

STUDY GUIDE
THE FEDERALIST ERA: 1789-1801

THE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- To what extent did the actions of the first three presidents establish a stable and effective national government?
- How did the new U.S. Constitution provide the framework for a stable government amid rising political divisions?
- To what extent did the role of government in society in this era set the foundation for the development of ideals of independence and equality and the expansion and development of the new nation?

IN A NUTSHELL:

- In the 1790s, George Washington presided over the creation of a new government.
- Although Washington warned against the “spirit of the party,” political parties were created during his presidency.
- Party division, territorial growth, and a war in Europe shaped U.S. history in the early nineteenth century.

KEY TERMS:

EVENTS

George Washington inaugurated, 1789
Judiciary Act, 1789
Bill of Rights ratified, 1791
First Bank of the United States established, 1791
Execution of French King Louis XVI, 1793
Proclamation of Neutrality, 1793
Citizen Genêt Affair, 1793
Jay's Treaty, 1794
Whiskey Rebellion, 1794
Pinckney's Treaty, 1795
Land Act of 1796
Washington's Farewell Address, 1796
XYZ Affair, 1797-98
Alien and Sedition Acts, 1798
Kentucky & Virginia Resolutions, 1798-99
Land Act of 1800
Election of 1800
Judiciary Act of 1801

PEOPLE

George Washington
Alexander Hamilton
Thomas Jefferson
Edmund “Citizen” Genêt
John Jay
John Adams
Aaron Burr
John Marshall

OTHER TERMS

tariff
broad construction of the Constitution
strict construction of the Constitution
excise tax
protective tariffs
internal improvements
Federalists
Republicans
agrarian
impressment
“Quasi-War” with France
Midnight judges
laissez-faire economics
Twelfth Amendment