

## Human Nature

Hamilton: I believe that most people are basically selfish and out for themselves. **A government that gives too much power to the common people cannot be trusted.** <= Major difference between Jefferson and Hamilton

Jefferson: **Informed citizens can make good decisions for themselves and the country.** I have faith in peoples' goodness and wisdom.

## Who Should Lead Our Country?

Hamilton: Wealthy, educated, public-spirited men should lead the country.

Jefferson: Farmers and planters like myself should lead the country.

## How Strong Should Our National Government Be?

Hamilton: We should have a **strong national government** that unites the states and keeps order among the people.

Jefferson: The **national government should be small**, with limited powers. (Most power should go to the states.)

## What Is The Ideal Economy?

Hamilton: The ideal economy is based on business, manufacturing, and trade.

**Jefferson: The ideal economy is based on agriculture.**

**Is The Establishment Of A National Bank Constitutional? Why Or Why Not?**

**Hamilton: Yes. I believe the creation of a national bank is constitutional. I believe in the **loose construction** on the Constitution. The elastic clause allows Congress to make any necessary laws, such as the establishment of a bank.**

**Jefferson: No. The Constitution says nothing about a national bank and therefore Congress cannot create one. I believe in the **strict construction** of the Constitution. It means what it says and nothing more.**

**Should The United States Ally Itself With Great Britain Or France? Why Or Why Not?**

**Hamilton: In the war between France and Great Britain, the United States should side with Great Britain. We should respect Britain's ability to keep order and defend itself.**

**Jefferson: We should support France despite the bloodshed caused by the French Revolution. The bloodshed was necessary to pay for freedom.**

