

# Excerpts from George Washington's Farewell Address

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

M O D E R N L A N G U A G E



"The period for a new election of a citizen to administer the executive government of the United States being not far distant . . . I should now apprise you of the resolution I have formed, to decline being considered among the number of those out of whom a choice is to be made . . ."



" . . . The name of American, which belong to you in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of patriotism more than any appellation derived from local discriminations. With slight shades of difference, you have the same religion, manners, habits, and political principles. You have in a common cause fought and triumphed together . . ."



"I have already intimated to you the danger of political parties in the State, with particular reference to the founding of them on geographical discriminations. Let me now take a more comprehensive view, and warn you in the most solemn manner against the baneful effects of the spirit of party generally."



"It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world . . ."



"Though in reviewing the incidents of my administration, I am unconscious of intentional error, I am nevertheless too sensible of my defects not to think it probable that I may have committed many errors. . . . I shall also carry with me the hope that my country will never cease to view them with indulgence . . ."



"I anticipate with pleasing expectation that retreat in which I promise myself to realize, . . . the sweet enjoyment of partaking, in the midst of my fellow-citizens, the benign influence of good laws under a free government, the ever-favorite object of my heart, and the happy reward, as I trust, of our mutual cares, labors, and dangers."

O R I G I N A L T E X T