

Thomas Jefferson Presentation #2

Lecture Guide

You will be presented with a variety of Thomas Jefferson's most famous quotes. These quotes are considered primary sources; therefore, they allow the reader a glimpse of Thomas Jefferson's personal beliefs on important topics.

The first part of the presentation will consist of five different issues: politics and the Louisiana Purchase, religion, tradition v. reason, debt, and slavery. The purpose of examining these quotes is to address Jefferson's accomplishments as well as analyze the contradictions with which he continually dealt.

Directions: As you read each quote, take some time to think about it and respond. Use the space provided to analyze the importance of each statement he made. Your analysis should be in complete sentences.

Politics:

Louisiana Purchase:

Religion:

Tradition v. Reason:

Debt:

Slavery (1st quote):

Slavery (2nd quote):

After you analyze the quotes on your own and we discuss them as a class, answer the following questions with a seat partner:

1. What were some of Thomas Jefferson's contradictions?

2. How do we (the American public) move past these contradictions and appreciate his contributions to American society?

3. What made him such a memorable leader?

4. Can imperfect people become admirable leaders?