

READING GUIDE FOR FEDERALIST #78

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