Essential Questions

• Explain the origin and development of the Federalist and Democratic-Republican parties.
• What issues defined the Federalists and Democratic-Republicans?

The Rise of Political Parties

FEDERALISTS vs. DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLICANS

THE FIRST POLITICAL PARTIES, 1792

“Jefferson said, ‘the many!’ Hamilton said, ‘the few!’

Like opposite sides of a penny were those exalted two.

If Jefferson said, ‘It’s black, sir!’ Hamilton cried, ‘It’s white!’

But, ‘twixt the two, our Constitution started working right.”

—Stephan Vincent Benet
FEDERALIST PARTY

REPUBLICAN PARTY* (not the same as today's Republican party)
*also called Democratic-Republican

ALEXANDER HAMILTON’S VIEWS

THOMAS JEFFERSON’S VIEWS

SOCIAL

PESSIMISTIC VIEW OF HUMAN NATURE
Hamilton believed people are basically selfish—thus need the restraint of strong government.

OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF HUMAN NATURE
Jefferson believed people are basically good—thus capable of self-government.

FEDERALIST PARTY

REPUBLICAN PARTY* (not the same as today's Republican party)
*also called Democratic-Republican

ALEXANDER HAMILTON’S VIEWS

THOMAS JEFFERSON’S VIEWS

1. Nationalist: strong central government
2. Loose interpretation of the Constitution

GOVERNMENT POWER

1. Localist, states’ rights: limited central government
2. Strict interpretation of the Constitution
**FEDERALIST PARTY**

- **POLITICAL: Who Should Govern?**
- Both Hamilton and Jefferson believed that an aristocracy should rule—but differed as to what kind:
  - Hamilton favored:
    - a rich and well-born aristocracy, based on birth, wealth, and status.
    - He agreed with John Jay that, “Those who own the country ought to govern it.”
    - They had more at stake, so they would be more responsible.

- Jefferson favored:
  - a natural aristocracy, based on talent and virtue.
  - He advocated rule by educated men of property, but he promoted widespread access to both education and property.

- **THE FIVE Pillars (as described by John Adams)**
  - BEAUTY
  - WEALTH
  - BIRTH
  - TALENT
  - VIRTUE

- **ALEXANDER HAMILTON’S VIEWS**
  1. Industrial economy; manufacturing
  2. Urban centered

- **THOMAS JEFFERSON’S VIEWS**
  1. Agrarian economy; farming
  2. Rural centered

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**REPUBLICAN PARTY**

- **not the same as today’s Republican party**
- *also called Democratic-Republican*
Hamilton believed in a **loose interpretation** of the constitution:
- A very broad and flexible view of power
- Doing what is “necessary and proper”

Thomas Jefferson and James Madison Argued for a **strict interpretation** of the Constitution:
- If Constitution does not mention it, the government cannot do it.