

ANALYSIS: FOUNDING DOCUMENTS

Directions: Fill in the main ideas of John Jay’s argument in his letter to Elias Boudinot. Next, analyze the main points of his argument by answering the questions below each document.

A. *Article 1, Section 9 of the U.S. Constitution (1787)*

The migration or importation of such persons as any of the states now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person.

John Jay’s Main Idea:

What three points does Jay make in his letter about Article 1, Section 9 of the U.S. Constitution and the question of slavery in the new states?

1.

2.

3.

B. *The Declaration of Independence (1776)*

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

John Jay’s Main Idea:

According to Jay, what three positions of the Declaration of Independence is slavery “repugnant to”?

1.

2.

3.