

Read pages 209-214 in the *History Alive!* textbook, and take notes on how these two men differ on the following topics.

| | Alexander Hamilton | Thomas Jefferson |
|--|--------------------|------------------|
| Political Party & Cabinet Position | | |
| Personal Background | | |
| View of Human Nature | | |
| Best Form of Government | | |
| Ideal Economy | | |
| Interpretation of Constitution | | |
| Relations with Britain and France | | |

- a. He believed that, when educated, people could make good decisions for themselves and their country.
- b. He felt that most people were selfish and only work to help their self-interests. As a result, he distrusted a government that gave the common people too much power.
- c. He supported an alliance with France.
- d. He supported a “loose construction” interpretation of the Constitution based on the “elastic clause.”
- e. He favored an economy based on agriculture. He was against the national bank.
- f. Federalist party, Secretary of Treasury
- g. He was born into a wealthy family in Virginia and inherited a plantation. He was highly educated. He became a Virginia politician and wrote the Declaration of Independence.
- h. He believed that the government should be run by the educated and wealthy. He believed a strong national government was more important than the rights of states.
- i. Democratic-Republican party, Secretary of State
- j. He believed in a democratic government that included most people, not just the “best people.” He wanted a small national government with limited powers, and stronger state governments.
- k. He was born poor in the West Indies. He gained political power and wealth by working hard and marrying into a wealthy family. He served as Washington’s personal assistant during the Revolutionary War.
- l. He favored an economy based on business, manufacturing and trade. He supported a national bank that printed a national currency. To get all states to agree to pay off Revolutionary War debts, he made a deal that would give the South the national capital city.
- m. He supported a “strict construction” interpretation of the Constitution, which limited the national government
- n. He supported an alliance with Britain.
- o. He favored an economy based on business, manufacturing and trade. He was against a national bank that printed a national currency. To get all states to agree to pay off Revolutionary War debts, he made a deal that would give the North the national capital city.
- p. He supported a “strict construction” interpretation of the Constitution based on the “elastic clause.”
- q. He supported an alliance with both France and Britain.