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## JOHN ADAMS

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## THE READING / LISTENING TAPESCRIPT

From: [http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/john\\_adams.html](http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/john_adams.html)

John Adams was the second President of the United States. He was born in Massachusetts in 1735. He studied law at Harvard and became identified with the movement for independence. During the Revolutionary War he served in France and Holland in diplomatic roles, and helped negotiate the peace treaty with France. He returned from Europe and was elected Vice President under George Washington.

Adams served two terms as Vice President. The White House describes them as being "frustrating experiences for a man of his vigor, intellect, and vanity". He complained to his wife Abigail about his frustrations with his sense of a lack of power in his position. He said: "My country has in its wisdom contrived for me the most insignificant office that ever the invention of man contrived or his imagination conceived."

When Adams first became President, the war between the French and British was causing great difficulties for the United States. It disrupted trade and shipping to the USA and caused fierce rivalries between Americans loyal to each of the European powers. His decision to send a peace mission to France badly divided American politics and he lost the 1801 election to Thomas Jefferson.

Adams retired from political life and returned to his farm. He will be remembered as being one of the key Founding Fathers of the United States and for the first U.S. politician to start a political dynasty – his son John Quincy became America's sixth President. Adams died on July 4, 1826. His most memorable words are: "People and nations are forged in the fires of adversity."

Text adapted from [www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/johnadams](http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/johnadams)



## LISTENING GAP FILL

From: [http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/john\\_adams.html](http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/john_adams.html)

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## CORRECT THE SPELLING

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## UNJUMBLE THE WORDS

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_





# STUDENT JOHN ADAMS SURVEY

From: [http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/john\\_adams.html](http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/john_adams.html)

Write five GOOD questions about John Adams in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.







## **HOMEWORK**

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET INFO:** Search the Internet and find more information about John Adams. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about John Adams. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**4. JOHN ADAMS POSTER** Make a poster about John Adams. Show it to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your posters.

**5. MY JOHN ADAMS LESSON:** Make your own English lesson on John Adams. Make sure there is a good mix of things to do. Find some good online activities. Teach the class / another group when you have finished.

**6. ONLINE SHARING:** Use your blog, wiki, Facebook page, MySpace page, Twitter stream, Del-icio-us / StumbleUpon account, or any other social media tool to get opinions on John Adams. Share your findings with the class.

