between the states.  **Bicameral:** regarding a legislative body comprised of two houses.  **Connecticut Compromise:** an accepted proposal put forth by CT to combine VA and NJ’s ideas into a bicameral Congress; also known as the “Great Compromise”  10. This is not to be confused with early female suffrage, rather it’s a nod to the fact that they would need as many people as they could to buy in to this new governmental experiment. See “republican motherhood” later on too.  **Three-fifths Compromise:** compromise reached to count slaves as part of the population of a state; 1 slave = 3/5 anyone else.  **US Constitution (1787):** the new and improved governing document of the United States; replaced Articles of Confederation  **Common law:** laws that originate from court rulings and customs, as opposed to legislative statutes; laws that come from experience not precaution.  **Anti-Federalists:** opponents of the Constitution who wanted more guarantees for state and individual rights  **Federalists:** supporters of the Constitution who favored a strong national government and argued checks and balances would protect state and individual rights.  COMMON CHARACTERISTICS: Anti-Feds   * Small farmers, shopkeepers, laborers * Strong state gov’t over weak national * Rule by the common man   Popular Anti-Feds: Sam Adams, Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee  COMMON CHARACTERISTICS: Federalists   * Large landowners, wealthy merchants, professionals * Strong national gov’t over weaker states * Expected a few violations of individual liberties   Popular Feds: G.Wash, Franklin, Madison  **Society of the Cincinnati:** established 1783; exclusive hereditary organization of former Continental Army officers that was seen as very pretentious and a carry-over of pre-Revolutionary traditions  **Disestablishment:** to separate an official state church from its governmental connections.  **Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom (1786):** measure enacted by VA that prohibited state support for religious institutions and recognizing freedom and worship; predecessor of the First Amendment.  **Civic virtue:** willingness on the part of citizens to sacrifice personal self-interest for the public good  **Republican motherhood:** ideal of family organization and female behavior after the Revolution which stressed the role of women in guiding family members toward republican virtue |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chapter 10: “Beginner Status” | Look here for extras! |
| RECAP:  Revolution (check)  Constitution (double check)  America had gotten off to a shaky start. It finally had a real working government, but it was a government that was being buried under debt, security issues, and other difficulties. There was still debate over how strong the new national government should be, despite a growing population and the looming French Revolution, not to mention the close watch of the Spanish along the MS River and the British in Canada.  The Constitution had mandated a **census** for the new nation, the first of which would be completed in 1790. It revealed a largely rural population of almost 4 million, with a few standout cities and a small “western” population. This population count would help determine the representation for states in the new House of Representatives, and help several territories on their way to statehood.  Another new office, that of President, had to be filled quickly.1 The reluctant one chosen—unanimously—for the position was George Washington. Washington’s inauguration took place on April 30, 1789 in NY. Washington took liberty with the wording of the Constitution in establishing the cabinet in three departments: State, Treasury, and War.2  Keeping good on the conditions of a compromise, the Federalists promoted the passage of several amendments to the Constitution that would list the rights of individuals. Ten of the twelve proposals were ratified by the states, and collectively called the Bill of Rights. The first of these amendments backed up a newly popular idea, the separation of church and state, through the **establishment clause**. The first official Congress also got to work organizing a court system through the **Judiciary Act of 1789**.  Of all of Washington’s cabinet members, the one with the biggest task was Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, who had to recover the nation’s credit and financial stability. Hamilton, though largely regarded as a genius, was often criticized on his loyalty.3 His first challenge was to convince Congress to take on and **fund at par** the nation’s debt, to the sum of $54 million. Congress agreed, on faith in the monetary power of the federal government surged. They also agreed to the **assumption** of state debts, which amounted to another $22 million. Hamilton’s thinking behind this was to attach the states, at least financially, to the federal government than other creditors.  Hamilton’s strategy for paying off the debt depended primarily on commerce. He instituted **tariffs** on imports, which also served to protect infant American industry. Hamilton saw the success of the Industrial Revolution in Britain, and argued in favor of industry, though Congress often chose to protect agriculture. An **excise tax** was passed in 1791, most notably on whiskey, causing distillers to bare the brunt of the tax. These taxes, Hamilton argued, were the beginnings of internal revenue, a way to pay down the national debt.  The third angle of Hamilton’s economic triangle was a national bank.4 In his proposal to Washington, Hamilton argued that the government would hold chief interest in the bank, the Treasury would deposit any excess it had into the bank, and it would solve the issue of a weak paper currency. Washington worried this idea could be construed as unconstitutional, and asked Jefferson for his opinion on the issue. Jefferson argued very much against a national bank; he noted that this was a power not explicitly given to the federal government, therefore it remained a power of the states. Hamilton, in rebuttal, invoked the Constitution’s “necessary and proper clause” (Art. I, Section 8, Clause 18), which won over Washington. The **Bank of the United States** was chartered in 1791 by Congress for a period of 20 years, after which its use would be re-evaluated.  Trouble in Hamilton’s plan came in the form of the **Whiskey Rebellion** in 1794. As it was easier to distill corn and grains into alcohol for shipping than to transport bales of grains, distillers saw Hamilton’s excise tax “not as a tax on a frivolous luxury but a burden on an economic necessity.” Their protest of the tax eventually stopped its collection, defying the new federal government.5 In response, Washington used his new powers as president to summon state militias to put down this rebellion.6 There was a moment of concern that these state militias would refuse to turn on another state, but a force of 13,000 marched in PA. They found no insurrection, but the respect and power of the federal government had been solidified.  To his credit, Hamilton had restored the national credit. The government could now borrow money as it proved that it could pay it back. But the path to get there had political consequences. Organized opposition had been building., and “what was once a personal feud between Hamilton and Jefferson [had] developed into a full-blown and frequently bitter political rivalry.” This marked the beginning of political parties. This form of opposition was kept primarily in Congress, through partisan voting. Jefferson’s “team” became known as the Democratic-Republicans; Hamilton’s, the Federalists. Washington hated the idea.  Washington’s first term as president ended in 1793. While his first term was plagued with financial issues, his second would see the creation of a firm foreign policy. The French Revolution began in 1789 and had escalated quickly by 1792 with the imprisonment and later execution of the French monarchy.7 “Few non-American events [had] left a deeper scar on American political and social life” as Americans went from watching a peaceful upheaval of government, much like their own revolution, to a hateful, blood-filled civil war as France’s internal **Reign of Terror** began.  While some conceded that one could not “be carried from ‘despotism to liberty in a feather bed’” it was clear the French Revolution was getting out of control. Other European powers, Britain and Austria8 primarily were beginning to get sucked in for fear of their own monarchies and trade. America now feared that another European war would spill across the Atlantic, and the Franco-American alliance would be called into action. TJ and the Democratic-Republicans felt compelled to keep the alliance, but the decision would ultimately be up to President Washington.  The **Neutrality Proclamation**, issued by Washington in 1793, worked to keep the US out of the conflict. It “not only proclaimed the government’s official neutrality in the widening conflict but also sternly warned American citizens to be impartial” as well. Behind closed doors, Washington knew the US had to stay out of the war; the country was still militarily weak, politically splitting, and hesitantly economically stable. He thought that a “policy of patience” would be best for America, and Hamilton and Jefferson agreed. Instead, American neutrality was used to benefit the French West Indies through food trade, which would have been easily blockaded by the British had America decided to join the war.  On their home turf, American policies were being pushed to their limits by the British. The British encouraged and supplied Native Americans in the Northwest Territory to fight American troops and settlers in the area. These direct conflicts with the Miami Confederation and indirect ones with the British resulted in some of the worst American defeats in its history. The British later turned on Native Americans in1794 after the **Battle of Fallen Timbers**, which later resulted in the **Treaty of Greenville** the next year. The treaty reorganized the boundaries of the Northwest Territory, granting much of Ohio and Indiana to the Americans.  The British struck again by sea, targeting American ships headed to the French West Indies. After the attacks on their neutral ships, and the **impressment** of their sailors, many Americans—mostly Democratic-Republicans—demanded a nationwide embargo against the British. However, trade with Britain, as the world’s largest commercial empire, was at the heart of Hamilton’s economic recovery plan. Washington’s move was to send John Jay to London to work things out. The resulting **Jay’s Treaty** saw few concessions by the British to the Americans. The British promised to leave their outposts now on American soil, and pay damages for their disruptions to shipping. However, that was it; there was no agreement to stop impressment, future shipping seizures, or regarding supplying arms and hostilities to Native Americans.  The treaty was immensely unpopular, to the point where Washington’s popularity even took a hit. It was seen as too favorable to Britain, and even “an abject surrender.” However, positives did result. Spain, fearing a full-scale Anglo-American reconciliation, proposed a treaty of their own with America. **Pickney’s Treaty** was written largely in favor of the Americans, granting them free navigation of the MS River, storage rights in New Orleans, and even more land rights to Florida.  An exhausted Washington chose to retire at the end of his second term in 1796. His **Farewell Address** was printed in newspapers with the aim of speaking to the entirety of the population. He warned against alliances of most kinds, advising against treaties like the Franco-American alliance and political parties at the same time. With help from his cabinet, Washington had gotten America on its feet; it was financially stabilizing, building its commerce, and kept the US out of fierce European wars.  The struggle to find the next president would happen between quiet political parties. Federalists almost immediately looked to their standout, Alexander Hamilton. Hamilton was ineligible for the office though.9 They then looked to Washington’s Vice President, John Adams. Adams was a key thinker of the times, but generally unpopular because of his outspokenness.10 The Democratic-Republicans of course turned to Jefferson. Adams won in the electoral vote 71 to 68.  Among the things Adams inherited when taking over the position, was an unspoken conflict with France. The French had been upset by America’s choice to ignore their alliance, and even more upset by Jay’s Treaty.11 Adams also kept Washington’s policy of avoiding war, even though France had begun to seize American merchant ships and had refused to meet with the new American ambassador. Adams hoped to discuss ending the harsh feelings with French Foreign Minister Talleyrand by sending three negotiators to France in 1797.  Adams’ three men were met by three go-betweens for Talleyrand, known as X, Y, and Z. The French demanded a multitude of concessions, among them a bribe of $250,000. The Americans quickly back out the talks, and negotiations had broken down by 1798. The **XYZ Affair** angered many Americans, including President Adams, who took precautions in building up American defenses. The Federalists took the opportunity to applaud the treaty with Britain, whom they favored, over the Democratic-Republicans, who had always been on the side of the French.  Though the majority of rough-housing was kept on the sea, the US officially created and began supporting a new army, re-established the Marine Corps, and expanding the Navy.12 France and America still took swings at each other, and left the conflict undeclared from 1798 until 1800.  France regained Louisiana in 1800, bringing the conflict closer to America than anyone felt comfortable with. Not wanting to add America to the list of French enemies, Minister Talleyrand decided to indirectly ask for another chance at negotiations. The new French leader, Napoleon Bonaparte, was eager to get rid of the conflict in favor of building his empire. **The Convention of 1800** was signed in Paris. It ended the Franco-American alliance under the condition that America pay for its own damaged ships. Adams’ decision to be (relatively) patient with the French and abide through the struggle, helped promote future peaceful negotiations with France in the years to come.  Adams’ success did nothing to quiet the ire of the Federalists toward Europe. A heavily Federalist Congress passed the **Alien Laws** which raised residency requirements for foreigners who wished to become American citizens, gave the president the power of deportation. The law was rarely enforced, but handed a nicely sized chunk of power to the president. The same Congress also passed the **Sedition Act**, which threatened to harm the freedoms of speech and press. “This law provided that anyone who impeded the policies of the government or falsely defamed its officials, including the President, would be liable to heavy fine and imprisonment.” The Supreme Court did not step up to argue with the Sedition Act, and Congress smartly wrote in the law that it should expire in 1801, after the next election.  Fearing these acts would go to far, Jefferson and his protégé, James Madison, drafted resolutions based on the compact, or **contract theory**. These resolutions were proposed to a new state, Kentucky, and an older more influential state, Virginia. The resolutions claimed that since it had been the people who had given the okay for the states to ratify the Constitution—the contract between the government and the people, it was their burden to tell the federal government when they had broken the bounds of that contract, arguing the nullification of the Alien and Sedition Acts. Few states opted for supporting the **Virginia and Kentucky resolutions** in their powerful statement of states’ rights.  This made the differences between Federalists and Democratic-Republicans incredibly clear. | **Census:** An official count of the US population and its demographics; mandated in the Constitution for every ten years, began in 1790.  1. The Articles of Confederation established no executive office, like that of the president, and no national court system.  2. These were the most pressing issues of the time. State Dept handles foreign affairs.  **Establishment Clause (Amendment I):** part of the First Amendment which states “Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free practice thereof”.  **Judiciary Act of 1789:** law which organized the federal court system and established the Supreme Court, federal district courts, circuit courts, and the office of the Attorney General.  3. Although a well-established lawyer in NY, and a Revolutionary War vet, Hamilton was not from America, and many held this against him.  **Funding at par:** payment of debt at face value, such as government bonds.  **Assumption:** to take power of or responsibility for debt  **Tariff:** a tax on imports; traditionally supported by manufacturers as a protective and revenue-raising measure and opposed by farmers who are more dependent on a world market.  **Excise tax:** a tax on goods produced domestically.  4. Here are all three: Start paying on the national debt, increase taxes, create a national bank.  **Bank of the United States (1791):** chartered by Congress as part of Hamilton’s financial plan, the bank printed money and served as a depository for the Treasury; Democratic-Republicans argued it was unconstitutional.  **Whiskey Rebellion (1794):** popular uprising of whiskey distillers in PA in opposition to the excise tax on their product.  5. This should sound familiar.  6. This was the first test of a president as commander-in-chief, and the new federal government taking action on a domestic rebellion.  7. This was a huge deal for not only Europe, but America as well. Europe’s monarch began fearing for their lives and countries, while America was trying not to look like the guy who started the whole thing.  **Reign of Terror (1793-1794):** Ten-month period of brutal oppression in France under Robespierre where some 40K+ were declared enemies of the French Republic and executed.  8. Britain was the example monarchy in Europe, and France’s main enemy. Austria was out for revenge against France for breaking a treaty, sealed with the marriage of Marie Antoinette and Louis XVI.  **Neutrality Proclamation (1793):** proclaimed America’s neutrality during the French Revolution as conflict rose between Britain and France; applauded by Federalists, angered Dem-Reps.  \*Not to be confused with the Neutrality Acts of the 1930s.  **Battle of Fallen Timbers (1794):** decisive battle between the Miami Confederacy and the US Army during which British forces refused to shelter Native Americans, forcing a peace between Native Americans and the US.  **Treaty of Greenville (1795):** treaty between the Miami and the US in which the Miami Confederacy agreed to cede territory in return for monetary payment, hunting rights, and formal recognition of sovereignty.  **Impressment:** the act of forcibly drafting into military service often employed by the British Navy, and used on American sailors, during times of war with France.  **Jay’s Treaty (1794):** negotiated in order to avoid war with Britain, included a British promise to evacuate outposts on US soil and pay damages for seized vessels, in exchange to US payments of pre-Revolutionary War debts and adherence to Britain’s restrictive trade policies against France.  **Pickney’s Treaty (1795):** signed with Spain and granted the US free navigation of the MS River and the territory of FL.  **Washington’s Farewell Address (1796):**  address made by Washington at the end of his presidency warning against “permanent alliances” except on a temporary basis and only in extreme circumstances.  9. Hamilton met two of the three qualifications listed in the Constitution, but was not a natural-born citizen.  10. You know that one person at like, everything, who just keeps inserting themselves in the conversation? Adams was that guy?  11. The Neutrality Proclamation kept America out of the French Revolution, and Jay’s Treaty was seen by the French as America giving Britain leeway against them.  **XYZ Affair (1797):** diplomatic conflict between France and the US when American envoys to France were asked to pay a bribe in order to meet the French Foreign Minister; many called for outright war in the US while privateers and sailors waged an undeclared war on French merchants.  12. All had been established during the Revolution, but only the Army and Navy made official by the Constitution. No one saw a need to continue the Marine Corps with the Revolution over.  **Convention of 1800:** agreement to formally dissolve America’s treaty with France which was signed during the Revolution, thus ending the Franco-American alliance officially.  **Alien Laws/Act (1798):** acts passed by a Federalist Congress raising residency requirements for citizenship to 14 years and granting the president the power of deportation of dangerous aliens in times of peace.  **Sedition Act (1798):** enacted by a Federalist Congress in effort to curb Dem-Rep opposition, this act outlawed defaming government officials or interfering with government policies with punishments of imprisonment and/or fines; it expired in 1801.  **Contract Theory:** the idea that the people agree to have the authority and power of government and give up pieces of their liberty in order to achieve it, but because the people put it in place, the government is beholden to the people.  **Virginia and Kentucky resolutions (1798-1799):** statement secretly drafted by TJ and Madison for the legislatures of VA and KY which argued that states were the final arbiters of whether the federal government had overstepped its bounds and could therefore nullify national legislation they deemed unconstitutional. |