

SUMMER READING FOR HONORS U.S. HISTORY

FOUNDING BROTHERS: THE REVOLUTIONARY GENERATION

AUTHOR: JOSEPH J. ELLIS

PUBLISHER: VINTAGE BOOKS: (FEBRUARY 5, 2002)

From Amazon.Com

In retrospect, it seems as if the American Revolution was inevitable. But was it? In *Founding Brothers*, Joseph J. Ellis reveals that many of those truths we hold to be self-evident were actually fiercely contested in the early days of the republic.

Ellis focuses on six crucial moments in the life of the new nation, including a secret dinner at which the seat of the nation's capital was determined -- in exchange for support of Hamilton's financial plan; Washington's precedent-setting Farewell Address; and the Hamilton and Burr duel. Most interesting, perhaps, is the debate (still dividing scholars today) over the meaning of the Revolution. In a fascinating chapter on the renewed friendship between John Adams and Thomas Jefferson at the end of their lives, Ellis points out the fundamental differences between the Republicans, who saw the Revolution as a liberating act and held the Declaration of Independence most sacred, and the Federalists, who saw the revolution as a step in the building of American nationhood and held the Constitution most dear.

Throughout the text, Ellis explains the personal, face-to-face nature of early American politics -- and notes that the members of the revolutionary generation were conscious of the fact that they were establishing precedents on which future generations would rely. - - Sunny Delaney

ASSIGNMENT

Your assignment is to read this book. The work has six chapters. For each chapter, take detailed notes on the main issues and ideas presented. This may be a bulleted list - - typed and double-spaced.



Washington

THEN, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING ASSIGNMENT:

In George Washington's Farewell Address he said:

"It (the spirit of political parties or factions) serves always to distract the public councils and enfeeble the public administration. It agitates the community with ill-founded jealousies and false alarms, kindles the animosity of one part against another, foments occasionally riot and insurrection. It opens the door to foreign influence and corruption, which finds a facilitated access to the government itself through channels of party passions. Thus the policy and the will of one country are subjected to the policy and will of another."

Washington argued that because this was true, the United States should be wary of political parties and factions.

Your assignment is to create a Mock Interview between a Journalist and one of the Historical Figures discussed in the book (Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Adams, Abigail Adams, Madison, Hamilton or Burr) about the formation of political parties. You are to write the interview questions and the responses you would imagine the historical figure would give. The interview should be 2-3 pages, typed and double-spaced.

Your grade will be based on your use of specific content from the book, including your ability to accurately reflect the ideas of the founders.

Be sure to include a **Cover-Page** with the following information:

NAME OF COURSE
TITLE OF ASSIGNMENT
STUDENT NAME
DATE

PLEASE NOTE: The assignment is due on the second day of school in August, 2010. The summer reading assessment will be given sometime during the first two weeks of school in September, 2010.

GOOD LUCK & GOD BLESS !!!



Jefferson