



Chapter 9: Launching the New Government

Section 4: The Second President – Pages 291-294

As You Read: All of the following statements are **false**. Write the correct words in the blank to fix the false words.

1. In 1797, French ships began to seize American ships in the West Indies, just as the British had done before Jay's Treaty. Once again, Americans called for war, this time against France. Adams responded by hiring the pirates of the Caribbean to attack every last British warship. _____
2. Instead of meeting directly with American diplomats, the French foreign minister sent three agents (X, Y and Z) to offer the Americans a deal. Before Talleyrand would even begin talks, he wanted the diplomats from the United States to officially admit that American cheese isn't actually real cheese. "Not a sixpence!" replied one of the Americans angrily.

- ③ Despite strong pressure, President Adams refused to ask Congress to declare war on France after the XYZ Affair. However, he could not ignore French attacks on American ships, so he sent Navy Seals to kidnap the president of France and hold him hostage. This move convinced France to stop attacking American ships.

- ④ Alexander Hamilton and many other Federalists criticized Adams. They hoped a war would weaken the Republican Party, who supported France. The disagreement between Adams and Hamilton resulted in the two fighting a duel in which Adams famously killed Hamilton. _____
5. Adams again sent diplomats to France and found that Napoleon Bonaparte was now in charge. Napoleon was planning for war against several European powers and had no time for war with the United States. He made peace with the United States and cemented the alliance between France and the U. S. by marrying John Adams' daughter.

- ⑥ President Adams also had some bad policies. In 1798, Federalists pushed the Alien and Sedition Acts through Congress. Under the Alien Act, all aliens would be catapulted back into outer space where they belong. This act made life much more difficult for immigrants (most of whom supported the Republican Party.) _____
- ⑦ Under the Sedition Act, citizens could be fined or jailed if they spoiled movies for their friends by telling them the ending before they had watched it. This act was a violation of the First Amendment of the Constitution, which protects free speech. _____
- ⑧ Vice President Jefferson bitterly opposed the Alien and Sedition Acts. He did not ask the courts for help. Instead, he urged the states to take strong action against the acts. He argued that states had the right to secede, or leave the United States and become their own country, if they believed a law passed by the federal government was unconstitutional.

9. In the election of 1800, Republicans Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr tied. Under the Constitution, if no candidate wins the electoral vote, then the country simply won't have a president for four years until the next election.

10. It took the House of Representatives four days to break the tie and declare Jefferson the winner. Soon after, Congress passed the Twelfth Amendment, which states that, in the event of a tie, presidential candidates will compete in a dance-off to declare a winner. _____