

# HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

STUDENT BOOK

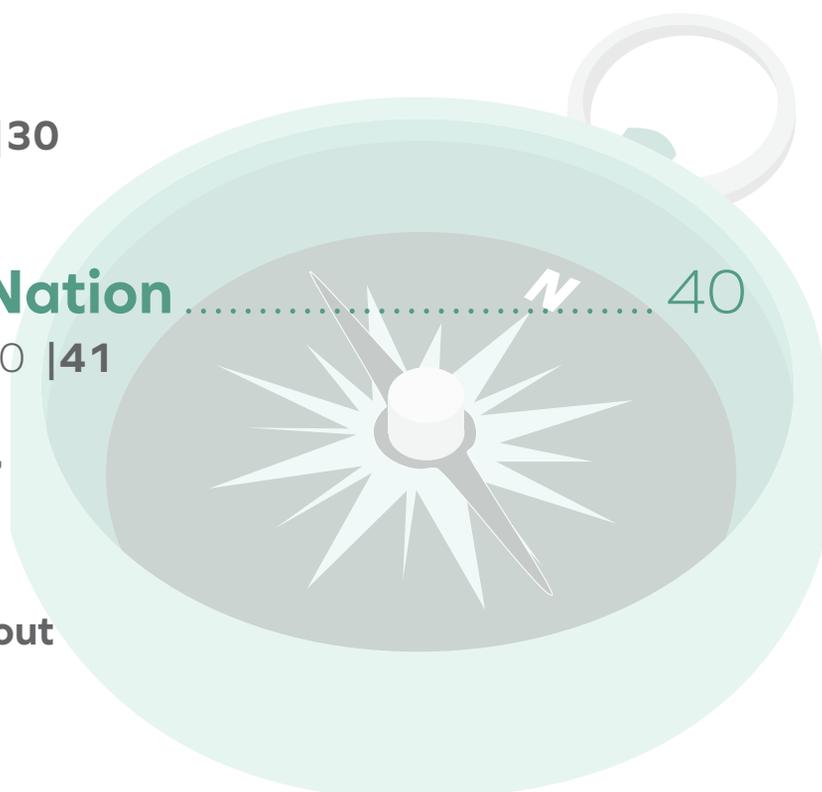
▶ **5th Grade** | Unit 4

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# HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 504

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# A GROWING NATION

The election of Andrew Jackson was a change in U.S. government. Things changed so much that historians call it *Jacksonian Democracy*. Jackson was a westerner who had been born poor. He was a man of the people. The power of the ordinary man grew when he became president. Jackson made the presidency into a very powerful office, much as it is today. The first section of this LIFE PAC® will discuss him and how he changed American government.

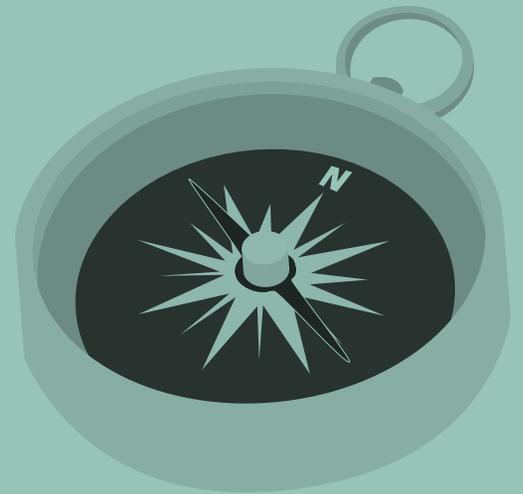
The second section will discuss *Manifest Destiny*. That was an idea most Americans held in the 1800s. They believed it was their obvious (manifest) future (destiny) to expand all across the American continent. This section will discuss how that was done.

The last section will talk about the growing problems between the North and the South. They had never gone away, but in the 1840s and 1850s they got much worse. Several events like Bleeding Kansas, the Fugitive Slave Act, the Dred Scott Decision, and John Brown's Raid made the North and South truly distrust each other. More compromise became impossible. The North was no longer willing to protect slavery to keep the country united. The arguments would soon divide the nation.

## Objectives

**Read these objectives.** The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAAC. Each section will list according to the numbers below what objectives will be met in that section. When you have finished this LIFEPAAC, you should be able to:

1. Describe the events and importance of the presidency of Andrew Jackson.
2. Describe the debates and crisis over the tariff and slavery in the years before the Civil War.
3. Describe Martin Van Buren, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, James Polk, and the events of their presidencies.
4. Describe how America got the Louisiana Purchase, the Florida Cession, the Texas Annexation, the Oregon Cession, the Mexican Cession, and the Gadsden Purchase.
5. Describe changes in America from 1830-1860s.
6. Describe the incidents that led the North and South to divide.
7. Explain why the first seven southern states seceded.



# 1. THE TIME OF JACKSON

All of the presidents before Andrew Jackson had been born wealthy. They were from the “nobility” of America, born in the older, eastern states. Andrew Jackson had been born poor and lived in the West. He had very little education in school. He became rich by his own work and effort. He was what we call a “self-made man.”

It was a real change in the way Americans thought of their leaders when Jackson was elected. Suddenly, the president was an ordinary man, like any other man who started with nothing on the frontier. Jackson was incredibly **popular**. He also believed that he, not the Congress, represented the whole nation. He acted boldly as president, using his powers and leading the nation more than any president before him.

After the time of Andrew Jackson, presidents were expected to be ordinary people. It was a very good thing for a man to be born in a log cabin if he wanted to be president. The old idea that the rich and well born should rule died in America. After Andrew Jackson, it was the common man who was held up as the best leader in our country. Politics was still a game for the rich, but leaders now had to appear to be ordinary people if they wanted to win elections.

## Objectives

**Review these objectives.** When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Describe the events and importance of the presidency of Andrew Jackson.
2. Describe the debates and crisis over the tariff and slavery in the years before the Civil War.
3. Describe Martin Van Buren, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, James Polk, and the events of their presidency.
5. Describe changes in America from 1830-1860s.
6. Describe the incidents that led the North and South to divide.

## Vocabulary

**Study these new words.** Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFEPAC.

**bill** (bil). A statement of money owed for work done or things supplied; a proposed law presented to a lawmaking group for its approval.

**campaign** (kam pān'). A number of connected activities to do something, like get someone elected to office.

**corrupt** (kə rupt'). Influenced by bribes; dishonest.

**gallery** (gal' ər ē). The highest balcony above a stage or area of public events.

**pneumonia** (nü mō' nyə). A serious disease that can cause swelling of the lungs, high fever, and difficulty in breathing.

**popular** (pop' yə lər). Liked by most people.

**spoils** (spoilz). Things taken by force; things won.

**Note:** All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

**Pronunciation Key:** hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tēr; it, īce; hot, ōpen, ôrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /ʒh/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ or /ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

## Jackson in Charge

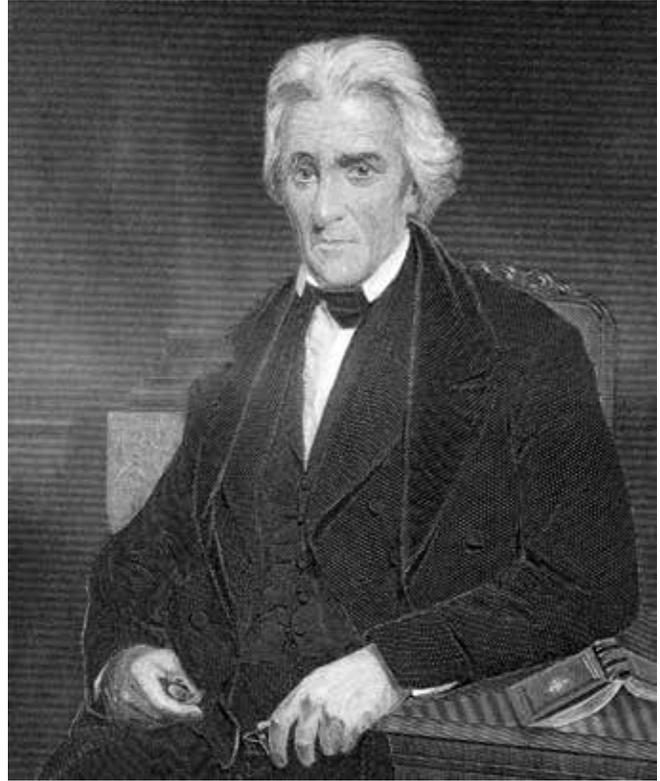
**Old Hickory.** Andrew Jackson, our seventh president, was a tall, thin man with bushy eyebrows. He had a bad temper and made enemies easily. He had been in many fights during his life. In fact, when he became president he had two bullets still in his body from them. As a general, he was used to giving orders and being obeyed. He earned his nickname, “Old Hickory,” for how tough and hard he was. He was not a man you wanted to have get angry at you, but he also made many devoted friends in his life who would obey him to the death.

Every president is sworn into office at an *inauguration*. It is a ceremony in which the new president takes the oath of office, gives a speech, and often watches a parade. Andrew Jackson’s party after his inauguration in 1829

was a wild one! People came from all over the country to see their hero. They were all allowed into the White House. They stood on the chairs and knocked over tables trying to see the new president. The crowd around Jackson pushed so hard he had to leave to avoid being hurt. The crowd finally left when the White House staff cleverly began serving refreshments—outside on the lawn.

**Spoils System.** Andrew Jackson began a very bad system during his presidency. We call it the *Spoils System*. It comes from the saying, “To the victor belong the **spoils** of the enemy.” It meant that the winner in the election gave jobs in the government to his supporters. Government clerks who collected taxes were fired so that men who worked to help Jackson get elected could have their jobs. The same was true of inspectors, office workers, secretaries, and sometimes even janitors.

This was a very bad idea. After Jackson, people who helped someone win the presidency expected to get a job for it. They did not have to be good at the job. They just had to support the right candidate. Often they were required to pay part of their salary to the Democratic or Whig party to keep the job. Sometimes they would steal money on the job, and they often did not bother to work hard. As long as they supported the president, they would not be fired. Even worse, a man who did work hard and did his job well would still be fired just because a new president wanted his job for someone else. The Spoils System would be a problem for many years in America.



| Andrew Jackson

**The National Bank.** Andrew Jackson did not really understand or trust banks. Like most westerners he usually heard about banks only when they came to take a man's land for not paying his debts. Jackson did not understand how the National Bank helped the country by making paper money that could be trusted and keeping national finances in good order. Also, the head of the National Bank in Jackson's time, Nicholas Biddle, was **corrupt**. Biddle gave money to all sorts of people in Congress to make sure that the bank got what he wanted it to have.



| The Second National Bank in Philadelphia

Jackson believed the National Bank was a "moneyed monster" that should be destroyed. The Bank could only do business if it had a charter from the government, and it had to get a new one every few years. When Congress granted the Bank a new charter in 1832, Jackson vetoed (refused) the **bill**. He sent back an angry letter explaining why it was hurting the people. His enemies tried to use the veto to embarrass him in the election of 1832, but it did not work. He was easily re-elected to a second term.

After his re-election, Jackson decided it was time to get rid of the Bank for good. He began taking all of the federal money out of the Bank. He put the money in state banks he liked, called "pet banks." Nicholas Biddle tried to make him stop, but Jackson was too stubborn. Biddle finally gave up and closed the National Bank.

Jackson acted as he thought best as president. He vetoed more laws than all six men who had been president before him put together. He made it clear that, as president, he was in charge, not Congress. This is something we expect now, but it was started by Andrew Jackson.



**Give the information requested.**

**1.1** Why was Jackson different from the six presidents before him?

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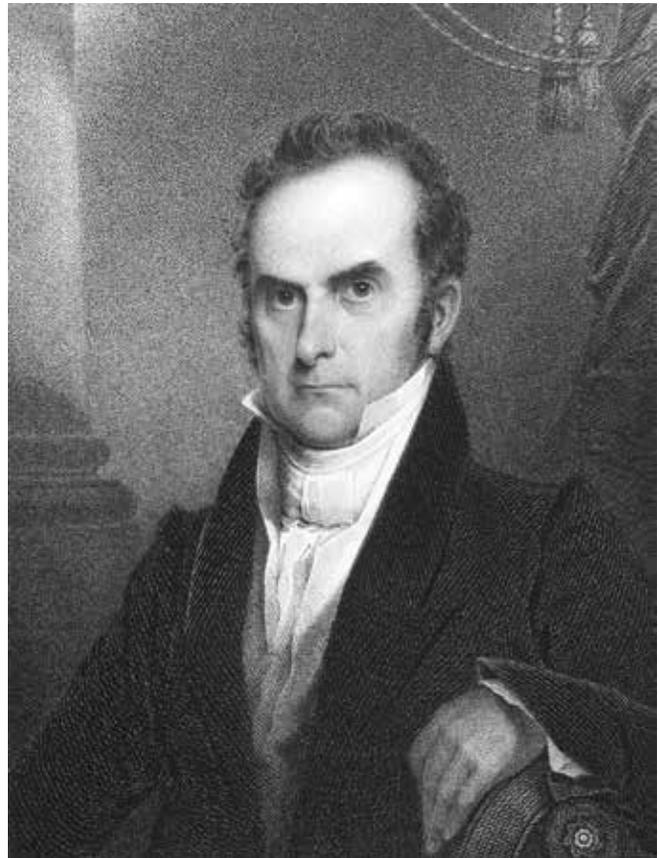
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- 1.2** The name of the plan to replace government workers with supporters of the new president was \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.3** Jackson's earned nickname was \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.4** What Jackson did with the bill rechartering the National Bank.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 1.5** The name given to the banks where Jackson put federal money.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 1.6** Ceremony swearing in the president. \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.7** What men had to appear to be in order to win elections after Andrew Jackson.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Crisis and Cruelty

**Webster-Hayne Debate.** The South was getting angrier and angrier over the tariff. Several people in the South began to support an idea called *nullification*. This idea said that the states made the federal government and they could nullify (block or stop) any federal law in their state. The South wanted to nullify the tariff so that goods coming into their states would not be taxed by the federal government.

Two men in the Senate had a famous debate about nullification in 1830. The men were Daniel Webster of Massachusetts and Robert Hayne of South Carolina, so it was called the Webster-Hayne Debate. It was about the tariff and about how strong the federal government was. Hayne argued in favor of nullification. Daniel Webster, who was one of the greatest public speakers of his time, argued against it.



| Daniel Webster

They debated over nine days! People from Washington crowded into the Senate **gallery** to listen. Newspapers all over the country copied parts of it for people to read. Public debates like this were very popular in 1830. This one drew a lot of attention. Hayne argued that liberty was more important than union.

Webster answered with a wonderful speech defending the Union and the power of the federal government. Webster argued that if the states could refuse any law they did not like, then the country was joined together by a “rope of sand.” He argued that allowing states to pick and choose when they obeyed laws would tear the nation apart. His concluding statement was the most famous line of the debate, “Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable.”

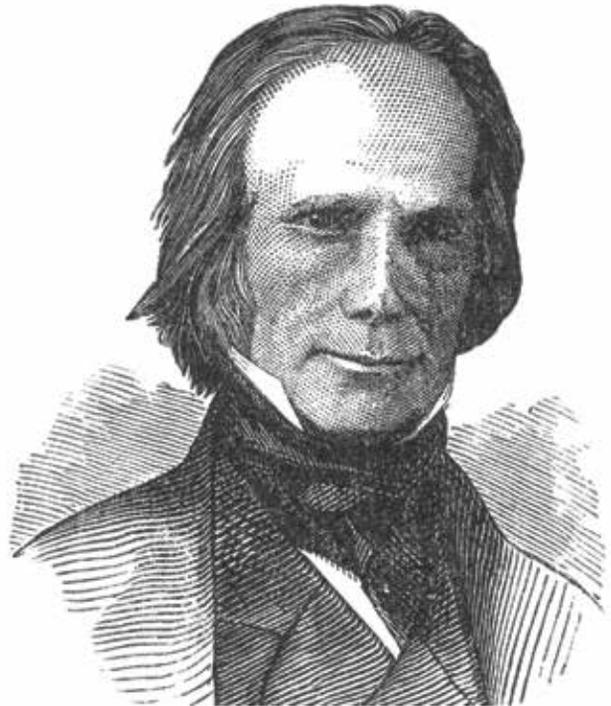
Webster’s defense of the Union became famous. Copies of it were printed all over the North. Many school children memorized and recited it. His speech was remembered thirty years later when the nation was divided by the Civil War. Webster’s words encouraged many of the men who fought to make the Union whole again.

**Nullification Crisis.** The people of South Carolina were especially angry about the very high tariff passed in 1828. They demanded it be reduced. In 1832 Congress did vote to reduce it, but not nearly as much as the southerners wanted; so they took a dangerous step. In 1832 South Carolina declared that the tariff was nullified in their state.

President Andrew Jackson was not about to sit by and let a state throw out federal law. He refused to accept the decision and began to prepare an army. He asked Congress to pass a law giving him power to use the army to collect the tariff in South Carolina. Congress passed the law. Jackson also privately threatened to hang the leaders of the plot.

As one person said, “When Jackson starts talking about hanging, men start looking for a rope!” Jackson’s actions made the men of South Carolina nervous enough that they agreed to a compromise.

The compromise effort was again led by Henry Clay, the Great Compromiser. The Congress agreed to slowly reduce the tariff over several years and South Carolina withdrew the nullification law. Thanks to Jackson’s strong reaction, the crisis was ended and the Union was restored—for now.



| Henry Clay



| Map of the Trail of Tears

**Trail of Tears.** Tribes of Native Americans lived all over the nation between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River. Many of them still owned large pieces of land, including about half of the state of Mississippi. Americans who were continuing to move west wanted this land. As a result, the states were constantly trying to take land from the Indians.

Andrew Jackson decided to do something about this. What he decided to do was move the Indians! He ordered them to move west of the Mississippi into Oklahoma, land that American settlers did not want—yet. Those who refused to go were moved by force. Thousands of men, women, and children were forced out of their homes and marched west on a journey that became known as the *Trail of Tears*. Hundreds died of hunger, disease, and injury on the trip.

The Indians of Illinois and Wisconsin went to war rather than move, led by a man named Black Hawk. The Seminole Indians of Florida did the same. However, in the end, the army crushed both groups, and the survivors were forced to march west.

The Indians were promised that the new lands would be theirs forever. However, in time the frontier moved west, and the settlers began to want the new Indian lands. The Indians were forced to give up parts of that land as well. The whole thing was incredibly cruel from start to finish.



**Complete these sentences.**

- 1.8** The two men who debated the power of the federal government over the issue of the tariff were \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.9** The idea of \_\_\_\_\_ was that the states could stop or refuse to accept a federal law.
- 1.10** \_\_\_\_\_ said, "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."
- 1.11** In 1832 \_\_\_\_\_ nullified the tariff.
- 1.12** The compromise over the Nullification Crisis was organized by \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.13** The forced moving of the Indians west to Oklahoma was called the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.14** The president who prepared to use force to collect the tariff in South Carolina was \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.15** A man named \_\_\_\_\_ led the Wisconsin and Illinois Indians when they fought to stay on their land.
- 1.16** The \_\_\_\_\_ Indians of Florida also went to war to stay on their land.
- 1.17** President \_\_\_\_\_ ordered the Indians east of the Mississippi moved west.
- 1.18** In the compromise to end the Nullification Crisis, the Congress agreed to \_\_\_\_\_ the tariff and South Carolina agreed to \_\_\_\_\_ nullification.
- 1.19** The famous argument over the tariff and the power of the federal government in 1830 was called the \_\_\_\_\_ Debate.

## SELF TEST 1

**Match these people. Some answers will be used more than once** (each answer, 3 points).

- |                |  |                           |
|----------------|--|---------------------------|
| <b>1.01</b>    | _____ vice president, became president when his boss died                | a. Andrew Jackson         |
| <b>1.02</b>    | _____ shortest presidency in U.S. history                                | b. Henry Clay             |
| <b>1.03 a.</b> | _____ "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too."                                       | c. Daniel Webster         |
| <b>b.</b>      | _____  | d. James Polk             |
| <b>1.04</b>    | _____ Jackson's vice president   | e. John Tyler             |
| <b>1.05</b>    | _____ "Log Cabin and Hard Cider" candidate                               | f. William Henry Harrison |
| <b>1.06</b>    | _____ Old Hickory  | g. Martin Van Buren       |
| <b>1.07</b>    | _____ was so popular that people almost crushed him at his inauguration  |                           |
| <b>1.08</b>    | _____ first president who was not born to wealth                         |                           |
| <b>1.09</b>    | _____ president during the Panic of 1837                                 |                           |
| <b>1.010</b>   | _____ the Great Compromiser  |                           |
| <b>1.011</b>   | _____ "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."         |                           |
| <b>1.012</b>   | _____ died of pneumonia after a two-hour inaugural speech                |                           |
| <b>1.013</b>   | _____ supported by the dying Andrew Jackson                              |                           |
| <b>1.014</b>   | _____ added more land to the U.S. than any other president               |                           |
| <b>1.015</b>   | _____ vetoed laws wanted by the Whig Congress, even though he was a Whig |                           |

**Complete these sentences** (each answer, 4 points).

- 1.016** \_\_\_\_\_ Destiny was the idea that it was America's obvious future to expand across the continent.
- 1.017** Andrew Jackson believed in the \_\_\_\_\_ System, giving government jobs to his own supporters.

- 1.018** In the \_\_\_\_\_ Crisis, South Carolina refused to obey the federal tariff law.
- 1.019** Andrew Jackson vetoed it when Congress tried to recharter the \_\_\_\_\_ because he believed it hurt the people.
- 1.020** The \_\_\_\_\_ Debate was between two men in the Senate over the issue of nullification and the power of the federal government.
- 1.021** The journey made by the Indians when they were forced to move to Oklahoma was called the Trail of \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.022** Andrew Jackson put the federal money into state banks, called \_\_\_\_\_ banks.
- 1.023** Andrew Jackson \_\_\_\_\_ (refused) more laws than all of the presidents before him.
- 1.024** The \_\_\_\_\_ Indians of Florida were defeated before they would leave their homes.
- 1.025** A \_\_\_\_\_ or Panic is a time when many businesses as well as banks close and people lose their jobs.

**Write true or false on the blank** (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.026** \_\_\_\_\_ After Andrew Jackson, presidents had to appear to be an ordinary person to be elected.
- 1.027** \_\_\_\_\_ Andrew Jackson was an easy-going man who seldom became angry.
- 1.028** \_\_\_\_\_ The head of the National Bank, Nicholas Biddle, was corrupt.
- 1.029** \_\_\_\_\_ Andrew Jackson was ready to use the army to enforce federal law in South Carolina, if necessary.
- 1.030** \_\_\_\_\_ The Native Americans who moved to Oklahoma did not get to keep their new land forever, as they were promised.
- 1.031** \_\_\_\_\_ Henry Clay led the effort to compromise on the tariff issue in South Carolina.

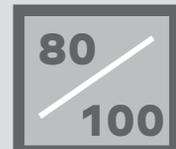


**Teacher check:**

Score \_\_\_\_\_

Initials \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_





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