

Federalist or Anti-Federalist Identification

Part 1: Read the descriptions of Americans living in 1787 listed below. Decide then if they would have been most likely a Federalist (F) or an Antifederalist (AF)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **Thomas Clark:** a wealthy lawyer from Philadelphia who believes a strong national government headed by a king is a curse to mankind.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ **Josiah Bartlett:** a merchant from New Hampshire whose business is threatened by state regulation of trade and high tariffs. Recently he has been taxed by Massachusetts to ship crops across state borders.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ **Edward Heyward:** a planter from Georgia who has never been outside of his state. He strongly distrusts citizens from other states and prefers governmental power at the local level.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ **Patrick O'Neil:** a member of the Virginia legislature who prior to the Revolution, complained strongly that the British government was abusing the rights of individuals and that the new government needs to make the protection of rights the primary concern.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ **Tom McKean:** a soldier from the Revolution who lost his farm following the economic chaos under the Articles of Confederation. During the war, he was promised \$10,000 but was never paid.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ **George Clinton:** the governor of New York who wanted to keep his authority and not have to submit to any national laws or taxes.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ **Charles Whipple:** a banker from Massachusetts whose property was destroyed during Shays' Rebellion. In his opinion, a strong government is needed to prevent mob violence and chaos.

Part 2: Alexander Hamilton, along with James Madison and John Jay published 85 essays known as the Federalist Papers to persuade voters to ratify the new proposed Constitution. They outlined how the new stronger government would operate and explained why this type of government is necessary. Read Federalist #15 by Alexander Hamilton and answer the questions that follow.

**Insufficiency of the Present Confederation to Preserve the Union**

In the course of the preceding papers, I have endeavored, my fellow citizens, to place before you, in a clear and convincing light, the importance of Union to your political safety and happiness. I have unfolded to you a complication of dangers to which you would be exposed, should you permit that sacred knot which binds the people of America together be severed or dissolved by ambition or by avarice; by jealousy or by misrepresentation...

If the road over which you will still have to pass should in some places appear to you tedious or irksome, you will recollect that you are in quest of information on a subject the most momentous which can engage the attention of a free people, that the field through which you have to travel is in itself spacious, and that the difficulties of the journey have been unnecessarily increased by the mazes with which sophistry has beset the way. It will be my aim to remove the obstacles from your progress...

8. What argument does Hamilton make with the title of his essay about the Articles of Confederation?

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9. Place a box around why Hamilton says he is writing this essay.

10. Hamilton argued it was important to the public safety that the Constitution be ratified. Underline the statement that shows this.

11. What advice does Hamilton have for people who have trouble understanding the Constitution?

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