Fitzgerald

Model of a paragraph developing whether a president was a strong or weak president

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| Topic Sentence stating whether the president is a strong president or not | John Adams failed to be the best president he could be because he was not a strong leader of his party. |
| Reason president is strong enough developed by detail that is then used to explain why this detail show strength or weakness | He handling of the XYZ Affair demonstrates this clearly. His party were not supporters of the French, but instead the British. Ambassadors that he sent to negotiate with the French concerning problem of the seizing of ships trading with England should have been well prepared to deal with difficulties, but instead overreacted when asked for a bribe to see a minister and a loan in order to negotiate. These things were not unheard of in French politics and not unforeseeable form a country currently engaged in a revolution that was highly disrupting their government and causing great financial strain, and also were coming from a country which had lent a great deal of money to the United States when it had been in need during the its revolution. Instead the ambassadors overreacted and caused an incident by refusing to even consider paying and instead suggesting war. This attitude was brought back to the United States, and the majority in Congress demanded war. This showed a lack of foreign policy planning and leadership. |
| Reason president is strong enough developed by detail that is then used to explain why this detail show strength or weakness | Adams also fails in his leadership of Congress, instead of explaining the situation to Congress and tempering their demands for war, he gives in though he prefers peaceful negotiation. He leads an undeclared naval war against France instead, though the United states follows a treaty with Great Britain who is itself ignoring the treaty and continuing to stop U.S. ships trading with France. |
| Acknowledgement of an opposing idea quickly refuted | He does himself continue to negotiate with France and eventually signs a treaty with them, but he does this alongside the naval war as a personal ambition and not as the main face of the president and the Republican Party in its dealing with France. This makes it seem like he is frightened of his own party and must have made the United States look very weak in the eyes of France. |
| Concluding Thought on the qualities necessary in a president that follows form the ideas in the paragraph | A president , especially one whose party is in the majority in both houses of Congress, should clearly lead the nation in its dealings with other nations, as this is one of the reasons the citizens chose him as the chief executive, and should not be at the mercy of the whims of diplomats who follow their own lead and a Congress who ignores his guidance. |

John Adams failed to be the best president he could be because he was not a strong leader of his party.He handling of the XYZ Affair demonstrates this clearly. His party were not supporters of the French, but instead the British. Ambassadors that he sent to negotiate with the French concerning problem of the seizing of ships trading with England should have been well prepared to deal with difficulties, but instead overreacted when asked for a bribe to see a minister and a loan in order to negotiate. These things were not unheard of in French politics and not unforeseeable form a country currently engaged in a revolution that was highly disrupting their government and causing great financial strain, and also were coming from a country which had lent a great deal of money to the United States when it had been in need during the its revolution. Instead the ambassadors overreacted and caused an incident by refusing to even consider paying and instead suggesting war. This attitude was brought back to the United States, and the majority in Congress demanded war. This showed a lack of foreign policy planning and leadership. Adams also fails in his leadership of Congress, instead of explaining the situation to Congress and tempering their demands for war, he gives in though he prefers peaceful negotiation. He leads an undeclared naval war against France instead, though the United states follows a treaty with Great Britain who is itself ignoring the treaty and continuing to stop U.S. ships trading with France. He does himself continue to negotiate with France and eventually signs a treaty with them, but he does this alongside the naval war as a personal ambition and not as the main face of the president and the Republican Party in its dealing with France. This makes it seem like he is frightened of his own party and must have made the United States look very weak in the eyes of France. A president , especially one whose party is in the majority in both houses of Congress, should clearly lead the nation in its dealings with other nations, as this is one of the reasons the citizens chose him as the chief executive, and should not be at the mercy of the whims of diplomats who follow their own lead and a Congress who ignores his guidance.

Graphic Organizer for Paragraph on President followed by Grading Sheet

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Topic Sentence stating whether the president is a strong president or not |  |
| Reason president is strong enough developed by detail that is then used to explain why this detail show strength or weakness | State reason  Provide detail  Explain how detail proves reason |
| Reason president is strong enough developed by detail that is then used to explain why this detail show strength or weakness | State reason  Provide detail  Explain how detail proves reason |
| Acknowledgement of an opposing idea quickly refuted | Acknowledgement of an opposing idea  Idea quickly refuted |
| Concluding Thought on the qualities necessary in a president that follows form the ideas in the paragraph |  |

Paragraph Grading /15

* **Topic Sentence 2pts**
  + states position on topic
  + clear
  + not attached to developing details

**Supporting Ideas**

* **Reason that supports your opinion 3 pts**
  + clearly stated in a separate sentence before being developed
  + developed by detail
    - details clear
    - details accurate
  + with clear explanation of how this detail supports your position
* **Reason that supports your opinion 3 pts**
  + clearly stated in a separate sentence before being developed
  + developed by detail
    - details clear
    - details accurate
  + with clear explanation of how this detail supports your position
* **An acknowledgement of a point that could be made by the other side 3 pts**
  + briefly stated
  + quickly refuted
  + clear
  + accurate
* **Concluding Thought about what makes a good president in general**, that follows from the ideas in your paragraph. **2 pts**
* **Reasonable Mechanics** - writing shows a clear attempt at complete sentences and correct spelling and capitalization, although stray error may occur. **2 pts**