

# Study Guide



## Chapter 6, Section 2

For use with textbook pages 215–220

### PARTISAN POLITICS

#### KEY TERMS AND NAMES

**Jay's Treaty** a treaty signed in 1794 between the United States and Great Britain that prevented war between the two countries (*page 216*)

**most-favored nation** status given to a nation that guarantees no discrimination in trade with that nation (*page 216*)

**Pinckney's Treaty** a treaty signed in 1795 that granted the United States the right to navigate the Mississippi (*page 217*)

**Washington's Farewell Address** President Washington's letter to the American people in which he warned them against sectionalism (*page 217*)

**Quasi-War** an undeclared war at sea fought in 1798 between France and the United States (*page 218*)

**Alien and Sedition Acts** four laws that included giving the president the right to deport aliens and made criticism of the government a criminal act (*page 219*)

**alien** people living in a country who are not citizens (*page 219*)

**sedition** incitement to rebellion (*page 219*)

**interposition** the theory that said a state could step in between the federal government and the people to stop the federal government from doing something unconstitutional (*page 219*)

**nullification** the theory that said the states had the right to declare a federal law invalid if they considered the law unconstitutional (*page 219*)

#### DRAWING FROM EXPERIENCE

Are people in the United States allowed to criticize the government? In what ways do people show their disagreement with the government? How do you think people would react if they were not allowed to criticize the government?

The last section described the challenges facing the new government at home. This section discusses the nation's challenges in foreign affairs.

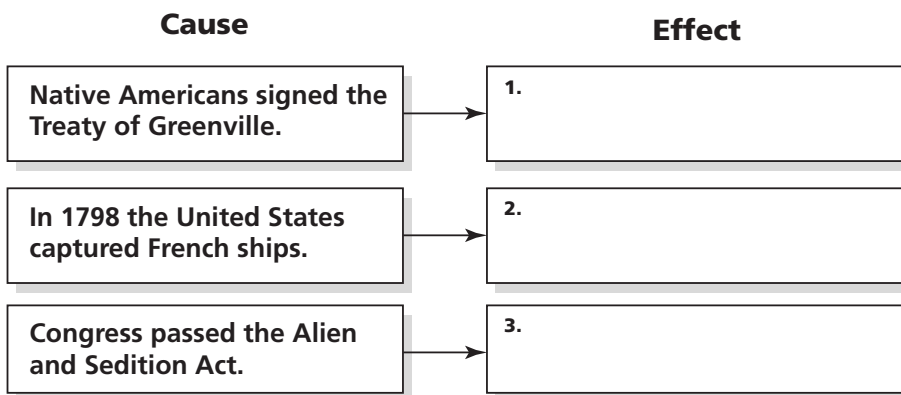
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## Chapter 6, Section 2 (continued)

### ORGANIZING YOUR THOUGHTS

Use the cause-and-effect diagram below to help you take notes. During his administration, President Adams faced many challenges, both at home and abroad. Identify the effects of each of the causes listed.



### READ TO LEARN

- **Washington’s Foreign Policy** (page 215)

The French Revolution began shortly after George Washington was inaugurated in 1789. At first, most Americans supported the revolutionaries. French radicals seized control in 1792, however, and they executed thousands of people. Americans then were divided over the French Revolution. The Federalists opposed it, while the Republicans supported it. In 1793 the French declared war on Britain. This put the United States in a difficult position. The Treaty of 1778 with France required that the United States help defend France’s colonies in the Caribbean, which meant war with Great Britain. President Washington then declared the United States to be neutral toward both Britain and France.

Although Washington declared its neutrality, the British navy seized American ships carrying goods to France. Britain still occupied forts on U.S. territory, from which they stirred up Native Americans to attack western settlers.

To avoid war with Britain, Washington sent John Jay to Britain to find a solution. The British did not want to fight a war with the United States. It knew that the United States depended on trade with Britain, though, so Britain agreed to sign **Jay’s Treaty**. Under the treaty, the United States agreed that Britain had the right to seize merchandise that was bound for France. In return, the British agreed to give the United States **most-favored nation** status. This meant that United States merchants would not be discriminated against when they traded with Britain. Although people were upset with the provisions of the treaty and accused the Federalists of being pro-British, the treaty was ratified. The treaty prevented war with Britain and protected the U.S. economy.

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## Chapter 6, Section 2 (continued)

Spain joined France in its war against Britain. Spain was afraid that the British and Americans would seize its landholdings in North America. As a result, in 1795 the Spanish signed **Pinckney's Treaty**. The treaty granted the United States the right to navigate the Mississippi River and to deposit goods at the port of New Orleans.

4. Why did many people oppose the provisions of Jay's Treaty?

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- **Westward Expansion** (page 217)

By 1790 white settlement in the area between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River grew rapidly. The increased settlement led to conflicts with the Native Americans in the region. In the Northwest Territory, Little Turtle, a chief of the Miami people, had formed a confederacy of several Native American groups to defend their land against white settlement. The warriors ambushed American troops, killing nearly half of them. President Washington then sent General Anthony Wayne to put down the Native American resistance. In 1794 a large Native American force led by Shawnee chief Blue Jacket attacked Wayne's troops at the Battle of Fallen Timbers, near present-day Toledo, Ohio. This time the American troops killed many Native Americans. As a result of this defeat, the Native American nations signed the Treaty of Greenville. They gave up part of present-day southern Ohio and Indiana.

5. Why did Native Americans fight the Battle of Fallen Timbers?

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- **Washington Leaves Office** (page 217)

President Washington decided to retire at the end of his second term. Before he left office, he wrote a letter to the American people. **Washington's Farewell Address** warned Americans against sectionalism and against political parties. He also warned against the United States becoming too attached to any foreign nation.

In the election of 1796, the Federalists supported John Adams for president. The Republicans nominated Thomas Jefferson. John Adams became the second president of the United States.

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## Chapter 6, Section 2 (continued)

6. What did President Washington warn the American people about when he left office?

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• **The Quasi-War With France** (page 218)

The French were upset with Jay’s Treaty and began seizing American ships bound for Britain. Many Federalists called for war against France. However, President Adams did not want to involve the United States in a major war. Instead, he sent representatives to negotiate with France. The French demanded bribes for negotiations to begin. Americans were furious and called for war with France. In June 1798, Congress stopped trade with France. It directed the navy to capture armed French ships. Soon the two countries were fighting an undeclared war at sea that became known as the **Quasi-War**. In 1800, after negotiations, France and the United States signed the Convention of 1800. Under this agreement, the United States gave up all claims against France for damages to U.S. shipping. In return, France released the United States from the treaty of 1778.

7. How did the United States react to France’s demand for bribes before starting negotiations?

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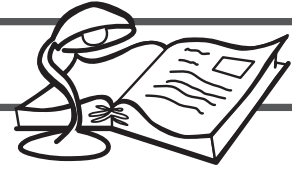
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• **The War Between the Parties** (page 219)

Many Federalists were upset about criticisms from the Republicans. When the American people were angry with France, the Federalists decided to strike back at the Republicans. In 1798 they pushed four laws through Congress that became known as the **Alien and Sedition Acts**. The first three laws were aimed against **aliens**, or people living in the country who were not citizens. These immigrants tended to vote for the Republican Party once they became citizens. One law required that immigrants wait 14 years before they could become citizens. The next two laws gave the president the power to deport any alien believed to be dangerous to the United States. The fourth law was aimed at stopping **sedition**, or encouragement to revolt. The law made it a crime to say or print anything against the federal government.

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### Chapter 6, Section 2 (continued)

In 1798 and 1799, the Republican-controlled legislatures of Kentucky and Virginia passed resolutions criticizing the Alien and Sedition Acts. The resolutions said that since the states created the Constitution, they had the right to declare a federal law unconstitutional. The Virginia Resolutions introduced the theory of **interposition**. They said that if the federal government did something unconstitutional, the states could step in between the federal government and the people and stop the illegal action. The Kentucky Resolutions introduced the theory of **nullification**. According to this theory, if the federal government passed an unconstitutional law, the states had the right to declare the law invalid.

Many people were upset with the Alien and Sedition Acts that the Federalists supported. In the presidential election of 1800, the Republican nominees—Thomas Jefferson for president and Aaron Burr for vice president—campaigning against the Federalists and their laws.

The election was close and had an unexpected outcome. The Constitution called for each state to choose the same number of electors as it had senators and representatives. The group of electors, known as the Electoral College, then votes for the president. Each elector was to vote for two people—one for the presidential candidate and one for the vice presidential candidate.

When the vote was counted in the 1800 election, Jefferson and Burr had the same number of votes. This meant that the Federalist-controlled House of Representatives had to choose a president. Hamilton urged his fellow Federalists to support Jefferson. This still led to a tie between Jefferson and Burr. Then Jefferson convinced one Federalist that if elected, Jefferson would not get rid of Hamilton's policies or fire all Federalists in government. The Federalist cast a blank vote, breaking the tie, and Jefferson became the new president. The election of 1800 showed that power in the United States could be transferred peacefully despite strong disagreements between the parties.

**8.** What did the election of 1800 show?

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