**Jeffersonian Democracy**

Excerpts from Thomas Jefferson’s First Inaugural Address, 1801:

“All, too, will bear in mind this sacred principle, that though the will of the majority is in all cases to prevail, that will to be rightful must be reasonable; that the minority possess their equal rights, which equal law must protect, and to violate would be oppression…very difference of opinion is not a difference of principle. *We have called by different names brethren of the same principle. We are all Republicans, we are all Federalists*…A wise and frugal Government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned. This is the sum of good government… it is proper you should understand what I deem the essential principles of our Government, and consequently those which ought to shape its Administration… Equal and exact justice to all men, of whatever state or persuasion, religious or political. Peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none. The support of the State governments in all their rights…”

1. What does Jefferson say about the will of the majority?
2. What does Jefferson say about the rights of the minority?

3. What does Jefferson mean when he says “We are all Republicans, we are all Federalists”?

4. Summarize Jefferson’s belief of the “sum of good government.”

5. What are some of the principles Jefferson deems “essential principles of our government?”