

APUSH UNIT 4 REVIEW GUIDE (1800-1848)

For Students Preparing for the AP® United States History Exam



10-17%

of the APUSH exam

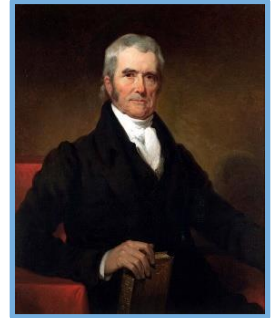
The fourth unit of the AP® United States History (APUSH) course focuses on the period from 1800 to 1848, from Jefferson's presidency through the era of Jacksonian democracy and Antebellum reform.

This unit is eligible to be assessed on every portion of the exam (including the DBQ).

POLITICS IN THE ERA OF JEFFERSON

Thomas Jefferson referred to his victory in the 1800 election as a “revolution.” In some ways, this claim was merited, as Jefferson's party secured control of both the presidency and Congress. Jefferson cut taxes and federal spending to bring about his vision of a “wise and frugal government.” His greatest success was the **Louisiana Purchase**, gaining control of the Mississippi River and paving the way for westward expansion. In foreign policy, Jefferson strove for continuity, embracing Washington's neutrality policy during the Napoleonic Wars.

Jefferson was never able to gain control of the federal judiciary, whose unelected members served life terms. **John Marshall**, a Federalist who was nominated as chief justice by John Adams, exercised considerable influence over the judiciary. In *Marbury v. Madison* (1803), Marshall declared that the Supreme Court had the power of judicial review, allowing it to strike down laws that conflicted with the Constitution. The *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819) decision upheld the constitutionality of the national bank, strengthening the power of the federal government.



Chief Justice John Marshall maintained the Federalist legacy until the 1830s.

AMERICA ON THE WORLD STAGE

Jefferson had opposed Washington's Neutrality Policy during the 1790s, he chose to maintain the policy as president. “Peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations,” Jefferson said in his First Inaugural Address, “entangling alliances with none.” When Britain's Royal Navy began boarding American ships and **impressing** (forcing) American sailors into service, Jefferson chose to advocate for the **Embargo Act**, which cut off all foreign trade, rather than actively involve the United States in the Napoleonic Wars. The Embargo Act was a failure to the point that Jefferson's successor, James Madison, gave in to congressional demands for war with Britain. The **War of 1812** resulted in a settled boundary between the United States and Canada and ended British support for Native American tribes in the Great Lakes region.

After the War of 1812, American leaders turned their attention toward the American continents. In 1823, President James Monroe's administration issued the **Monroe Doctrine**, declaring that the United States would oppose any further European colonization of the Americas. Although the United States lacked the military strength to enforce the Monroe Doctrine at the time, the doctrine became a hallmark of American foreign policy.

THE MARKET REVOLUTION

After the War of 1812, the United States began transitioning from a primarily agricultural economy toward capitalist economy based on commerce. Historians describe this transition as the **Market Revolution**. After struggling during the embargo, New England became the first region to invest in textile manufacturing. Thousands of young women got jobs working at the **Lowell mills** in Massachusetts.

New inventions drove economic growth. **Steamboats** revolutionized transportation, turning rivers into highways. Eli Whitney's made cotton a profitable cash crop for Southern planters with the **cotton gin**. John Deere, an Illinois blacksmith, invented the **steel plow** to help Midwestern farmers plant crops in the region's sticky soil.



In the early 1800s, steamboats provided a reliable source of transportation with their ability to move against river currents.

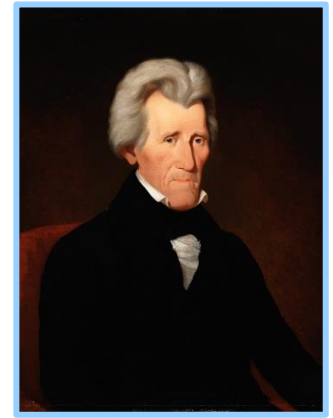
THE POLITICS OF SECTIONALISM

Andrew Jackson's victory at New Orleans ended the War of 1812 on a high note, sparking a surge of national pride. Americans emerged from the war eager for economic growth and to decrease the national economy's reliance on Europe. Henry Clay's **American System** sought to use a national bank, protective tariffs, and federal funding for internal improvements to spur economic growth and independence from Europe. Southern politicians opposed the American System, as they traded cotton for European manufactured goods and remained skeptical about large banking institutions. The **Missouri Compromise** temporarily resolved sectional disputes about the expansion of slavery by admitting Missouri into the Union as a slave state and restricting slavery north of the **36°30' line** in the Louisiana Purchase.

THE AGE OF JACKSON AND JACKSONIAN DEMOCRACY

The end of the War of 1812 brought about the demise of the Federalist Party, whose members had flirted with secession at the ill-fated **Hartford Convention**. This began a period known as the **Era of Good Feelings**, when Americans took a break from party politics. During this time, Americans moved westward, and new states were admitted into the Union. These new states allowed all white men to vote regardless of social status, breaking with past traditions that required voters to own property. This ushered in a new era of democratic politics.

Andrew Jackson, a self-made millionaire and war hero who settled in Tennessee, became an icon of the emerging democratic culture. Jackson campaigned for president on a Jeffersonian platform that supported strict construction and states' rights while opposing the national bank and internal improvements. Jackson's rise resulted in the **Second Party System**, with Jackson's supporters forming the **Democratic Party**, and those who opposed him forming the **Whig Party**. As president, Jackson vetoed a bill to recharter the national bank, dealing a major blow to Henry Clay's American System. Jacksonian democracy showed its darker side with the **Indian Removal Act**, which authorized the relocation of the Southeastern American Indians, including the Cherokee, west of the Mississippi River.



Andrew Jackson's two terms as president (1829-1837) defined an era of American politics.

UNIT TIMELINE

- **1800** Thomas Jefferson is elected president of the United States.
- **1803** The United States purchases Louisiana from France.
- The Supreme Court issues the *Marbury v. Madison* decision.
- **1812** The United States declares war on Great Britain.
- **1820** Congress passes the Missouri Compromise.
- **1828** Congress passes the Tariff of Abominations, sparking the Nullification Crisis.
- Andrew Jackson is elected president of the United States.
- **1831** William Lloyd Garrison publishes the first issue of *The Liberator*.
- **1832** Andrew Jackson vetoes the bill to recharter the Bank of the United States.
- **1848** The Seneca Falls Convention issues a declaration in support of women's suffrage.

POLITICS, SOCIETY, AND SLAVERY IN THE SOUTH

While Americans embraced democratic political culture, Southern politics continued to be dominated by slaveholders. Cotton agriculture was extremely profitable during this period, resulting in the spread of slavery westward into the untapped fertile lands of Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. Efforts to resist slavery in the South, such as **Nat Turner's Rebellion**, were unsuccessful. South Carolinians tested Jackson's commitment to states' rights by nullifying the **Tariff of Abominations**, a steep protective tariff that threatened cotton planters' reliance on foreign trade. Jackson opposed nullification and threatened to use force to collect tariffs. The **Nullification Crisis** was resolved by a compromise brokered by Henry Clay.

ANTEBELLUM REFORM MOVEMENTS

In the early 1800s, the United States was swept by a religious revival known as the **Second Great Awakening**. Americans living on the frontier took a break from their isolated lives to attend camp meetings, where traveling preachers would preach emotional sermons with a simple message: Reform your life or go to Hell. Some who heard the preaching of the Second Great Awakening resolved to reform not only their own lives, but to reform American society to make it more just and equal. While Jacksonian democracy had expanded the rights of unpropertied white men, women and African Americans were excluded from the increasingly equal society.



Lucretia Mott's Quaker faith inspired her to campaign for abolitionism, temperance, and women's rights.

Reform movements flourished in the United States during the Antebellum (before the Civil War) period. In 1831, **William Lloyd Garrison** began publishing *The Liberator*, an antislavery newspaper dedicated to the cause of **abolitionism**. Abolitionists campaigned for the immediate end of slavery throughout the United States. The movement was invigorated by **Frederick Douglass**, who escaped from slavery and became a very popular abolitionist speaker and writer. Educated women became active in reform causes, such as abolitionism and **temperance** (abstaining from alcohol). These women often faced discrimination from male reformers who believed that women should not speak in public or have a say in directing reform movements.

In 1848, the **Seneca Falls Convention** met in Upstate New York. **Lucretia Mott**, who was known for advocacy of abolitionism and temperance, played a prominent role at the event. The women and men who attended the convention drafted and signed the **Declaration of Sentiments**, a document based on the Declaration of Independence that advocated for women's rights, including **suffrage** (voting rights).