Competing Visions of Government: The Federalists vs. the Republicans

	Hamilton (Federalist)	Jefferson (Democratic-Republican)
Vision of the role of government (National or State?)	A strong national government is necessary to provide economic & political order; the "elite" should rule over the masses	The states should hold more power to protect the yeoman farmers from potential tyrants
Payment of National & State Debts	The national government should "assume" all state debts & should "fund" debts at full value; This would ensure confidence in the American economy & help consolidate American debts	The states should retain their own debts; States like Virginia who paid off their debts should not have to help more negligible states pay off their debts
Tariff on Imported Goods	The U.S. government should tax imported goods to generate revenue to pay off debts	The states should not be subject to national taxes; Import taxes hurt yeoman farmers by making products more expensive
The U.S. Economy: (Manufacturing or Farming?)	Manufacturing; the U.S. government should support manufacturing & building infrastructure to support manufacturing	Farming; America is a land dominated by yeoman farmers whose interests need to be protected & supported
Creating a National Bank	America needs a BUS to regulate currency & interest rates; the BUS should be privately controlled by bankers who are invested in the nation's economy	The BUS is unconstitutional & places too much power in the hands of the elite
Interpretation of the Constitution	The elastic clause allows for a loose interpretation of the Constitution to fit the needs of the nation	The national government can only operate under the powers clearly expressed in the Constitution
Whiskey Tax and Whiskey Rebellion	The national government has the power to issue taxes in order to raise revenue; The Whiskey Rebellion represents a Republican plot to promote states' rights	The national government should leave taxes to the states; The government used the army to stifle legitimate opposition to an unfair government tax.
Support for the French Revolution	The U.S. should support England, not France, due to England's superior economic system	The U.S. should support France due to its conviction to liberty & assistance during the American Revolution