**Period 4 Overview: 1800-1848**



**Overview** After the peaceful transfer of political power following the 1800 election, the new republic struggled to define and extend democratic ideals in the face of rapid economic, territorial, and demographic changes. In 1826, in the midst of the years covered in this period, the young nation celebrated its 50th birthday with great optimism. The founders of the country were passing on and leadership had passed to a new generation. The United States developed the world’s first modern mass democracy, a new national culture, and a growing market economy. However, sectional interests began to clash, as slavery, wealth disparities, reform efforts, and foreign relations issues threatened to challenge the nation’s ideals moving into the Antebellum Era.

***Beginning*** ***=*** *Election* *of* *Thomas* *Jefferson* *(Rise* *of* *the* *Republicans)* *in* *1800.* *Peaceful* *transition* *of* *power* *from* *Federalists* *to* *Republicans.*

***What*** ***do*** ***I*** ***need*** ***to*** ***know?***

**1.** **Why** **REGIONAL** **IDENTITIES** **arose** **between** **North,** **South,** **and** **West** **and** **how** **the** **MARKET** **REVOLUTION** **affected** **each** **region.**

**a.** *Examples*: Eli Whitney Cotton Gin, Transportation Revolution (Steamboats, National Road, etc.), immigration and nativism, early factory system, support/opposition to slavery

**2.** **How** **American** **society** **became** **more** **DEMOCRATIC** **(for** **white** **men)** **in** **the** **Jacksonian** **Age** **and** **how** **various** **social** **movements** **attempted** **to** **improve** **society.**

**a.** *Examples*: Second Great Awakening, Abolitionist Movement, Temperance, Seneca Falls Conference, Public Education, Jackson’s actions as president (Indian Removal, Death of B.U.S., etc.)

**3.** **Reasons** **for** **Growth** **of** **POLITICAL** **PARTIES**

**a.** *Examples*: First Party System (Republicans and Federalists) changes to Second Party System (Democrats and Whigs), Loose vs Strict interpretation of Constitution, Anti­‐Jacksonians become Whigs, various third parties arose

**4.** **The** **rise** **of** **the** **SLAVERY** **issue,** **and** **how** **slavery** **divided** **the** **country** **economically,** **socially,** **and** **politically** **beginning** **of** **SECTIONALISM**

a. *Examples:* American System, Tariff of Abominations, B.U.S., Missouri Compromise, Gag Rule

**5.** **How** **States** **challenged** **FEDERAL** **authority,** **supremacy** **of** **federal** **government** **over** **the** **states**

**a.** *Examples*: Hartford Convention, Nullification Crisis, Marshall Supreme Court, Nullification, Force Act

**6.** **America** **as** **a** **world** **power…or** **at** **least** **trying** **to** **be.** **=)**

**a.** *Examples*: Barbary Wars, War of 1812, Monroe Doctrine

***End*** ***=*** ***Mexican/American*** ***War*** ***and*** ***Treaty*** ***of*** ***Guadalupe…HIDALGO!*** ***1848!*** ***Beginning*** ***of*** ***Sectionalism***

**Period Perspectives** The new republic worked to define itself during a time of rapid demographic, economic, and territorial growth. It increased suffrage; reformed its schools, prisons, and asylums; and developed its own art, literature, and philosophy. These changes took place as a market economy emerged and people benefited from the addition of fertile land farther west and advances in industry and transportation everywhere. The country focused on expanding its borders and trade while avoiding European entanglements.

**Alternate View** While this period saw growth, the United States also experienced increased conflict with American Indians and its neighbors. Many of the immigrants attracted by new opportunities also found prejudice and discrimination. Rights for the common man excluded American Indians, African Americans, and women. Efforts to improve life succeeded for many but not those enslaved. Landmarks in the institution of slavery came earlier, with the development of the cotton gin in 1793 and the end of the importation of enslaved Africans in 1808. Others came later, such as the Compromise of 1850.

