

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT 2015

Assignment due the first day of class.

You will read *Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation*, by Joseph Ellis. You are required to answer a series of short answer questions based on this reading. There will be a Socratic Seminar covering content of all of the assigned chapters during the first two weeks of class.

Founding Brothers Short answer questions:

*Directions: This is a writing assignment. The goal is to judge your ability to read a historical essay, analyze the information and answer a specific question in essay format. The book *Founding Brothers* is divided into six chapters. Below, you will find one (1) question for each of the six chapters. All work must be HAND-WRITTEN in a legible format so that it can be graded. You must use black or blue ink. You may cite passages from the book in your essay but make sure that you answer the question. There is no assigned length for your answer. Do not try to write your own novel-length book; however, please do be sure that you fully answer each question. As always, you are expected to adhere to the honor code and not pass any work as your own that is not yours. You must cite any work that is not yours. You are subject to disciplinary action if you plagiarize.*

Question #1: The Duel

On July 11, 1804 Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton were rowed across the Hudson River for a meeting that history has labeled "the interview at Weehawken". The duel between Hamilton and Burr had its foundations in long standing disagreements between the two men and would have a dramatic effect on the political development of our country. **What were the main causes and events that led to the "interview at Weehawken"?** You need to make sure that look at the long term issues surrounding this event, not just the incidents surrounding the election in New York.

Question #2: The Dinner

At a dinner party one evening, three of the most honored men in United States history sat down for dinner to discuss several important issues facing our young government. The result of the meeting was a series of VERY important compromises. **What were the problems these men sat down to discuss, what were the compromises that they made, and discuss the impact these compromises have on government today?**

Question #3: The Silence

The institution of slavery had been an issue the founding brothers had failed to successfully deal with during the formation of our government. Early in 1790, two Quaker delegations petitioned the young Congress of the United States to put an immediate end to slavery. This request propelled the Congress into a debate that highlights the complicated and many times divisive nature of slavery. **How did the founding fathers deal with the issue of slavery?** In your essay do not simply focus on the debate before the House of Representatives in 1790, but look at the total history of the way the leaders of our country dealt with the "peculiar institution."

Question #4: The Farewell

The "father of our country", George Washington, played a pivotal role in the development of our nation. As the general of the Continental Army he led the colonies to victory over the British. He was instrumental in the calling for and the conducting of the Constitutional Convention. As the first president of the new government he was instrumental in creating a strong executive branch. After a long and distinguished career in public service, in 1796 George Washington decided to retire from public life and return to his home at Mt. Vernon. As one last act of leadership for the country, Washington published in several newspapers his "Farewell Address." **What was Washington's advice to the country? Evaluate the reasons why Washington gave this advice to the country on the eve of his retirement?**

Question #5: The Collaborators

The American Revolution was based on the radical concepts that all men were created equal and that the class system of Europe would be replaced by a new Republican idealism. The founding brothers collaborated during the Revolution to achieve these lofty goals and developed strong friendships. However, by the early 19th century the view of the new society was strained by the development of a strong national government and the creation of political parties. One of the casualties of this political conflict was the friendship between John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. **What were the issues that created this split between friends? What new collaboration (political friendship) did Thomas Jefferson forge and what impact did this new collaboration have on the development of the US political system?**

Question #6: The Friendship

As discussed in the essay the Collaborators, the friendship between Jefferson and Adams was forever altered by the changing political currents of the late 18th and early 19th century. With the assistance of Benjamin Rush, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson re-established their friendship starting in 1812 with a series of letters that lasted 14 years. These letters give great insight into the differences between Adams and Jefferson. **Compare and contrast the political differences between Adams and Jefferson. How did their different views affect the development of early American Government and can still be seen today?**

For most students, Advanced Placement US History can be a very intense course. There is a great deal of material to cover and the school year goes by fast. Preparation for class is a must; therefore you must be willing to spend time and energy on this course. As with all courses, questions arise. Should you have any questions, we can be reached via email during the summer. Do not wait until the last moments to finish this assignment. Remember that although we will be checking our email accounts periodically, we cannot guarantee that you will receive a quick response due to our schedules. You must plan your schedule accordingly. We are always willing to answer questions; however, it is your responsibility to contact us in a timely manner. Lack of communication is not a valid reason for not having this assignment ready for class as assigned.

We look forward to seeing you all in the fall.

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Founding Brothers

The following are questions to guide your reading. These will help you, but they will not be collected for a grade. They are for your benefit of understanding the material.

“The Generation”

1. What “founding brothers” does the author focus his book on?
2. Which “founding brother” instructed his wife to start saving all his letters in order to record “the great events which are pressed, and those greater which are rapidly advancing”?
3. Was the creation of a separate American nation revolutionary or evolutionary?
4. What has become the political norm in the 20th century?
5. To fully understand the revolutionary generation Ellis says we need to be both nearsighted and far sighted. What was the key farsighted insight?
6. What was the one argument used to discredit the authority of Parliament and the British monarch?
7. Name at least one of the “unseemly features” of the Constitutional Convention?
8. Some call the Constitutional Convention “The _____ at Philadelphia”
9. According to the Constitution, sovereignty rest with:
10. What was the original definition of “American” and “democrat”?
11. List one asset and one liability America had according to the text?
12. The decades that rival the revolutionary decade in importance were the 1855-1865 and 1940 –1950 decades according to Ellis. What major event occurred during these decades?
13. Which author saw the war as a liberal movement?
14. Which author depicts the American Revolution as a deep seeded liberation movement?
15. What distinguishes the American Revolution from most, if not all subsequent revolutions?
16. What are the common themes of the events Ellis chose to illustrate?

“The Duel”

1. In 1804 what political office did Aaron Burr hold?
2. Who called Hamilton “the bastard brat of a Scottish peddler”?
3. Was dueling legal in New York?
4. Who was the challenger in the Burr-Hamilton duel?
5. Who died July 12, 1811 as a result of the duel?
6. Explain what the best evidence tells us about Alexander Hamilton at the duel?
7. Name one piece of evidence that Burr did not mean to kill Hamilton.
8. Who fired first (Hamilton or Burr) in the verbal exchange?
9. According to the “code duello” which charge could lead a gentleman to demand satisfaction?
a. personal b. political
10. On which occasion did Burr and Hamilton sit by one another days prior to their duel?
11. Why did Hamilton simply not retract all negatives he had said about Aaron Burr in the past?
12. What infamous Revolutionary War figure has Burr been compared to?
13. In the 1800 presidential election, Hamilton lobbied the House of Representatives to support which candidate over Aaron Burr?
14. Who was Hamilton’s chief political enemy?
15. What was Hamilton’s core criticism of Burr?
16. At the time of the Hamilton-Burr duel, was the United States yet a nation of laws and established institutions capable of surviving corrupt or incompetent officials?

“The Dinner”

1. Name George Washington’s Secretary of State and Secretary of the Treasury.
2. What southern Congressman blocked Hamilton’s financial plan on public credit?
3. What provision of the plan did he specifically block?
4. Who hosted the meeting between Hamilton and James Madison and left the only historical record of the meeting?
5. What did southern states receive in exchange for supporting Hamilton’s financial plan on public credit?
6. Did Jefferson continue to believe his part in the “dinner” bargain between Hamilton and Madison was just?
7. Who led both the assumption and residence questions in the House of Representatives?

8. What honorary title did Madison receive for his work on the Constitution?
9. Who were the authors of The Federalist Papers?
10. In the case of James Madison why were looks deceiving?
11. In the 1790s, what two men were the “the great collaboration”? Why was this so?
12. In 1790 the total debt of the United States was \$77.1 million. Label the following from 1 to 3 with 1 being the greatest share of the debt and 3 being the smallest share.
 _____ Domestic
 _____ Foreign
 _____ State
13. What did it mean when Hamilton proposed that all citizens who owned government securities should be reimbursed at par?
14. What was a major problem with Hamilton’s proposal?
15. Did Madison support Hamilton’s funding and assumption schemes?
16. What was the only southern state not to have retired most of its debt?
17. Did Madison believe the assumption issue was primarily about economics or the power of the federal government over the state government?
18. What nation served as Hamilton’s economic model?
19. Hamilton believed that when money was spread out it was only money, but when concentrated it was _____.
20. Who believed “A public debt is a public curse”?
21. Who did Hamilton see as the central figures in the emergent American society?
22. To the southern gentry, especially Virginia, what was the ultimate measure of wealth?
23. What health problem plagued Thomas Jefferson?
24. List one reason why Jefferson wanted to broker a compromise between Hamilton and Madison.
25. What state seemed to have the edge as the future site of the nation’s capital?
26. Who was given the unofficial title “Big Knife” for cutting deals with Congress?
27. What was the geographic midpoint between northern Maine and southern Georgia?
28. Was the Hamilton, Madison, and Jefferson “dinner” the only secret political meeting or dinner in the late spring and early summer of 1790?
29. What founding father ultimately selected the exact site for Washington, D.C.?
30. Who led the Virginia attack against the passage of the Assumption Bill?
31. The first session of Congress was held in what new but temporary national capital city?
32. Historically, which has the power to be the most daunting task – securing a revolt or winning a revolution? Why?
33. Was the selection of Washington, D.C. as the new national capital a victory of diffusion or a victory of consolidation?

“The Silence”

1. On February 11, 1790, two Quaker delegates to Congress presented a petition to end what practice?
2. The United States Constitution said this practice could not be abolished until what year?
3. The Pennsylvania Abolition Society made two new points in their petition for the abolition of slavery. Name them.
4. The Pennsylvania Abolition Society's appeal to Congress arrived under the signature of what "founding brother"?
5. All the southern states had ratified the Constitution with what understanding as a primal precondition?
6. Southern delegates proclaimed what two "documents" endorsed slavery?
7. Why did John Page of Pennsylvania believe silence on the end to slavery and the slave trade were dangerous?
8. What United States document gave lyrical expression to a widespread belief that a general emancipation of slaves was both imminent and inevitable?
9. What was the first state to declare slavery illegal within its border?
10. What did James Madison believe was the most divisive issue at the Constitutional Convention?

11. Name the Maryland representative who gave the most forceful expression against slavery and the Pennsylvania delegate who described slavery as an economic curse?
12. Which southern state had the chief burden of proving the Deep South's position that those states could not survive without slavery?
13. What was the most important clause of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787?
14. The "Sectional Compromise" saw the Deep South backing a mere majority vote in Congress on federal regulations of commerce in exchange for New England's agreeing to an extension of the slave trade for _____ years.
15. What state had the largest slave and free black population?
16. South Carolina's James Jackson called slavery a "necessary _____."
17. What Thomas Jefferson book did James Jackson and William Loughton Smith use in their arguments against the abolition of slavery?
18. What was the ultimate legacy of the American Revolution on slavery?
19. When was the first census of the United States?
20. According to the first census what were the only two northern states with a sizeable slave population?
21. What were the two major weaknesses of the antislavery arguments according to the Deep South?
22. What were two assumptions made by those that favored gradual emancipation?
23. Was there a model of a genuinely biracial society anywhere in the world for the United States to study?
24. Which aspect of gradual emancipation seemed the closest to unsolvable - owner compensation or relocation of former slaves?
25. Which "founding brother" seemed to lead the attack on slavery?
26. Name two "founding brothers" who had spoken out against slavery but now desired the debate on slavery in the House of Representatives to end?
27. Who led the behind the scenes political maneuvering that resulted in Congress relinquishing its power to ever ban slavery?
28. Where would the power to regulate slavery (where it existed) be placed?

"The Farewell"

1. Who was America's only indispensable character?
2. George Washington's announcement he was not going to run for a third term as President of the United States received what title from the "Courier of New Hampshire"?
3. Washington's voluntary surrender of the presidency after two terms would not be broken until the election of what president in 1940?
4. Which constitutional amendment sets the Presidential limit at two terms or 10 years?
5. What is the short answer as to why George Washington decided to retire in 1796?
6. What is the main charge levied against Washington?
7. By resigning early Washington was declaring his deepest allegiances were thoroughly_____.
8. How can the themes in Washington's Farewell Address be easily summarized?
9. When George Washington rejected the mantle of emperor who allegedly called him "the greatest man in the world"?
10. Washington believed there was no such thing as a permanent international _____, only permanent national _____.
11. What was the one big thing Washington knew about America?
12. What was the lynchpin of Washington's foreign policy?
13. What 1794 Treaty dissolved the Franco-American Alliance of 1778?
14. Did the House of Representatives pass Jay's treaty?
15. Thomas Jefferson denounced Washington's quenching of the _____ Rebellion in 1794.
16. In the 1790s was Thomas Jefferson an Anglophile or a Francophile?
17. Who orchestrated the campaign of vilification against George Washington?
18. List any two of the labels that have been used to describe the different visions of America's abiding national interest during this period.
19. Who was the most pro-French example of Republican mentality?

20. What three features did George Washington want to set into his Farewell Address?
21. Washington's Farewell Address was a collaborative effort between what three men?
22. Did Washington's campaign for a national university succeed?
23. How did Washington advise America it could manage its way through the post-Washington phase of development?
24. What was the only dark spot on America's political horizon in December 1797?
25. Did Washington believe the power of the federal government needed to be enlarged or reduced in the wake of his retirement?
26. What was the largest constituency that was excluded from Washington's Farewell Address?
27. List one way Washington differed from Madison and Jefferson in his views toward African Americans?
28. What provision was made for Washington's slaves in his will?
29. In his "Address to the Cherokee Nation" what was the only realistic solution to the clash between whites and Native Americans according to Washington?
30. What state became the homeland of the Republican opposition during George Washington's retirement?
31. When did George Washington die?

"The Collaborators"

1. Did candidates for public office openly solicit votes in the late 17th /early 18th centuries?
2. Who were the "candidates for president in 1796?"
3. What event had originally brought these two men together?
4. Who did John Adams marry in 1764?
5. At the time of the Constitutional Convention, who were the two leading outspoken opponents of England?
6. List any two services to America performed by John Adams prior to becoming the nation's first vice-president.
7. What two duties does the vice-president possess according to the Constitutional?
8. Was John Adams an active participant in the formulation of the policies of the Washington administration?
9. Thomas Jefferson's support for what European event drove a severe wedge in his friendship with John Adams?
10. Which constitutional amendment mandated a vote for one ticket of a presidential and vice presidential candidate?
11. Match the man who ran for president in 1796 and the man he was teamed with?
12. Who won the 1796 presidential election and who became his vice-president?
President -
Vice President -
13. How did John Adams let it be known that his Federalist administration would be bipartisan at least in foreign policy?
14. Why did Thomas Jefferson not allow himself to be drawn into the policy-making decisions of the John Adams administration?
15. Who was John Adam's Federalist cabinet most loyal to?
16. In what two ways did John Adam's handle the undeclared naval war with French privateers?
17. During John Adam's administration who was the leader of the political opposition?
18. Name one of the two early controversial appointments made by John Adams?
19. The three French officials who demanded a bribe as a prerequisite for treaty negotiations with the American delegation became known as ____.
20. The passage of what piece of legislation proved to be the biggest blunder of John Adam's presidency?
21. Who played a decisive role in persuading John Adams to support the Alien and Sedition Acts?
22. What was the most significant and successful decision of the Adam's presidency?
23. Was the 1799 Franco-American treaty popular with Adams' own political party?
24. List one reason John Adams sent the peace delegation to France in 1799?
25. Who was James Callender?

26. What was the core problem Jefferson, Madison, and the Republicans had with the Federalists?
27. Who were the authors of the Kentucky and Virginia Resolves (Resolutions)?
28. What were Jefferson's two arguments against the Sedition Act?
29. To what modern doctrine does James Madison's argument against the Sedition Act lead?
30. What virtually assured the Republican victory over the Federalists in the 1800 Presidential election?
31. Who was elected president and vice-president in 1800?
32. What became of the Federalist Party?
33. What was the last major duty of the Adam's presidency?

“The Friendship”

1. In the first year of his retirement, who were the two men at the top of John Adam's enemies list?
2. What was John Adam's most enduring anti-Jefferson legacy?
3. After the death of Jefferson's youngest daughter, who authored a series of letter exchanges with Thomas Jefferson?
4. The Adams “team” leveled two charges against Jefferson's political honor. What were they?
5. Which Jefferson term in office is considered to be the most successful – the first or second?
6. Who led the debate in Congress that led to the passage of the Declaration of Independence?
7. Who did Benjamin Franklin correspond with during his retirement in a series of letters which discussed the two men's “dreams”?
8. Is there a distinction between history experienced and history remembered?
9. John Adams believed that the founding fathers from which state were the chief beneficiaries of all the highly stylized and romanticized histories?
10. Recent scholarships have suggested that John Adams suffered from hyperthyroidism. This disease leads to a congenital inability to do what?
11. Name two misguided propositions about European affairs that Jefferson wholeheartedly believed in the 1790s.
12. Who recounted a dream to John Adams that he had of Adams and Jefferson? This helped rekindle Adams and Jefferson's friendship through correspondence.
13. Did Jefferson write Adams first or vice-versa?
14. Adams and Jefferson exchanged how many more letters over the next fourteen years?
15. Why did Adams take the first step and begin writing Jefferson?
16. What was incredible about the deaths of Adams and Jefferson?
17. In his letters, who did Thomas Jefferson blame for the breakup of the Adams-Jefferson friendship?
18. Who set the intellectual agenda for the Adams-Jefferson correspondence?
19. What was the major argument that ran through the initial Adams-Jefferson correspondence?
20. What were the distinctions of the role of the elites in American government, according to Thomas Jefferson?
21. What did Adams believe were the five pillars of aristocracy?
22. What is the central premise of the revolutionary legacy?
23. Which man proved to be more correct in his contemporary judgment of the French Revolution?
24. John Adams wrote that what European nation would never be our friend until we were her master?
25. What subject was declared off limits by mutual consent in the Adams-Jefferson correspondence?
26. Which of the two men welcomed a debate on slavery?
27. Why was John Adams delighted when the Mecklenburg Resolutions surfaced in 1819? (They were later proved to be forgeries.)
28. What French hero of the American Revolution visited both Adams and Jefferson in 1824?
29. What topic began to crowd out Adams and Jefferson's writings on more controversial issues?
30. In 1826, who were the only three signers of the Declaration of the United States still alive?
31. To which man was the American Revolution still an experiment fifty years later?
32. What were Thomas Jefferson's last words?
33. What were John Adam's last words?