

Quick Prep

This Quick Prep section provides a handy reference to key facts on a variety of topics in American history.

Major Eras in World History

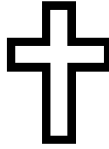
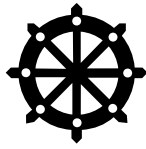
The term era, or age, refers to a broad period of time characterized by a shared pattern of life. Eras and ages typically do not have exact starting and ending points. Because the historical development of different regions of the world is varied, no single listing of eras applies to all of world history. This chart applies primarily to Western civilization.

Era and Dates	Description
Stone Age (2.5 million–3000 B.C.)	This long prehistoric period is often divided into two parts: the Old Stone Age, or Paleolithic Age, and the New Stone Age, or Neolithic Age. The Paleolithic Age lasted from about 2.5 million to 8000 B.C. During this time, hominids made and used stone tools and learned to control fire. The Neolithic Age began about 8000 B.C., and ended about 3000 B.C., in some areas. In this period, people learned to polish stone tools, make pottery, grow crops, and raise animals. The introduction of agriculture, a major turning point in human history, is called the Neolithic Revolution.
Bronze Age (3000–1200 B.C.)	People began using bronze, rather than stone and copper, to make tools and weapons. The Bronze Age began in Sumer about 3000 B.C., when Sumerian metalworkers found that they could melt together certain amounts of copper and tin to make bronze. The first civilizations emerged during the Bronze Age.
Iron Age (1500–1000 B.C. to the present day)	The use of iron to make tools and weapons became widespread. The Iron Age is the last technological stage in the Stone-Bronze-Iron ages sequence.
Classical Greece (2000–300 B.C.)	Greek culture developed, rose to new heights, and spread to other lands. The Greek city-states established the first democratic governments. Greek scientists made advances in mathematics, medicine, and other fields. The Greeks produced great works of drama, poetry, sculpture, architecture, and philosophy that still influence people today.
Roman Empire (500 B.C.–A.D. 500)	At its height, the Roman Empire united much of Europe, the north coast of Africa, and a large part of the Middle East. The Romans admired Greek art, literature, architecture, and science, and so they adopted and preserved much of Greek culture. The Romans also created their own legacy with outstanding achievements in engineering, architecture, the arts, and law. The Romans spread Christianity throughout Europe, and their official language—Latin—gave rise to French, Italian, Spanish, and other Romance languages. Western civilization has its roots in Greco-Roman culture.
Middle Ages (500–1200)	The West Roman Empire fell to Germanic conquerors who formed kingdoms out of former Roman provinces. A new political and military system called feudalism became established. Nobles were granted the use of lands that belonged to their king in exchange for their loyalty, military service, and protection of the peasants who worked the land. Western Europe became divided into feudal states. The Middle Ages was the time of castles and knights.
Renaissance and Reformation (1300–1600)	The Renaissance was a period of rebirth of learning and the arts based on a revival of classical study. The study of Greek classics gave rise to an intellectual movement called humanism, which emphasized human potential and achievements rather than religious concerns. The works of the Italian artists Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo and the English dramatist William Shakespeare represent the cultural height of the Renaissance. The Reformation was a movement for religious reform that led to the founding of Protestant churches. These churches rejected the authority of the pope. The power of the Roman Catholic Church declined.
Exploration and Colonization (1400–1800)	The monarchs of Europe financed voyages around the world, motivated by the desire for riches and the hope of spreading Christianity. Seeking spices and converts, European explorers made long sea journeys to the East. Searching for a shorter sea route to Asia, Christopher Columbus landed in the Caribbean islands and opened up the New World to European colonization. The establishment of colonies and trading networks led to worldwide cultural exchange, but also to the devastation of Native American cultures in the New World, and the enslavement of millions of Africans.
Revolution and Independence (1700–1900)	Movements toward democracy and nationalism affected most countries in the Western world. These movements sparked the Revolutionary War in America, which resulted in the independence of the British colonies and the birth of the United States. They also sparked the ten-year French Revolution. Many Latin American nations fought colonial rule and gained their independence. In Europe, great empires fell and a system of nation-states became established.

Major Empires

Name and Dates	Location	Achievements
Akkadian (c. 2350–2150 B.C.)	Mesopotamia	Became the world's first empire
Alexandrian (336–322 B.C.)	Greece, Persia, Egypt, northwest India	Spread Greek culture
Assyrian (c. 850–612 B.C.)	Southwest Asia, Egypt	Built one of the ancient world's largest libraries at Nineveh, the largest city of its day
Athenian	Greece	Developed democratic principles and classical culture
Austro-Hungarian (late 1600s–1918)	Central Europe	Became known for its cultural life, especially its great composers
Aztec (1325–1521)	Mesoamerica	Built pyramids and developed a pictorial written language
British (1600s–1980s)	United Kingdom, Americas, Africa, Asia	Held one-fourth of the world's land and spread British culture to one-fourth of the world's people
Byzantine (395–1453)	Parts of southern and eastern Europe, northern Africa, and the Middle East	Preserved Greek culture, Roman customs, and Christianity and built the Hagia Sophia
Egyptian (2780–1075 B.C.)	Egypt, Nubia, parts of Syria and Palestine	Built magnificent palaces, temples, and pyramids
Ghana (800–1076)	West Africa	Became a center of the gold-salt trade
Han (201 B.C.–A.D. 220)	China	Established a centralized, bureaucratic government and unified Chinese culture
Holy Roman (962–1806)	Western and central Europe	Was the strongest state in Europe until about 1100
Inca (1400–1532)	South America	Built a vast empire linked by an extensive road system
Mali (1200–1400)	West Africa	Became wealthy on the gold-salt trade and created an efficient government
Maya (250–900)	Mesoamerica	Built pyramids and developed the most advanced writing system in the ancient Americas
Mongol (about 1200–1294)	Europe, Asia	Created the largest unified land empire in history
Mughal (1526–1700s)	India	Built unique architecture, including the Taj Mahal
Muslim (661–1171)	Southwest Asia, North Africa	Spread scholarship and written culture
Old Babylonian (about 2000–1550 B.C.)	Mesopotamia	Compiled the Code of Hammurabi
Ottoman (about 1300–1922)	Turkey, North Africa, Southwest Asia, Southeast Europe	Became the world's most powerful empire in the 1500s and 1600s and built architectural masterpieces
Persian (about 550–330 B.C.)	Fertile Crescent, Anatolia, Egypt, India	Established a judicious, thoughtful, and tolerant government
Roman (27 B.C.–A.D. 476)	Europe, Mesopotamia, North Africa	Spread Greek and Roman culture, which became the basis of Western civilization
Songhai (1460s–1591)	West Africa	Gained control of trans-Saharan trade routes and built a thriving empire

Major Religions



	Buddhism	Christianity	Hinduism	Islam	Judaism	Confucianism
Followers Worldwide*	360 million	2 billion	900 million	1.3 billion	14 million	6.3 million
God or Deities	The Buddha and other enlightened beings called bodhisattva	The Trinity: God (the father); Jesus Christ (the son); the Holy Spirit (or Holy Ghost)	Three most revered gods: Brahma, Shiva, Vishnu	Allah (one God)	Yahweh, Adonai, or "the unprouncable" (one God)	No deities; at times includes the Tao, and Buddhas
Founder	Buddha (Siddhartha)	Jesus Christ and/or the apostles	No recorded founder	Muhammad	Abraham	Confucius
Holy Book	The Tipitaka (collection of Buddha's teachings)	The Bible (Old and New Testaments)	The Veda, the Puranas, and others	The <i>Qur'an</i>	The Torah (Old Testament)	The Analects (Confucius's sayings and dialogs)
Basic Beliefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons achieve complete peace and happiness, known as nirvana, by eliminating their attachment to worldly things. Nirvana is reached by following the Noble Eightfold Path: Right views; Right aspirations; Right speech; Right conduct; Right livelihood; Right endeavor; Right mindfulness; Right meditation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is only one God, who watches over and cares for his people. Jesus Christ was the son of God. He died to save humanity from sin. His death and resurrection made eternal life possible for others. Some Christians believe God has three aspects: the father, the son, and the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit intervenes in human experience to foster faith and conversion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The soul never dies, but is continually reborn. Persons achieve happiness and enlightenment after they free themselves from their earthly desires. Freedom from earthly desires comes from a lifetime of worship, knowledge, and virtuous acts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons achieve salvation by following the Five Pillars of Islam and living a just life. These pillars are: faith; almsgiving, or charity to the poor; fasting, which Muslims perform during Ramadan; pilgrimage (to Mecca); and prayer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is only one God, who watches over and cares for his people. God loves and protects his people, but also holds people accountable for their sins and shortcomings. Persons serve God by studying the Torah and living by its teachings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social order, harmony, and good government should be based on strong family relationships. Respect for parents and elders is important to a well-ordered society. Education is important both to the welfare of the individual and to society.

* estimated 2002 figures

Government and Economic Systems

Government Systems		
System	Definition	Example
aristocracy	Power is in the hands of a hereditary ruling class or nobility.	Medieval Europe
autocracy	A single person rules with unlimited power. Autocracy is also called dictatorship and despotism.	Pharaohs of ancient Egypt
democracy	Citizens hold political power either directly or through representatives. In a direct democracy, citizens directly make political decisions. In a representative democracy, the citizens rule through elected representatives.	ancient Athens (direct democracy) United States since the 1700s (representative democracy)
federalism	Powers are divided among the federal, or national, government and a number of state governments.	United States since the 1700s
feudalism	A king allows nobles to use his land in exchange for their loyalty, military service, and protection of the people who live on the land.	Medieval Europe
military state	Military leaders rule, supported by the power of the armed forces.	Assyrian Empire
monarchy	A ruling family headed by a king or queen holds political power and may or may not share the power with citizen bodies. In an absolute monarchy, the ruling family has all the power. In a limited or constitutional monarchy, the ruler's power is limited by the constitution or laws of the nation.	reign of King Louis XIV of France (absolute monarchy) United Kingdom (constitutional monarchy)
oligarchy	A few persons or a small group rule.	most ancient Greek city-states
parliamentary	Legislative and executive functions are combined in a legislature called a parliament.	United Kingdom since the 1200s
presidential	The chief officer is a president who is elected independently of the legislature.	United States since the 1700s
republic	Citizens elect representatives to rule on their behalf.	Roman Republic
theocracy	Religious leaders control the government, relying on religious law and consultation with religious scholars. In early theocracies, the ruler was considered divine.	Aztec Empire
totalitarianism	The government controls every aspect of public and private life and all opposition is suppressed.	Soviet Union under Joseph Stalin

Economic Systems		
System	Definition	Example
command	The production of goods and services is determined by a central government, which usually owns the means of production. Also called a planned economy.	former Soviet Union
communism	All means of production—land, mines, factories, railroads, and businesses—are owned by the people, private property does not exist, and all goods and services are shared equally.	former Soviet Union
free enterprise	Businesses are privately owned and operate competitively for profit, with minimal government interference. Also called capitalism.	United States
manorialism	A lord gives serfs land, shelter, and protection in exchange for work, and almost everything needed for daily life is produced on the manor, or lord's estate.	Medieval Europe
market	The production of goods and services is determined by the demand from consumers. Also called a demand economy.	United States
mixed	A combination of command and market economies is designed to provide goods and services so that all people will benefit.	present-day Israel
socialism	The means of production are owned by the public and operate for the welfare of all.	In many present-day countries, including Denmark and Sweden, the government owns some industries and operates them for the public good.
traditional	Goods and services are exchanged without the use of money; also called barter.	many ancient civilizations and tribal societies

Major Events in World History

Time and Place	Event	Significance
40,000 B.C. Europe	Cro-Magnons appear.	Ancestors of modern humans
8000 B.C. Africa, Asia	Agriculture begins.	One of the great breakthroughs in human history, setting the stage for the development of civilizations
3100 B.C. Egypt	Upper and Lower Egypt unite.	The Kingdom of Egypt, ruled by pharaohs, began a 3,000-year period of unity and cultural continuity.
3000 B.C. Mesopotamia	Civilization emerges in Sumer.	One of the world's first civilizations
2500 B.C. Indus Valley	Planned cities arise.	Beginning of the Indus Valley civilization; many features of modern Indian culture can be traced to this early civilization.
2350 B.C. Mesopotamia	Sargon of Akkad builds an empire.	World's first empire, which extended from the Mediterranean coast in the west to present-day Iran in the east
1700 B.C. Asian steppes	Indo-Europeans begin migrations.	The Indo-Europeans moved into Europe, the Middle East, and India, spreading their languages and changing cultures.
1532 B.C. China	Shang Dynasty begins.	The first Chinese civilization, which arose along the Huang He river
1200 B.C. Mexico	Olmec culture arises.	Oldest known civilization in the Americas
850 B.C. Assyria	Assyria builds an empire.	Using military force to conquer and rule, the Assyrians established an empire that included most of the old centers of power in Southwest Asia and Egypt.
800 B.C. Greece	Greek city-states arise.	Led to the development of several political systems, including democracy
550 B.C. Persia	Cyrus builds the Persian Empire.	Characterized by tolerance and wise government
500 B.C. Rome	Romans establish a republic.	Source of some of the most fundamental values and institutions of Western civilization
461 B.C. Greece	Age of Pericles begins.	Democratic principles and classical Greek culture flourished, leaving a legacy that endures to the present day.
334 B.C. Greece	Alexander begins to build an empire.	Conquered Persia and Egypt; extended his empire to the Indus River in India; resulted in a blending of Greek, Egyptian, and Eastern customs
321 B.C. India	Mauryan Empire is established.	United north India politically for the first time
202 B.C. China	Han Dynasty replaces Qin dynasty.	Expanded China's borders; developed a system of government that lasted for centuries
27 B.C. Rome	Octavian rules Roman Empire.	Took the title of Augustus and ruled the mightiest empire of the ancient world; began the Pax Romana, a 200-year period of peace and prosperity; Roman way of life spread throughout the empire.
A.D. 29 Jerusalem	Jesus is crucified.	Christianity spread throughout the Roman Empire.
A.D. 100 South America	Moche civilization emerges.	Built an advanced society in Peru
A.D. 100s Africa	Bantu migrations begin.	Bantu speakers spread their language and culture throughout southern Africa.
A.D. 320 India	Gupta Empire begins.	A great flowering of Indian civilization, especially Hindu culture
A.D. 527 Constantinople	Justinian I becomes Byzantine emperor.	Recovered and ruled almost all the former territory of the Roman Empire; created a body of civil laws called Justinian's Code; built beautiful churches

Time and Place	Event	Significance
618 China	Tang dynasty begins.	Created a powerful empire, improved trade and agriculture, and restored the civil service bureaucracy
600 Central America	Maya civilization thrives.	Built spectacular cities and developed the most advanced writing system in the ancient Americas
800 North America	Anasazi civilization develops.	Ancestors of the Pueblo peoples
800s–900s West Africa	Empire of Ghana thrives.	Built its wealth on the trans-Saharan gold-salt trade
814 Western Europe	Charlemagne unites much of Europe.	Established the Carolingian Empire
960 China	Song Dynasty begins.	China became the most populous and advanced country in the world.
1095 France	Pope Urban II issues call for First Crusade.	Stimulated trade, weakened the power of the pope and feudal nobles, and left a legacy of distrust between Christians and Muslims
1192 Japan	Kamakura Shogunate begins.	First shogunate, which set the pattern for military dictators, called shoguns, to rule Japan until 1868
1200s Mexico	Aztec civilization begins.	Built the greatest empire in Mesoamerica
1200s Peru	Inca Empire begins.	The largest empire in the Americas
1209 Mongolia	Genghis Khan begins Mongol conquests.	Built the largest unified land empire in world history
1215 England	King John agrees to Magna Carta.	The Magna Carta contributed to modern concepts of jury trials and legal rights.
1235 Africa	Sundiata founds Mali Empire.	Became a powerful center of commerce and trade in West Africa
1279 China	Kublai Khan conquers Song Dynasty.	Completed the conquest of China and encouraged trade; Chinese ideas then began to influence Western civilization.
1300 Italy	Renaissance begins.	Revival of classical studies revolutionized art, literature, and society
1337 France	Hundred Years' War begins.	Ended the Middle Ages
1347 Italy	Bubonic plague spreads to Europe.	Killed nearly one-third of Europe's population and disrupted medieval society
1368 China	Ming Dynasty begins.	Ended Mongol rule of China and made China the dominant power in the region
1453 Turkey	Constantinople falls to Turks.	One of the most influential cities of the 15th century, Constantinople became part of the Ottoman Empire, and its name was changed to Istanbul.
1492 Americas	Columbus sails to Hispaniola.	Opened the way for European settlement of the Americas
1517 Germany	Martin Luther begins Reformation.	Led to the founding of Protestant churches
1526 India	Babur founds Mughal Empire.	Brought Turks, Persians, and Indians together in a vast empire
1529 Anatolia	Suleiman the Magnificent rules Ottoman Empire.	The Ottoman Empire reached its greatest size and grandeur.
1603 Japan	Tokugawa Shogunate begins.	Unified Japan and began a 200-year period of isolation and prosperity
1607 North America	English settle at Jamestown.	England's first permanent settlement in North America

Major Geographic Features

United States and Canada					
Climate		Vegetation		Land Forms and Bodies of Water	
Arctic	Semi-arid	Tundra	Mediterranean	Great Lakes	Rocky Mountains
Sub-arctic	Sub-tropical	Coniferous forest	scrub	Gulf of Mexico	Mississippi River
Temperate	Tropical	Broadleaf forest	Semi-desert	Appalachian	
Arid		Grassland	Desert	Mountains	

Latin America					
Climate		Vegetation		Land Forms and Bodies of Water	
Tropical	Temperate	Savannah	Tropical rainforest	Orinoco River	Sierra Madre
Sub-tropical	Arid	Semi-desert	Monsoon forest	Andes Mountains	Amazon River
Desert	Semi-arid	Desert	Broadleaf forest		
		Dry tropical scrub			

Europe, Russia, and the Independent Republics					
Climate		Vegetation		Land Forms and Bodies of Water	
Sub-arctic	Temperate	Tundra	Grassland	Baltic Sea	Volga River
Steppe	Mediterranean	Coniferous forest	Mediterranean	Mediterranean Sea	Alps Mountains
Tundra	Alpine	Broadleaf forest	scrub	North Sea	Pyrenees
Humid continental				Lake Baikal	Mountains
				Danube River	Ural Mountains
				Rhine River	

North Africa and Southwest Asia					
Climate		Vegetation		Land Forms and Bodies of Water	
Desert	Temperate	Semi-desert	Monsoon forest	Red Sea	Sahara Desert
Sub-tropical	Arid	Desert	Dry tropical scrub	Persian Gulf	Nile River
Tropical	Semi-arid			Black Sea	Tigris River
Tropical monsoon				Dead Sea	Euphrates River

Africa South of the Sahara					
Climate		Vegetation		Land Forms and Bodies of Water	
Tropical	Semi-arid	Savannah	Dry tropical scrub	Mount Kilimanjaro	Congo River
Sub-tropical	Desert	Semi-desert	Tropical rainforest	Kalahari Desert	Niger River
Arid		Desert	Monsoon forest	Victoria Falls	Zambezi River
				Nile River	

Southern Asia					
Climate		Vegetation		Land Forms and Bodies of Water	
Tropical	Sub-tropical	Monsoon forest	Sub-tropical forest	Himalayan	Mekong River
Monsoon	Moderate	Tropical rainforest		Mountains	Arabian Sea
				Mount Everest	South China Sea
				Indus River	Bay of Bengal
				Ganges River	Malay Archipelago

East Asia, Australia, and the Pacific Islands					
Climate		Vegetation		Land Forms and Bodies of Water	
Temperate	Sub-tropical	Savannah	Dry tropical scrub	Mount Fuji	Huang He
Arid	Tropical	Semi-desert	Tropical rainforest	Southern Alps	(Yellow River)
Semi-arid		Desert	Monsoon forest	Gobi Desert	Chang Jiang
				Great Barrier Reef	(Yangtze River)

Major Events in American History

Date	Event	Significance
1492	Columbus lands in America	Europe begins to colonize the Americas
1607	Jamestown founded	First permanent English settlement in the Americas
1620	Mayflower Compact	Helps establish idea of self-government and majority rule
1675–1676	King Philip’s War	War between New England colonists and Native Americans allows settlers to expand further into Indian lands
1676	Bacon’s Rebellion	Earliest rebellion of colonists against English colonial control
1754–1763	French and Indian War	British defeat the French and gain control of most of the northern and eastern parts of North America
1774	First Continental Congress	First colonial effort to act together to protest English policies; precedent for the first American government
1775	Battles of Lexington and Concord	First battles of the American Revolution
1776	Declaration of Independence signed	Colonists break away from England
1781	Articles of Confederation ratified	Becomes the first American government
1783	Treaty of Paris signed	Ends American Revolution
1786–1787	Shays’s Rebellion	Makes politicians realize that they need a stronger national government
1788	Constitution ratified	Becomes blueprint for American government
1793	Cotton gin invented	Makes producing cotton much cheaper
1794	Whiskey Rebellion	National government proves that it has the power to enforce the laws

Major Events in American History *continued*

Date	Event	Significance
1803	Louisiana Purchase	More than doubles the size of the country
1804	Lewis and Clark Expedition	Expedition explores America's new territories
1812–1815	War of 1812	America proves it can defend itself
1820	Missouri Compromise	Preserves balance between free and slave states
1823	Monroe Doctrine	States that Europe should stay out of the Americas
1828	Tariff of Abominations	Leads Southerners to create the doctrine of nullification, an extreme states' rights position
1831	Nat Turner's Rebellion	Causes Southern states to pass stricter slave laws
1836	Texas Independence	Texas revolts against Mexico
1838	Trail of Tears	Cherokees forced to move to the West
1846–1848	War with Mexico	America acquires much of the Southwest
1849	California gold rush	Many Americans settle the West Coast
1857	<i>Dred Scott</i> decision	Increases tension between North and South
1860	Lincoln becomes president	Causes southern states to secede
1861	Shots fired at Fort Sumter	Beginning of the Civil War
1863	Emancipation Proclamation	Freed the slaves in Confederate states
1865	Lee surrenders at Appomattox Court House	Ends the Civil War
1877	Reconstruction ends	White Southerners regain control of their state governments

Key People in American History

<p>Abigail Adams (1744–1818) Wife of President John Adams; mother of John Quincy Adams</p> <p>Samuel Adams (1722–1803) Important leader in American Revolution</p> <p>Richard Allen (1760–1831) Founder of first African-American church in United States</p> <p>Susan B. Anthony (1820–1906) Leader of movement to give women the right to vote</p> <p>Benedict Arnold (1741–1801) Leader during American Revolution, he switched sides and became traitor</p> <p>Crispus Attucks (1723?–1770) American hero and martyr of the Boston Massacre</p> <p>John James Audubon (1785–1851) Naturalist, famous for his paintings of American birds</p>
<p>Nathaniel Bacon (1647–1676) Virginia planter and leader of Bacon’s Rebellion</p> <p>Annie Bidwell (1839–1918) Founded Chico, protected Mechoopda Maidu Indians</p> <p>Daniel Boone (1734–1820) Frontiersman who found trail through the Cumberland Gap</p> <p>John Wilkes Booth (1838–1865) Southerner who assassinated President Lincoln after the Civil War</p> <p>Joseph Brant (1742–1807) Mohawk Indian chief who fought with Americans in American Revolution</p> <p>John Breckinridge (1821–1875) Politician who supported a states’ rights view in early republic</p> <p>John Brown (1800–1859) Militant abolitionist who led raid at Harpers Ferry</p> <p>Ambrose Burnside (1824–1881) Union general in Civil War; fought at battle of Antietam</p>
<p>John C. Calhoun (1782–1850) Vice-president of United States; created doctrine of nullification</p> <p>Mary Chesnut (1823–1886) Southern diarist who described life during the Civil War</p> <p>William Clark (1770–1838) Explorer of Lewis and Clark expedition</p> <p>Henry Clay (1777–1852) Politician known as “The Great Compromiser”; architect of “American System”</p> <p>Christopher Columbus (1451–1506) Italian explorer of the New World</p> <p>James Fenimore Cooper (1789–1851) First major novelist, wrote about the frontier</p> <p>Charles Cornwallis (1738–1805) British general defeated at Yorktown during American Revolution</p>
<p>Jefferson Davis (1808–1889) President of Confederate States of America during Civil War</p> <p>Dorothea Dix (1802–1887) Reformer who fought to improve the care of the mentally ill</p> <p>Stephen A. Douglas (1813–1861) Politician who participated in Lincoln-Douglas debates in 1860</p> <p>Frederick Douglass (1818?–1895) Former slave and important abolitionist</p>
<p>Jonathan Edwards (1703–1758) Theologian and Puritan who sparked The Great Awakening</p> <p>Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803–1882) Writer and poet; popularized idea of transcendentalism</p> <p>Olaudah Equiano (1750–1797) Former slave and abolitionist; wrote his autobiography</p>
<p>Benjamin Franklin (1706–1790) Author, publisher, inventor, and diplomat</p> <p>Robert Fulton (1765–1815) Ran first commercial steamboat</p>
<p>Thomas Gage (1721–1787) British military governor of Massachusetts at time of American Revolution</p> <p>William Lloyd Garrison (1805–1879) Printer of the abolitionist newspaper, <i>The Liberator</i></p> <p>Horatio Gates (1728?–1806) General during American Revolution who defeated British at Battle of Saratoga</p> <p>George III (1738–1820) British king during American Revolution</p> <p>Angelina (1805–1879) and Sarah (1792–1873) Grimke Abolitionist sisters</p>
<p>Alexander Hamilton (1755–1804) Author of many of the Federalist Papers; first Secretary of the Treasury</p> <p>John Hancock (1737–1793) Important leader of American Revolution; first signer of Declaration of Independence</p> <p>Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804–1864) One of the first professional fiction writers in American literature</p> <p>Patrick Henry (1736–1799) Important leader in American Revolution; said “Give me liberty or give me death”</p> <p>Sam Houston (1793–1863) Important leader of Texas Revolution</p> <p>Ann Hutchinson (1591–1643) Banished from Massachusetts colony; one of founders of Rhode Island</p>

Key People in American History *continued*

Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson (1824–1863) Confederate general; fought in First Battle of Bull Run
John Jay (1745–1829) First chief justice of the Supreme Court; negotiated Jay’s Treaty
John Paul Jones (1747–1792) Naval hero during American Revolution

Marquis de Lafayette (1757–1834) French hero of the American Revolution
Robert E. Lee (1807–1870) Famous Confederate general during the Civil War
Meriwether Lewis (1774–1809) Explorer of Lewis and Clark expedition
John Locke (1632–1704) English philosopher; ideas influenced American ideas about government
Henry W. Longfellow (1807–1882) Popular American poet of the 19th century

Horace Mann (1796–1859) “Father of American Education”; established Massachusetts Board of Education
John Marshall (1755–1835) Chief justice of the Supreme Court; one of most important in history
George Mason (1725–1792) Insisted on protection of individual rights in the Constitution
Increase Mather (1639–1723) Important and influential Puritan minister
Samuel Morse (1791–1872) Invented a telegraph system; developed Morse Code
Lucretia Mott (1793–1880) Helped found the women’s rights movement

James Oglethorpe (1696–1785) Founded colony of Georgia

William Penn (1644–1718) Quaker; founded colony of Pennsylvania
George Pickett (1825–1875) Confederate officer; important in battle of Gettysburg
Thomas Pinckney (1750–1828) Politician; negotiated Treaty with Spanish
Tom Paine (1737–1809) Influential writer during American Revolution
Pocahontas (1595?–1617) Helped maintain peace between early colonists and Indians

Paul Revere (1735–1818) Made famous ride during American Revolution to warn of a British attack
Betsy Ross (1752–1836) Seamstress Patriot who may have created first American flag

Sacagawea (c.1786–c.1812) Indian woman; guide on the Lewis and Clark expedition
Dred Scott Slave who sued for his freedom in famous Supreme Court case
Winfield Scott (1786–1866) General in War of 1812, Mexican War, and Civil War
William Tecumseh Sherman (1820–1891) Union general; waged total war on the South
Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815–1902) Leader of movement to give women the right to vote

Roger Taney (1777–1864) Supreme Court chief justice; wrote Dred Scott decision
Tecumseh (1768?–1813) Indian chief who fought with British in War of 1812
Henry David Thoreau (1817–1862) Author; believed in transcendentalism and civil rights
Alexis de Tocqueville (1805–1859) French author who described life in 19th century America
Sojourner Truth (1797?–1883) Former slave; leading abolitionist and defender of women’s rights
Harriet Tubman (1820?–1913) Former slave; abolitionist and organized Underground Railroad
Nat Turner (1800–1831) Slave who led famous and bloody slave rebellion

David Walker (1785–1830) Black abolitionist; wrote famous pamphlet urging slaves to rebel
Daniel Webster (1782–1852) Important politician; attacked idea of states’ rights
Noah Webster (1758–1843) Created first American dictionary
Walt Whitman (1819–1892) Author, poet, journalist
Eli Whitney (1765–1825) Inventor of the cotton gin
Laura Ingalls Wilder (1867–1957) Wrote a series of books about frontier life
John Winthrop (1588–1649) Important Puritan; first governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony

Brigham Young (1801–1877) Led Mormons west to escape religious persecution

John Peter Zenger (1697–1746) Journalist; his trial helped establish idea of freedom of the press

Presidents of the United States

President	Years in Office	Birth State	Political Party	Key Events During Term in Office
George Washington (1732–1799)	1789–1797	VA	none	Bill of Rights Whiskey Rebellion cotton gin invented
John Adams (1735–1826)	1797–1801	MA	Federalist	XYZ Affair Alien and Sedition Acts
Thomas Jefferson (1743–1826)	1801–1809	VA	Democratic-Republican	<i>Marbury v. Madison</i> Louisiana Purchase Embargo of 1807
James Madison (1751–1836)	1809–1817	VA	Democratic-Republican	War of 1812 American System
James Monroe (1758–1831)	1817–1825	VA	Democratic-Republican	industrialization Missouri Compromise Monroe Doctrine
John Quincy Adams (1767–1848)	1825–1829	MA	Democratic-Republican	Erie Canal Tariff of Abominations
Andrew Jackson (1767–1845)	1829–1837	SC	Democrat	Nullification and bank war Jacksonian Democracy Indian Removal Act
Martin Van Buren (1782–1862)	1837–1841	NY	Democrat	Trail of Tears Panic of 1837
William H. Harrison (1773–1841)	1841	VA	Whig	1st President to die in office
John Tyler (1790–1862)	1841–1845	VA	Whig	Irish and German immigrants Oregon Trail
James K. Polk (1795–1849)	1845–1849	NC	Democrat	Texas annexation and Mexican War Gold Rush Seneca Falls Convention
Zachary Taylor (1784–1850)	1849–1850	VA	Whig	Fugitive Slave Act
Millard Filmore (1800–1874)	1850–1853	NY	Whig	Compromise of 1850 <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i>
Franklin Pierce (1804–1869)	1853–1857	NH	Democrat	Bleeding Kansas Gadsden Purchase
James Buchanan (1791–1868)	1857–1861	PA	Democrat	<i>Dred Scott</i> Harpers Ferry raid
Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865)	1861–1865	KY	Republican	Secession and Civil War Emancipation Proclamation first President assassinated
Andrew Johnson (1808–1875)	1865–1869	NC	Democrat	13th and 14th amendments Radical Reconstruction impeachment trial sharecropping in the South
Ulysses S. Grant (1822–1885)	1869–1877	OH	Republican	15th amendment transcontinental railroad Panic of 1873 Battle of Little Big Horn
Rutherford B. Hayes (1822–1893)	1877–1881	OH	Republican	Compromise of 1877 labor unions and strikes
James A. Garfield (1831–1881)	1881	OH	Republican	assassinated
Chester A. Arthur (1829–1886)	1881–1885	VT	Republican	Standard Oil trust created Edison lights up New York City

Presidents of the United States *continued*

President	Years in Office	Birth State	Political Party	Key Events During Term in Office
Grover Cleveland (1837–1908)	1885–1889	NJ	Democrat	Dawes Act Samuel Gompers and AFL
Benjamin Harrison (1833–1901)	1889–1893	OH	Republican	Wounded Knee Massacre Sherman Anti-Trust Act Populism and Hull House founded
Grover Cleveland (1837–1908)	1893–1897	NJ	Democrat	<i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i> Pullman strike Tammany Hall
William McKinley (1843–1901)	1897–1901	OH	Republican	new immigrants Spanish-American War Open Door policy
Theodore Roosevelt (1858–1919)	1901–1909	NY	Republican	Progressivism Square Deal and Big Stick Diplomacy
William H. Taft (1857–1930)	1909–1913	OH	Republican	Dollar diplomacy NAACP founded
Woodrow Wilson (1856–1924)	1913–1921	VA	Democrat	WWI and League of Nations 18th and 19th amendments
Warren G. Harding (1865–1923)	1921–1923	OH	Republican	Tea Pot Dome scandal cars and planes alter America
Calvin Coolidge (1872–1933)	1923–1929	VT	Republican	Jazz Age Harlem Renaissance
Herbert C. Hoover (1874–1964)	1929–1933	IA	Republican	Stock Market Crash Depression and Dust Bowl
Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882–1945)	1933–1945	NY	Democrat	1st and 2nd New Deal WWII and Holocaust Japanese Internment
Harry S Truman (1884–1972)	1945–1953	MO	Democrat	A-bomb and Marshall Plan Cold War begins and Korean War United Nations created
Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890–1969)	1953–1961	TX	Republican	McCarthyism; <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> Highway Act and suburbs rock 'n' roll and youth culture
John F. Kennedy (1917–1963)	1961–1963	MA	Democrat	Camelot & March on Washington Cuban Missile Crisis; assassination
Lyndon B. Johnson (1908–1973)	1963–1969	TX	Democrat	Civil and Voting Rights acts M.L. King assassinated escalation in Vietnam anti-war and counter culture Great Society
Richard M. Nixon (1913–1994)	1969–1974	CA	Republican	feminism; environmentalism U.S. pulls out of Vietnam China visit; Watergate; resigns
Gerald R. Ford (1913–)	1974–1977	NE	Republican	pardons Nixon
James E. Carter, Jr. (1924–)	1977–1981	GA	Democrat	stagflation / energy crisis hostages in Iran
Ronald W. Reagan (1911–2004)	1981–1989	IL	Republican	rise of conservatism Cold War ends
George H. W. Bush (1924–)	1989–1993	MA	Republican	Persian Gulf War
William J. Clinton (1946–)	1993–2001	AR	Democrat	NAFTA impeachment
George W. Bush (1946–)	2001–	CT	Republican	war on terrorism Patriot Act; Iraq War

Important Documents in American History

<p>Magna Carta (1215) English agreement that guaranteed certain rights to all Englishmen; influenced the American Bill of Rights' protections of individual rights</p>
<p>English Bill of Rights (1689) English agreement that guaranteed certain rights to all Englishmen; influenced the American Bill of Rights' protections of individual rights</p>
<p>Mayflower Compact (1620) Signed by many Pilgrims on their way to New World; they agreed to create a new government and follow its laws; helped establish the idea of self-government</p>
<p>Common Sense (1776) Influential pamphlet written by Thomas Paine; it urged Americans to declare their independence</p>
<p>Declaration of Independence (July 4, 1776) Written by Thomas Jefferson; announced the separation of the colonies from England</p>
<p>Articles of Confederation (1781–1789) First U.S. government; it was eventually a failure because it created a national government that was too weak</p>
<p>Constitution (written in 1787) Blueprint for the American government</p>
<p>The Federalist Papers (1787–1788) Series of essays about the nature of government by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay; written to help get the Constitution ratified</p>
<p>Bill of Rights (adopted in 1791) First 10 amendments of the Constitution; guarantees individual rights</p>
<p>George Washington's Farewell Address (1796) Given at his retirement from public life; he urged America to always remain neutral toward other countries</p>
<p>Monroe Doctrine (1823) Presidential message that said that Europe should not interfere in the affairs of Latin America and the United States would not interfere in European affairs</p>
<p>South Carolina Exposition and Protest (1829) Written by John C. Calhoun; outlined the doctrine of nullification, which was a strong statement for states' rights</p>
<p>Appeal... to the Colored People of the World (1829) Written by David Walker who was a black abolitionist; known as "David Walker's Appeal"; urged slaves to revolt; radical document that made Southerners furious</p>
<p>The Liberator (1831–1865) Newspaper printed by William Lloyd Garrison; most influential antislavery periodical in United States history; it increased sectionalism between the North and South</p>
<p>Lincoln's First Inaugural (1861) Lincoln said North would defend federal property in the South</p>
<p>Emancipation Proclamation (Jan. 1, 1863) Executive order given by Abraham Lincoln; it freed the slaves in the Confederacy</p>
<p>Gettysburg Address (1863) Famous speech given by Abraham Lincoln; it said that the Union was worth fighting for at any cost</p>
<p>Lincoln's Second Inaugural (1865) Lincoln said Civil War was about slavery and that the Union was fighting to end slavery</p>

Important Laws in American History

English Acts Passed During the Colonial Era:
Navigation Acts (1651) laws passed to make sure that England controlled American trade according to the idea of mercantilism
Proclamation of 1763 British law at end of French and Indian War; said that Americans were not allowed to settle west of the Appalachian Mountains
Sugar Act (1764) fees placed on sugar imported into the colonies
Quartering Act (1765) required colonists to feed and shelter British troops
Stamp Act (1765) all official documents had to carry a stamp
Townshend Acts (1767) four laws that, among other things, charged new fees on goods imported into the colonies
Tea Act (1773) charged a fee on all tea imported into the colonies
Intolerable Acts (1774) four laws passed to punish colonists for the Boston Tea Party including closing the port of Boston

Laws Passed By Congress:
Land Ordinance (1785) organized the Northwest Territory on a grid system
Northwest Ordinance (1787) established a government for the Northwest Territory and described rules that a territory would follow in order to become a state
Alien and Sedition Act (1798) placed restrictions on immigrants in the country and restricted freedom of speech and freedom of the press
Embargo Act (1807) restricted American trade with other countries
Missouri Compromise (1820) preserved balance in Congress between slave and free states by admitting Missouri as a slave state and Maine as a free state; prohibited slavery north of Missouri
Indian Removal Act (1830) Indians east of the Mississippi River were to be moved to new lands in the West
Compromise of 1850 preserved balance between free and slave states and said that Congress would not regulate slavery in the territories
Fugitive Slave Act (1850) fugitive slaves in the North had to be returned to their owners; they could not testify in court or have a trial by jury; and there were heavy penalties for anyone who helped an escaped slave
Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854) repealed Missouri Compromise and allowed Kansas and Nebraska to decide for themselves whether they would allow slavery; this was the new idea of popular sovereignty
Civil Rights Act (1866) said that everyone born in the United States was a citizen and entitled to equal rights regardless of race
Reconstruction Acts (1867) known as Radical Reconstruction; imposed military control of southern states and said that they had to ratify the 14th Amendment and allow former slaves to vote

Important Supreme Court Cases

Marbury v. Madison (1803) said that Supreme Court had right to review all laws made by Congress; established the idea of Judicial Review; made Supreme Court more powerful

McCulloch v. Maryland (1819) said that a state could not tax a national bank; increased power of national government

Gibbons v. Ogden (1824) said that federal government (not the state governments) had the power to regulate trade between the states; increased power of national government

Dred Scott v. Sandford (1857) said that African Americans were not citizens of the United States and said that Missouri Compromise unconstitutional; increased sectionalism

United States v. Cruikshank (1876) said that national government could not punish someone for violating the civil rights of individuals; only the states had that power; violence against African Americans increased in the South during Reconstruction

United States v. Reese (1876) said that 15th amendment did automatically protect the right of African Americans to vote; only listed the ways that states were not allowed to prevent them from voting; southern states found other ways to prevent African Americans from voting during Reconstruction

Selected Cases Post-1877

Schenck v. United States (1919) said that free speech could be restricted under certain circumstances, including during wartime; government allowed to prevent people from criticizing the government or holding controversial opinions

Plessy v. Ferguson (1896) said that the idea of “separate but equal” was allowed by the Constitution; segregation spreads in the South

Brown v. Board of Education (1954) said that the idea of “separate but equal” was unconstitutional; made segregation in schools illegal

Important Treaties in American History

Treaty of Paris (1763) ended the French and Indian War between England and France
Treaty of Paris (1783) ended the American Revolution with England
Jay's Treaty (1794) British agreed to leave the forts they occupied on the American frontier
Pinckney's Treaty (1795) Spain allowed Americans to travel freely along the Mississippi River and settled boundary disputes between the United States and Spain
Treaty of Greenville (1795) ended the Battle of Fallen Timbers; 12 Indian tribes agreed to give up their land that consisted of most of present-day Ohio and Indiana to the U.S. government
Louisiana Purchase (1803) America acquired Louisiana territory from France; doubled size of country
Treaty of Ghent (1814) ended the War of 1812 with England
Adams-Onís Treaty (1819) Spain gave Florida to the United States
Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848) ended the war with Mexico; United States acquired the Mexican Cession
Gadsden Purchase (1853) gave the United States more land that had been northern Mexico; completed the acquisition of land that makes up the present-day borders of the continental United States

Important Works of American Literature

James Fenimore Cooper <i>The Last of the Mohicans</i> , 1826, novel that describes life on the frontier during the French and Indian War; part of a series
Nathaniel Hawthorne <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> , 1850, novel about Puritan New England that painted a grim picture of human nature and life in the 17th century
Washington Irving “Rip Van Winkle” and “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow,” 1820, humorous legends for the new country
Herman Melville <i>Moby Dick</i> , 1851, classic sea adventure
Harriet Beecher Stowe <i>Uncle Tom’s Cabin</i> , 1852, novel that depicts the cruelties of slavery; it increased antislavery sentiment in the north
Henry David Thoreau <i>Walden</i> , 1854, book that celebrate nature and wilderness as well as American individualism
Walt Whitman <i>Leaves of Grass</i> , 1855, book of poetry that celebrates nature and the individual

Important Culture and Technology

Artillery —large guns and cannon, played key role in the American Revolution
Brady’s photography —Matthew Brady’s Civil War photographs were the start of photojournalism
Canals —man-made water routes, built in the early 1800s, enabled trade and travel
Columbian Exchange —the movement of plants, goods, and diseases between the New World and Europe
Cotton gin —1795 invention by Eli Whitney that made processing cotton much easier
Elevators —invented in late 1800s, made skyscrapers possible, contributed to urbanization
Hudson River School — group of artists living in the Hudson River valley who painted lush landscapes
Ironclads —warships covered with iron, introduced in Civil War
Railroads —developed in the early 1800s, tied the nation together and sped industrial growth
Spirituals —religious folk songs sung by African Americans, sometimes containing coded messages
Transcendentalism —19th-century philosophy emphasizing spiritual world and intuition

Key Terms in American History

Abolitionism—movement to end slavery

amend—the process of changing the Constitution

American System—1815 plan to make United States economically self-sufficient

Anti-Federalists—people who opposed ratification of the Constitution

Appomattox Courthouse—where the South finally surrendered during the Civil War

assimilation—the process of blending into society

Bacon's Rebellion—1676 revolt against colonial authority

balance of power—the distribution of power between the three branches of government

Bank War—1829–1830 attack by President Jackson on national bank

Battle of the Alamo—1836 battle between Texans and Mexican army

Battle of Fallen Timbers—1794 conflict between Indians and colonists over control of the Northwest Territory

Battle of Gettysburg—1863, ended the South's hopes of winning a battle in the North

Battles of Lexington and Concord—1775, first battles of the American Revolution

Battle of Vicksburg—1863, South lost control of Mississippi River

Battle of Yorktown—1781, last major campaign of the American Revolution

Battles of Saratoga—1777, turning point of the American Revolution

Bleeding Kansas—conflict between pro-slavery and anti-slavery people in Kansas, 1854–1859

blockade—when goods are prevented from going into or out of an area

Boston Massacre—1770, conflict between British and colonists

Boston Tea Party—1773, protest by colonists in which they dumped tea into Boston Harbor

boycott—a refusal to buy certain goods

California Gold Rush—1849, migration of people to the area after gold was discovered

cash crop—a crop grown to be sold rather than used by the farmer

charter—a contract given to someone to establish a colony

checks and balances—each of the three branches of government limits the power of the others

Columbian Exchange—the movement of plants, goods, and diseases between the New World and Europe

Compromise of 1877—ended Reconstruction

Confederacy—the southern states who seceded

Confederation Congress—first U.S. government

constituents—the people who vote for a member of government

Constitutional Convention—1787, the meeting of people that agreed on the Constitution

Continental Army—military of the colonists

Continental Congress—the group of leaders that governed the colonies during the American Revolution

cotton gin—1795 invention by Eli Whitney that made processing cotton much easier

Crittenden Plan—1861 plan that might have prevented secession

Cumberland Gap—was the principal route through the Appalachian Mountains

Democratic-Republicans—political party formed by Jefferson and Madison

doctrine of nullification—idea that states had the right to reject any law passed by Congress

due process of law—everyone is entitled to be treated equally under the law

electoral college—a group of voters chosen by each state to elect the President and Vice-President

embargo—prevents ships from entering or leaving a port

Erie Canal—1825 waterway connected Great Lakes to New York City

executive branch—the President and his cabinet

factory system—method of building goods that included many workers and machines working in one place

federalism—a system of sharing power between the states and the national government

Federalists—supported ratification of the Constitution

foreign policy—relations with governments of other countries

Fort Sumter—beginning of the Civil War

Freedman's Bureau—federal agency set up to help former slaves in the South

free enterprise system—an economic system that has few government restrictions

Free-Soil Party—political party formed in 1846 to stop the spread of slavery

French and Indian War—1754–1763, world-wide war between France and England

Fundamental Orders of Connecticut—Puritan plan of government in Connecticut in 1639

Great Awakening—religious revival, 1730–1740

Great Compromise—agreement reached during the constitutional convention that created the American system of government

habeas corpus—no one can be held by the government without cause

Harpers Ferry—1859 slave revolt

impeachment—the process of accusing a government official of wrongdoing

indentured servant—someone who agreed to work for an employer in exchange for passage to the New World

individual rights—personal liberties guaranteed by the Bill of Rights

industrialization—an economy begins to be based on factories instead of farming

Jacksonian Democracy—the idea that as many people as possible should be able to vote

Jamestown—first permanent English settlement in the New World in 1607

judicial branch—the Supreme Court

judicial review—the idea that the Supreme Court has the right to review all laws made by Congress

King Philip's War—war between Puritan settlers and Wampanoags along with other Native peoples, 1675–1676

legislative branch—the House of Representatives and the Senate; the branch that makes the laws

Lewis and Clark expedition—group that explored the lands of the Louisiana Purchase

limited government—everyone, even elected officials, must obey the laws

Louisiana Purchase—treaty with France in 1803 that allowed the United States to acquire vast extent of land

Lowell mills—textile mills founded 1826

Loyalist—someone loyal to England during American Revolution

manifest destiny—idea that America had a right to all of the land between the east and west coasts

Mayflower Compact—1620 agreement between Pilgrims to establish a government in the New World

melting pot—idea that American culture is a blend of many different cultures

mercantilism—economic system in which an empire, such as Britain, controlled the trade of its colonies

Mexican Cession—land in Southwest given up by Mexico in 1848 after the Mexican war

Mexican War—war between United States and Mexico, 1846–1848

middle passage—journey of captured Africans to the New World to be sold as slaves

militia—armed civilians who are supposed to defend their communities

Mormons—group of people who moved west to avoid religious persecution

neutral—refusal to become allies with any country

New Jersey Plan—plan of government that the Constitutional Convention considered

Northwest Territory—land that formed the states of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, and Illinois

Oregon Trail—trail from Missouri to Oregon

Patriot—someone who supported the American Revolution

Pilgrims—founded the Plymouth colony

plantation—large farm that raises cash crops

political party—group of people that supports a candidate running for a government position

popular sovereignty—government in which the people have the power

Puritans—settled the Massachusetts Bay Colony

Radical Republicans—wanted to use the federal government to impose a new order on the South and wanted to grant citizenship rights to former slaves

ratification—the process of approving the Constitution

Reconstruction—process of re-admitting southern states into the Union

representative government—system of government in which officials are elected in order to represent the interests of the voters

republicanism—the idea that government should be based on the consent of the governed

Republican Party—political party formed in 1854

royal colony—a colony ruled by governors appointed by the king

salutary neglect—English policy of not interfering in the colonies

Santa Fe Trail—a trail from Missouri to New Mexico

secession—withdrawal of southern states from the Union

Second Great Awakening—religious revival, 1790–1800

Sectionalism—tension between North and South as each region placed their own interests above those of the country as a whole

Seneca Falls Convention—1848 women’s rights meeting

separation of powers—the division of government into three branches

Shays’s Rebellion—1787 uprising of farmers

slave codes—laws that regulated how slaves could be treated

slavery—a person was owned by another person in order to control their labor

Sons of Liberty—secret society that opposed British policies

states’ rights—idea that the power of the states should not be trampled on by the national government

Stono Rebellion—1739 uprising of slaves

suffrage—the right to vote

tariff / tax—fees charged on an economic activity

Tariff of Abominations—1828 tariff that made Southerners angry

temperance movement—people who thought that drinking alcohol was wrong

Texas Revolution—1836, Texas declared its independence from Mexico

Three-Fifths Compromise—agreement made at the constitutional convention that allowed slaves to be counted as 3/5th of a white person

total war—Union strategy to attack not just enemy troops, but anything that helped the enemy: buildings, crops and rail lines

Trail of Tears—enforced journey by Cherokee Indians in 1838–1839 from their lands in the east to the west

transcendentalism—philosophy that believed in the goodness of humans and which valued experience and intuition above reason and logic

triangular trade—system of trade in which goods were exchanged between Europe, Africa, and the New World colonies

unalienable right—right that the government cannot take away

unconstitutional—law that is forbidden by the Constitution

Underground Railroad—series of escape routes for run-away slaves

urbanization—growth of cities

Virginia House of Burgesses—1619, first representative government in the colonies

Virginia Plan—plan of government that the constitutional convention considered

War of 1812—1812–1815 conflict between England and the United States

Whig Party—political party formed in 1834

Whiskey Rebellion—1794 protest by farmers

Wilmot Proviso—1846 proposal that would have banned slavery in any territory acquired from Mexico

women’s rights movement—people who thought that women should have the same rights as men

XYZ Affair—1797 incident in which French officials demanded a bribe from U.S. diplomats