

Essential Questions

Quiz Yourself... ask yourself these questions... discuss with your study group...

review and process the main ideas before the unit test.

- Evaluate the success of pre-War of 1812 foreign policy.
- Explain how the United States developed the world's first modern mass democracy as well as a new national Culture during the Age of Jefferson, Era of Good Feelings, and Age of the Common Man.
- In what ways was the new national economy changing? Consider technology, innovation, trade, government policies, and labor.
- In what ways was the role of the central government changing? In what ways was John Marshall and Andrew Jackson responsible for change? How did individuals and groups respond to the changing role of government?
- Explain how the Second Great Awakening impacted social reform movements, and analyze the success and failures of social reform movements in Antebellum America.
- Analyze the impact of economic changes on regional economic activities.
- Explain how American foreign policies addressed the needs of a growing United States. Consider trade, territory, and foreign relations.
- How did the expansion of slavery into the Louisiana Territory impact the nation?

Essential Themes and Main Ideas

Review main ideas! Try to identify specific examples to back up each generalization!

- The new republic struggled to define and extend democratic ideals in the face of rapid economic, territorial, and demographic changes.
- The nation's transformation to a more participatory democracy was accompanied by continued debates over federal power, the relationship between the federal government and the states, the authority of different branches of the federal government, and the rights and responsibilities of individual citizens.
- Concurrent with an increasing international exchange of goods and ideas, larger numbers of Americans began struggling with how to match democratic political ideals to political institutions and social realities.
- The Second Great Awakening, liberal social ideas from abroad, and Romantic beliefs in human perfectibility fostered the rise of voluntary organizations to promote religious and secular reforms, including abolition and women's rights.
- As slavery became more entrenched in the South, enslaved and free African Americans, isolated at the bottom of the social hierarchy, created communities and strategies to protect their dignity and their family structures, even as some launched abolitionist and reform movements aimed at changing their status.
- Developments in technology, agriculture, and commerce precipitated profound changes in U.S. settlement patterns, regional identities, gender and family relations, political power, and distribution of consumer goods.
- The economic changes caused by the market revolution had significant effects on migration patterns, gender and family relations, and the distribution of political power.
- The market revolution helped to widen a gap between rich and poor, shaped emerging middle and working classes, and caused an increasing separation between home and workplace, which led to dramatic transformations in gender and in family roles and expectations.
- U.S. interest in increasing foreign trade, expanding its national borders, and isolating itself from European conflicts shaped the nation's foreign policy and spurred government and private initiatives.
- The American acquisition of lands in the West gave rise to a contest over the extension of slavery into the western territories as well as a series of attempts at national compromise.