Andrea Barberena

Joseph Inslee Anderson

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**Topic A: Barbary Wars**

Pirates in the Mediterranean Sea have terrorized foreign ships far too long. It is time we stop falling subject to their orders to pay tribute in order to cross a body of water belonging to the international community. The United States of America, a country born from the very principles of democracy, shall not fall victim to the terrors of piracy. Our beliefs shouldn’t be obliterated by groups of thieves and murderers committing crimes for a profit. We are to battle and defeat these men through war and hard work, not comply to their wishes! Barbary pirates have seized our ships, tormented our men, and threatened our economic growth, foreign relations, and freedom. Prior to our independence, we had the best army in the world protecting us.[[1]](#footnote-1) If we defeated the frightening Redcoats, we can surely defeat a bunch of burglars. We have two options, we can either reach an agreement where both sides cease fire and we stop dirtying our money on their demands, or we can battle them and gain respect and freedom from their threats. One thing, however, is clear; this country does not bow down to terror tactics.

**Topic B: The Louisiana Purchase**

Napoleon Bonaparte, a fierce, merciless conqueror has fallen weak. He’s offered to sell the entirety of his kingdom in the Americas to the United States. The port of New Orleans, which is included in this bundle, plays a key role in our economy and trade[[2]](#footnote-2). While it’s true that the Constitution does not grant powers to buy more land, it does grant powers to make treaties with foreign nations and, most importantly, protect United States citizens.[[3]](#footnote-3) We have had our right to trade through the port of New Orleans revoked by the French; we must accept this deal if we presume our economy a growing one. For just $15 million, we get to double the size of our mighty country, achieve free trade in the south, and rid the continent of French occupation.[[4]](#footnote-4)

**Topic C: Federal Judiciary System**

It is disgraceful to see that some of our very own politicians think they are above the Constitution. Marbury vs. Madison, a ridiculous case that established judicial review, justified the judiciary branch’s right to rule executive decisions unconstitutional[[5]](#footnote-5). However, Article 13 of the Judiciary Act of 1789, which gives judges the right to issue writs of mandamus, failed to be consistent with Article III Section 2 of the Constitution, which states “all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be Party,” and that “in all the other Cases before mentioned, the supreme Court shall have appellate Jurisdiction.”[[6]](#footnote-6) In light of this information, the previously mentioned section of the Act should be considered invalid at the very least.[[7]](#footnote-7)

1. "Milestones: 1801–1829 - Office of the Historian." *U.S. Department of State*. U.S. Department of State, n.d. Web. 18 Oct. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. "How and Why Did the United States Obtain the Louisiana Purchase?" *Official Portal for North Dakota State Government*. N.p., n.d. Web. 7 Nov. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. History.com Staff. "Louisiana Purchase." *History.com*. A&E Television Networks, 2009. Web. 22 Oct. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Kuepper, Justin. "3 Of The Most Lucrative Land Deals In History." *Investopedia*. N.p., 08 Oct. 2012. Web. 12 Oct. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. "Marbury v. Madison." *Encyclopedia Britannica Online*. Encyclopedia Britannica, n.d. Web. 8 Oct. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. "Marbury v. Madison." *Encyclopedia Britannica Online*. Encyclopedia Britannica, n.d. Web. 8 Oct. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. History.com Staff. "Marbury v. Madison." *History.com*. A&E Television Networks, 2009. Web. 01 Nov. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)