

## **Hamilton vs. Jefferson**

Providing evidence to support your position

### **Hamilton and Jefferson Writing Assignment Option 1: Better Ideas**

**Background:** Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton were powerful political leaders in the early days of the United States of America who disagreed about many things. They disagreed about what was best for America and what the government should do to make America better. Eventually, their disagreements led to the formation of two political parties or groups.

**Prompt:** Who had the better ideas, Thomas Jefferson or Alexander Hamilton? Present three ideas and show how those ideas are superior to the ideas of the opposing person.

**Task:** Write one introduction and one body paragraph in which you:

1. Write a clear thesis statement that addresses the prompt above.
2. Provide at least three pieces of evidence from the documents to support your argument.
3. Include at least two different sources (Primary source quotes, lyrics from *Hamilton*, Alexander Hamilton reading, Thomas Jefferson reading, Staying Neutral Reading)
4. Correctly cite each piece of evidence used. (Parenthetical citation)
5. Present at least one solid reason why the ideas of the person you chose (Hamilton or Jefferson) are better than the ideas of the other person (Hamilton or Jefferson).

#### **Suggested Vocabulary:**

Government political parties human nature economy loose construction  
Manufacturing agriculture Federalists Democratic-Republicans strict construction  
loose construction

Setting up your document:

1. Create a new Doc in Google Drive
2. Name it with your first name and Hamilton/jefferson essay
3. Share the Doc with Fbisbee (also Babbott if he is your strats teacher!)
4. Insert Header that includes: Full name, period, assignment name, due date (1/29)
5. Create a title (same size same font centered on page)
6. Start the body of the essay (Times New Roman or Arial double spaced, size 12)

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### **Hamilton and Jefferson Writing Assignment Option 2: Personal Political Ideas**

**Background:** Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton were powerful political leaders in the early days of the United States of America who disagreed about many things. They disagreed about what was best for America and what the government should do to make America better. Eventually, their disagreements led to the formation of two political parties or groups.

**Prompt:** Whose political ideology do you agree with more: Thomas Jefferson or Alexander Hamilton? Present three reasons supported by evidence from the readings explaining why they make you agree more with Hamilton or Jefferson.

**Task:** Write one introduction and one body paragraph in which you:

1. Write a clear thesis statement that addresses the prompt above. (example: I agree more with Hamilton's political views.)
2. Provide at least three pieces of evidence from the documents to support your argument and explain their relevance to your beliefs.
3. Include at least two different sources (Primary source quotes, lyrics from *Hamilton*, Alexander Hamilton reading, Thomas Jefferson reading, Staying Neutral Reading)
4. Correctly cite each piece of evidence used. (Parenthetical citation)
5. Present at least one solid reason why the ideas of the person you chose (Hamilton or Jefferson) have political ideas similar to your own.

#### **Suggested Vocabulary:**

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loose construction

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## Hamilton vs. Jefferson

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### **Hamilton and Jefferson Writing Assignment Option 3: Jefferson or Hamilton's beliefs and actions**

**Background:** Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton were powerful political leaders in the early days of the United States of America who disagreed about many things. They disagreed about what was best for America and what the government should do to make America better. Eventually, their disagreements led to the formation of two political parties or groups.

**Prompt:** Although Hamilton and Jefferson had very different political ideas they were both men who acted on their beliefs. Write an essay describing the ideas and actions of either Hamilton or Jefferson.

**Task:** Write one introduction and one body paragraph in which you:

1. Write a clear thesis statement that addresses the prompt above. (For example: Hamilton believed in a strong national government and worked hard to create systems to support this belief.)
2. Provide at least three pieces of evidence from the documents to support your argument. I suggest pick a belief and then explain an action he took to prove this belief.
3. Include at least two different sources (Primary source quotes, lyrics from *Hamilton*, Alexander Hamilton reading, Thomas Jefferson reading, Staying Neutral Reading)
4. Correctly cite each piece of evidence used. (Parenthetical citation)

#### **Suggested Vocabulary:**

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## Hamilton vs. Jefferson

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### **Hamilton and Jefferson MODIFIED Writing Assignment Option 4: Jefferson or Hamilton's beliefs or actions**

**Background:** Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton were powerful political leaders in the early days of the United States of America who disagreed about many things. They disagreed about what was best for America and what the government should do to make America better. Eventually, their disagreements led to the formation of two political parties or groups.

**Prompt:** Although Hamilton and Jefferson had very different political ideas they were both men who acted on their beliefs. Write an essay describing the beliefs of either Hamilton or Jefferson.

**Task:** Write one introduction and one body paragraph in which you:

1. Write a clear thesis statement that addresses the prompt above. (For example: Hamilton believed in a strong national government and worked hard to create systems to support this belief.)
2. Provide at least three pieces of evidence from the documents to support your argument. I suggest pick a belief and then find a quote showing that belief and then explain it.
3. Include at least two different sources (Primary source quotes, lyrics from *Hamilton*, Alexander Hamilton reading, Thomas Jefferson reading, Staying Neutral Reading)
4. Correctly cite each piece of evidence used. (Parenthetical citation)

#### **Suggested Vocabulary:**

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Setting up your document:

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23. Create a title (same size same font centered on page)
24. Start the body of the essay (Times New Roman or Arial double spaced, size 12)

