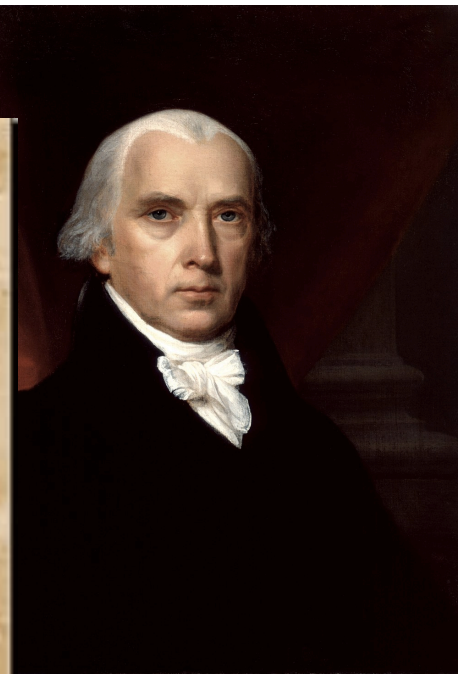
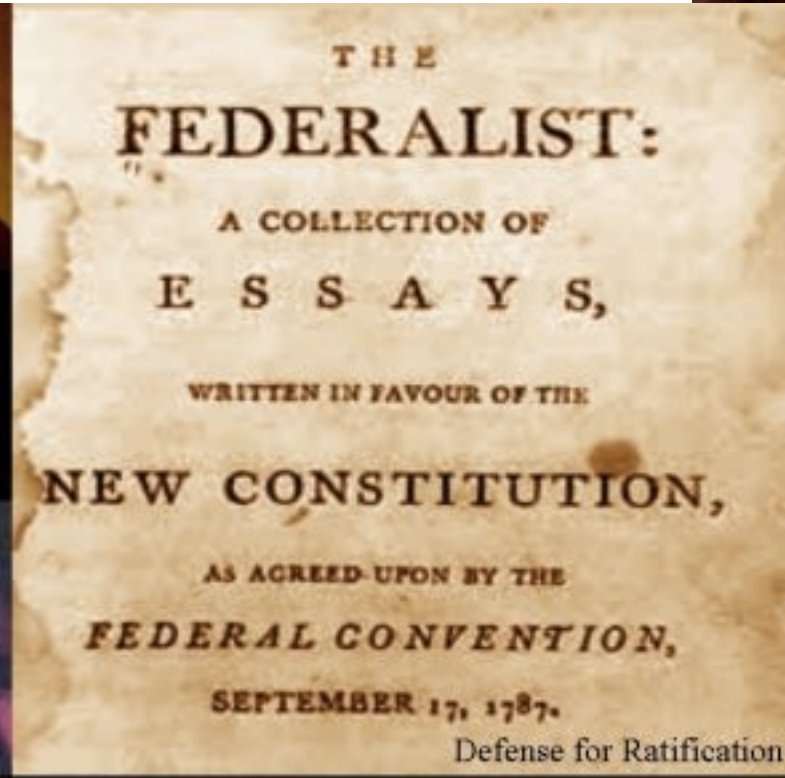
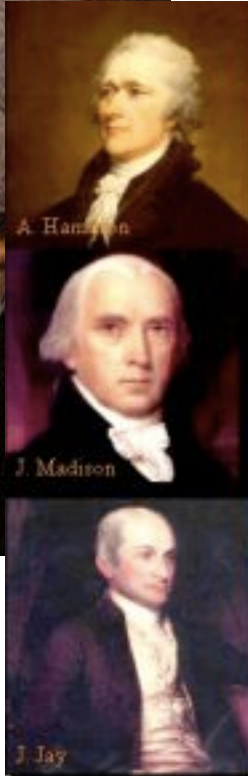
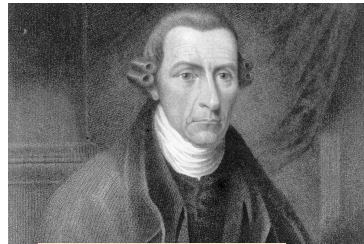
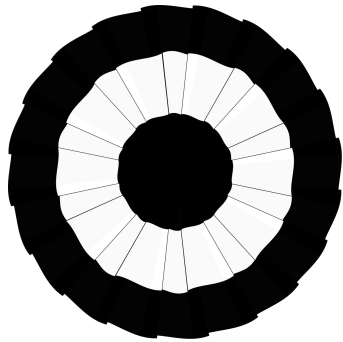


SSUSH5: INVESTIGATE SPECIFIC EVENTS AND KEY IDEAS THAT BROUGHT THE ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION



***ELEMENT D: EVALUATE** the major arguments of the Anti-Federalists and Federalists during the debate on ratification of the Constitution, The Federalist Papers, and the roles of Alexander Hamilton and James Madison.*

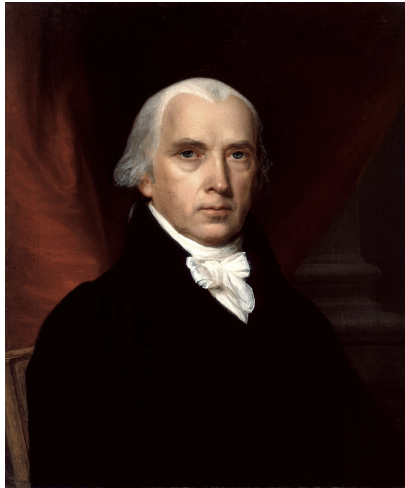
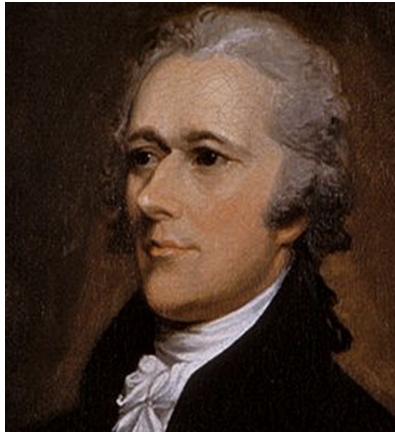
Federalists v. Anti-Federalists



- ❑ Writing the Constitution was just the first step in creating the new government. Before the Constitution could take effect, the states had to accept, or ratify, the document.
- ❑ As soon as the contents of the Constitution were published, a group of influential people spoke out against it.
 - These people came to be known as the Anti-Federalists.
- ❑ Another group, known as the Federalists, promoted ratification of the document as it had been drafted at the Constitutional Convention.
- ❑ The two groups led the debate over the ratification process, each with sound arguments to support their viewpoints.
- ❑ The Anti-Federalists believed the national government created by the Constitution would be too powerful and would eliminate the power of the states.
 - This fear harkens back to the threats of despotism the patriots fought to eliminate during the Revolutionary War period.
 - Anti-Federalists also argued that the Constitution did not describe the rights guaranteed to the states and to each citizen.
 - Patrick Henry and George Mason were important Anti-Federalists

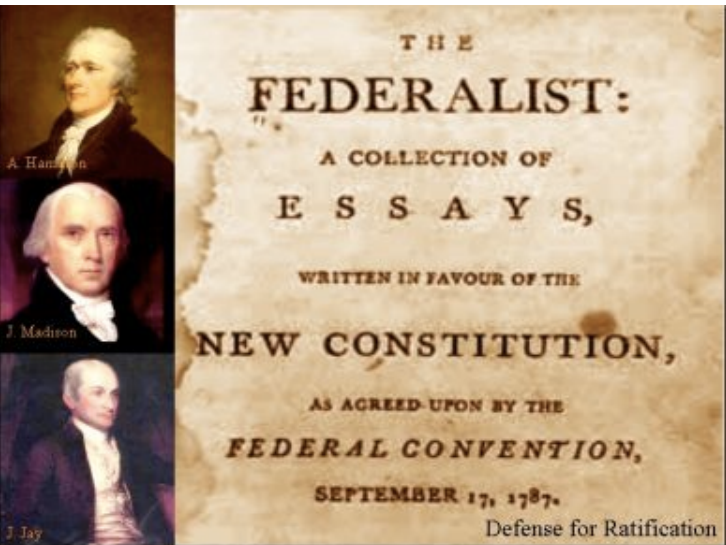
Federalists

- ❑ The Federalists did not agree that citizens were left vulnerable by the new Constitution.
 - Instead, Federalists argued that listing within the document specific rights guaranteed to citizens would in effect LIMIT the rights of citizens to only those listed.
 - They believed the government created by the Constitution was designed to protect citizens from the concentration and abuse of power at the federal level through the limited government structure they painstakingly created at the Constitutional Convention.
- ❑ Alexander Hamilton and James Madison, the man credited with designing the basic foundation of the new Constitution, were leading Federalists.
- ❑ Each state held its own ratification convention where these diverging arguments were debated.
 - Nine states were needed to secure the Constitution as the new framework for the United States' government.
 - In some cases the state conventions argued the delegates of the Constitution Convention had overstepped their authority when they did not simply revise the Articles of Confederation.
 - Other conventions quickly ratified the new Constitution with the belief that a stronger federal government would save the nation from succumbing to the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation.
 - Five states, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, and Connecticut, ratified the Constitution very quickly.



The Federalist Papers

- ❑ Virginia and New York were quite divided over whether to ratify the Constitution and critical debate ensued.
- ❑ To counter the Anti-Federalist efforts, James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay wrote a series of 85 articles over many months that supported ratification of the Constitution and explained the intent behind its major provisions.
 - These articles, written by the leading Federalists under the pseudonym "Publius," were known as The Federalist Papers.
 - The essays laid out a series of reasoned arguments designed originally to persuade the people of New York that the structure of the new Constitution actually protected and strengthened the United States.



- Key to these arguments was the use of the Constitution itself to illustrate how the Anti-Federalists had nothing to fear.
- In Federalist #6-9, the writers pointed out that the factionalism of the Confederation period had weakened the Union.
- Federalist #10 and 39 presented the argument for a Republican form of government.
- Federalist #47-51 used Montesquieu's writings to support the idea of a separation of powers protected through a series of checks and balances that would prevent one branch of government from becoming too powerful.

Outcomes of Constitutional Convention



- ❑ The continued debate between the Federalists and Anti-Federalists threatened to derail ratification of the Constitution.
- ❑ To overcome the Anti-Federalist argument that the Constitution failed to include a statement of state rights and individual rights, the Federalists promised to support a Bill of Rights upon ratification of the Constitution.
 - James Madison wrote the proposed Bill of Rights that would be added to the Constitution as amendments once the Anti-Federalists supported ratification.
 - The negotiation was successful and the ratification process was completed.
 - The Federalist Papers, the promise of the Bill of Rights, and the efforts of Federalists convinced a majority of states to ratify the Constitution by 1791.

