



# ANALYSIS OF A POLITICAL LEADER

THOMAS JEFFERSON & THE EARLY REPUBLIC  
AVID SENIOR SEMINAR - 12TH GRADE  
PRESENTATION #1



# WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD LEADER?

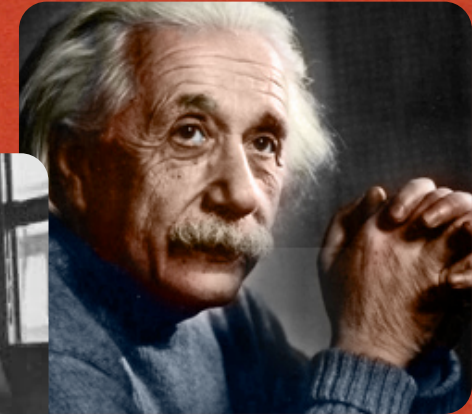
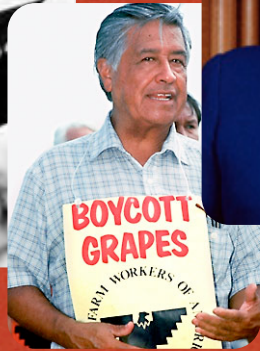
Brainstorm 5-10 adjectives with a seat partner



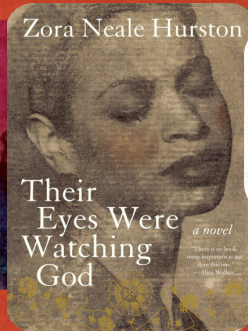
# DEFINE “LEADER”

With the same partner, brainstorm your own definition  
of the word “leader”





A person who influences a group of people towards the achievement of a goal







UNDERSTANDING LEADERSHIP  
THROUGH THE STUDY OF  
THOMAS JEFFERSON



# THOMAS JEFFERSON: A POLITICAL LEADER

- Author of the Declaration of Independence
- Governor of Virginia
- United States minister to France
- Emerging leader of the Anti-Federalists
- Secretary of State for George Washington
- Vice President to John Adams
- 3rd President of the United States of America (1800)







# SUCCESSSES AS PRESIDENT OF THE USA

- Louisiana Purchase (1803)
- Lewis & Clark Expedition
- Elimination of national debt





# CHANGING THE ROLE OF THE PRESIDENT

- An emphasis on Informality ...
  - His approach to his Inauguration Day
  - Visits from Foreign Dignitaries
  - Cabinet Meetings
  - Presidential Dinners
- Believed formality was the means of establishing an aristocracy





# OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

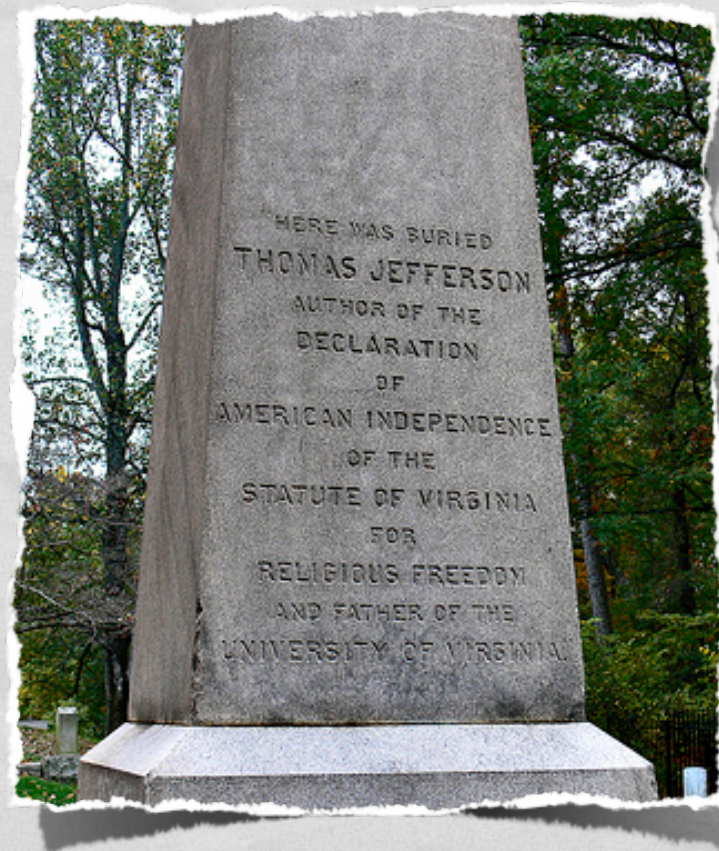
- Architect - Monticello
- Naturalist - *Notes on the State of Virginia*
- President of American Philosophical Society for almost two centuries
- Inventor
- Horticulturalist





# HOW HE WANTED TO BE REMEMBERED

- Thomas Jefferson was most proud of three accomplishments
  - Declaration of Independence
  - Statute of Virginia for Religious Freedom
  - The University of Virginia







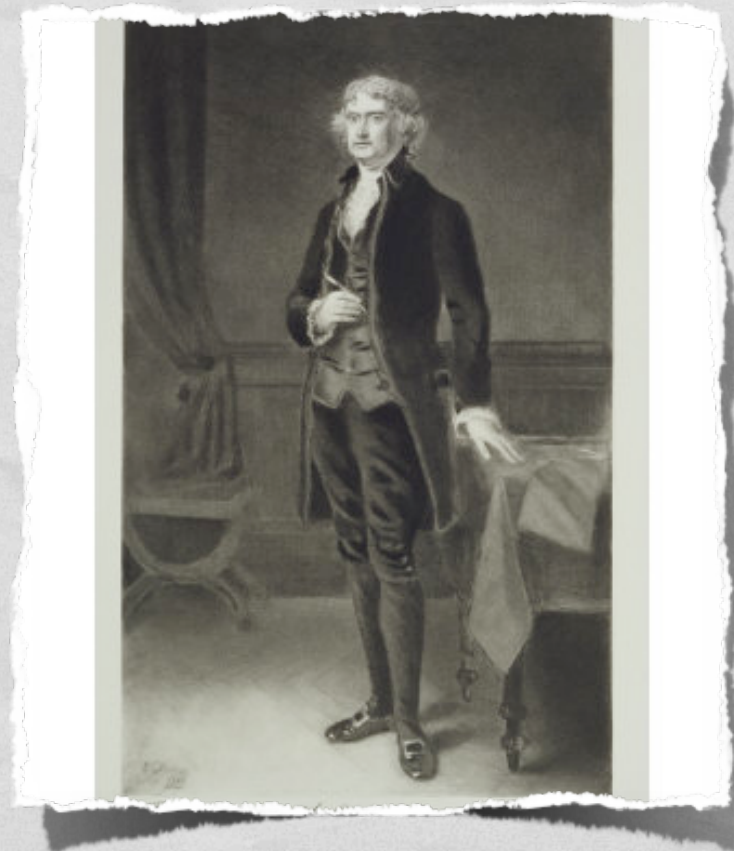
# JEFFERSON'S VOICE

PRIMARY SOURCE DOCUMENTATION  
PRESENTATION #2



# POLITICS

- “But every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle. We are all republicans - we are all federalists.”
- First Inaugural Address, 1800





# LOUISIANA PURCHASE

- “the less that is said about my constitutional difficulty, the better; and that it will be desirable for Congress to do what is necessary *in silence*.”
- “the good sense of our country will correct the evil of [broad] construction when it shall produce ill effects.”





# RELIGION

- “The legitimate powers of government extend to such acts as are injurious to others. But it does me no injury for my neighbor to say there are twenty gods or no gods. It neither picks my pocket nor breaks my leg.”





# TRADITION V. REASON

- “This institution [University of Virginia] will be based on the illimitable freedom of the human mind. For here we are not afraid to follow truth wherever it may lead, nor to tolerate any error so long as the reason is left free to combat it.”





# DEBT

- “We may consider each generation as a distinct nation, with a right, by the will of its majority, to bind themselves, but none to bind the succeeding generation, more than the inhabitants of another country.”

*Account of the*  
*Prisoners of Jail in Washington C.*

Debtors room lower floor	—	10
<i>1<sup>st</sup></i> <i>2<sup>nd</sup></i> upper <i>2<sup>nd</sup></i>	—	8
Criminal's room upper floor	—	9
<i>1<sup>st</sup></i> <i>2<sup>nd</sup></i> lower <i>2<sup>nd</sup></i>	—	5
Twenty two Debtors	—	22
Fourteen Criminals	—	14
Runaways	—	0
		<u>36</u>



# SLAVERY

- “But as it is, we have the wolf by the ear, and we can neither hold him, nor safely let him go. Justice is in one scale, and self-preservation in the other.”





# SLAVERY

- “Indeed I tremble for my country. When I reflect that God is just: that his justice cannot sleep for ever: that considering numbers, nature and natural means only, a revolution of the wheel of fortune, an exchange of situation, is among possible events; that it may become probable by supernatural interference! The Almighty has no attribute which can take sides with us in such a contest.”



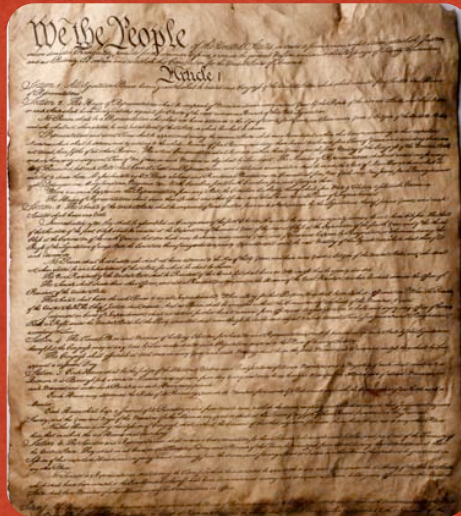


SO, BASED ON WHAT YOU  
HAVE LEARNED ...

Answer the following questions:



# WHAT WERE SOME OF THOMAS JEFFERSON'S CONTRADICTIONS?





HOW DO WE MOVE PAST  
THESE CONTRADICTIONS &  
APPRECIATE HIS  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
AMERICAN SOCIETY?



# WHAT MADE HIM SUCH A MEMORABLE LEADER?





**CAN IMPERFECT PEOPLE  
BECOME ADMIRABLE  
LEADERS?**