Federalist No. 78 ~ Independence of the Courts
Written by Alexander Hamilton

Name_____

Date_____ Period_____

Go to:
https://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/fed78.asp

READ FEDERALIST 78 ABOUT THE JUDICIAL BRANCH, THEN ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BELOW.

1. On what grounds does Hamilton argue that the judicial department of government is the least powerful branch of government?

2. Why do you suppose that Hamilton was so careful to point out the relative impotence of the judiciary?

3. What was Hamilton's position regarding the power of the judiciary to declare void any legislative acts that were contrary to the Constitution?

4. Why does Hamilton consider the independence of the judiciary to be a vital component of constitutional government?

5. What arguments does Hamilton use to support life tenure for judges?

P.S. It might be helpful to go to YouTube and watch Steve Heimler's video on Federalist 78.

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