

1. Read the following excerpts from the Federalist papers and answer the following questions.

**Federalist Paper 10 - James Madison**

*Among the numerous advantages promised by a well-constructed Union, none deserves to be more accurately developed than its tendency to break and control the violence of faction... By a faction, I understand a number of citizens, whether amounting to a majority or a minority of the whole, who are united and actuated by some common impulse of passion, or of interest, adverse to the rights of other citizens, or to the permanent and aggregate interests of the community... The causes of faction cannot be removed, and that relief is only to be sought in the means of controlling its effects... If a faction consists of less than a majority, relief is supplied by the republican principle, which enables the majority to defeat its sinister views by regular vote... A pure democracy, by which I mean a society consisting of a small number of citizens, who assemble and administer the government in person, can admit of no cure for the mischiefs of faction... The influence of factious leaders may kindle a flame within their particular States, but will be unable to spread a general conflagration through the other States.*

1. What did Madison mean by factions? Are factions inevitable? What would we call a faction today?
2. Explain how Madison believed a large republic would protect its citizens from factions better than a small democracy.
3. Are Madison's views on our federal government controlling factions true today? Why or why not.

Federalist Paper 51 - James Madison

*If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary. In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: You must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place, oblige it to control itself.*

4. Which of the following statements would Madison agree with based on his views in the above excerpt?
  - a. Government is necessary.
  - b. The people should elect government leaders who act like angels.
  - c. Elected government officials should be controlled by a system of "checks and balances."
5. What would you say was Madison's general opinion of people in government: Angels? Devils? Something else? Explain.
6. Describe five examples of "checks and balances" in the Constitution.

**Federalist Paper 78 - Alexander Hamilton**

"If then the courts of justice are to be considered as the bulwarks of a limited constitution against legislative encroachments, this consideration will afford a strong argument for the permanent tenure of judicial offices: since nothing will contribute so much as this to that independent spirit in the judges, which must be essential to the faithful performance of so arduous a duty.  
This independence of the judges is equally requisite to guard the constitution and the rights of individuals from the effects of . . . designing men."

7. What does Hamilton mean by "the permanent tenure of judicial offices"? Does Hamilton support or oppose this idea?

8. What does Hamilton mean when he says that an "independent spirit in the judges" is essential for them to do their duty?

9. Should Supreme Court Justices be elected for limited terms, or do you agree with Hamilton? Explain.

**Read Federalist #70 and answer the following questions**

1. What benefits does a strong presidency provide to a representative democracy?
2. Why does a weak executive create a bad government?
3. What are four ingredients of an energetic executive?
4. What, according to Hamilton, is the most necessary quality for a president?
5. What are characteristics of the legislative branch?
6. How do human weaknesses complicate decision-making, according to Hamilton?
7. What problems might arise if the presidency were split between two people?
8. Why is disagreement within the legislative branch beneficial, while in the executive branch it is detrimental?