

# U.S. Presidents: Adams and Wilson

Crack the difficult-level codes and explore their lives

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ISBN: 978-0-7877-2009-4  
Release Date 2015

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P. O. Box 802  
Dayton, OH 45401-0802  
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The pages in this packet were originally published in  
The Obama Code (ELE90/1038LE).

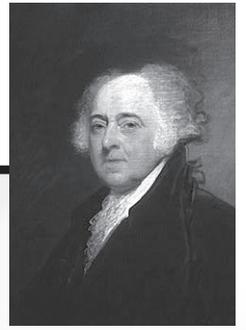
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# John Adams



**TOP SECRET**

Look carefully at the words in the article. Do you see any mistakes? Make the needed corrections to find your answers. Need some help? Grab a dictionary!

John Adams was born in Braintree, Massachusetts on October 30, 1735. As a young boy, John did not like attending school, and would sometimes skip class in order to go hunting or fishing. But his father wanted him to get a good education, so he put John to work on the family farm to teach him a lesson. After seeing how hard life on a farm could be, John changed his mind about school and started doing much better in class. At the age of 15, John enrolled at Harvard University.

While at Harvard, Adams decided he wanted to study law. At this time, he also began to enter the world of politics, and he often wrote about his political views. He was strongly against British control of the colonies, especially their plans for taxation. However, his political views did not change his belief in upholding the law and a person's legal rights. For this reason, Adams served as the lawyer for the British soldiers involved in the Boston Massacre, an event that killed many colonists.

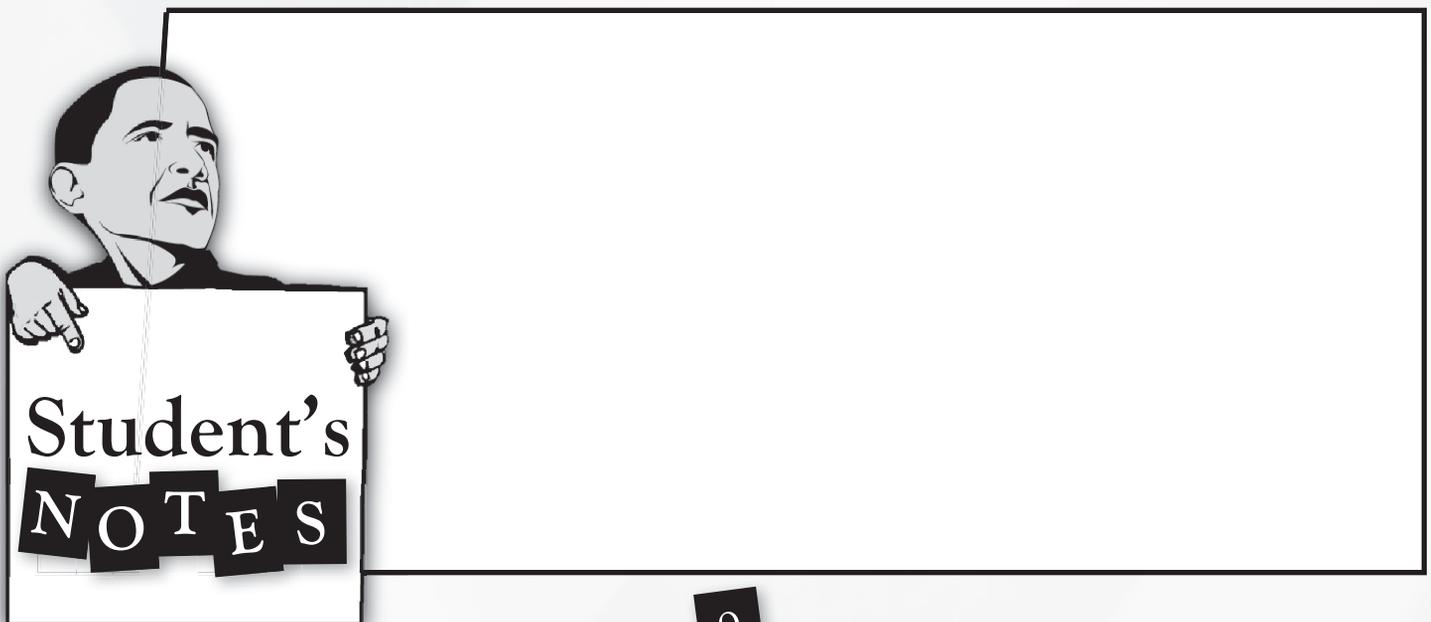
Adams's popularity as a politician and patriot led to his election to the First and Second Continental Congresses. As a member of Congress, Adams served on more than 90 different committees. He was openly against a reunion with Great Britain, and he suggested that Thomas Jefferson draft the Declaration of Independence. He also nominated George Washington to the post of Commander of the Continental Army.

In 1780, Adams traveled to France to help make peace between Britain and the colonies. Adams was part of a committee that worked to create the Treaty of Paris, which ended the Revolutionary War. After the war, Adams remained in Europe for eight years as a representative of the United States in England and the Netherlands.

When he returned to the United States from Europe, Adams ran in the first presidential election. George Washington won the election, and Adams accepted the position of Vice President. Adams had a chance to become the next president when Washington chose not to run for a third term. In 1796, Adams defeated Thomas Jefferson to become the second President of the United States.

President Adams's experiences in Europe proved to be a big help throughout his presidency. He had great success in foreign affairs. After several naval battles, he made peace with France and avoided a war. Back in the U.S., however, President Adams was not as effective. To increase American loyalty and safety, he passed the Alien and Sedition Acts. These acts limited free speech and were very unpopular.

After retiring from politics in 1801, President Adams returned home. He began writing letters to his friend and former Vice President, Thomas Jefferson. In a strange twist of fate, both men died on July 4, 1826. This date was also the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.



# Questions:



1. James Madison was Vice President during President \_\_\_\_\_'s term in office.

2. President Adams prevented a war with France by signing a treaty with French leader \_\_\_\_\_.

3. John Adams's wife was named \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Adams was the first president to live in the \_\_\_\_\_  
( 2 words)

5. "Atlas of \_\_\_\_\_" was President Adams's nickname.

6. Benjamin \_\_\_\_\_ was another American that helped create the Treaty of Paris.

7. Before he entered politics, John Adams worked as a \_\_\_\_\_.