

# Mr. Kinigson's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade American History Review

## The Colonies

1. People came to the new world for political, religious and economic reasons.
2. There were originally 13 colonies based mainly on religious differences.
3. The New England colonies had small farms and ship building.
4. The Middle colonies had some farming and later on factories.
5. The Southern colonies were agricultural with large plantations, originally producing tobacco but later on growing cotton.
6. Slaves were brought from Africa to work on the plantations in the South.
7. The "Triangular Trade" was between Africa (slaves), the Caribbean (sugar) and the Colonies (rum).
8. The "Middle Passage" was the boat trip the slaves had between Africa and the Colonies. It was a brutal trip where many slaves died from poor conditions or committed suicide.
9. People also came as "Indentured Servants" working for 7 years to pay off the cost of their passage to the "New World."
10. The colonies earliest and largest cities developed along the coast line because of the good harbors available.

## Early Colonial Government

1. Each colony developed its own type of government.
2. Early examples of attempts at self-government and law included the Mayflower Compact, The House of Burgesses and the Orders of Connecticut.
3. The colonies wanted to put limits on government power. This went back to the way the English had put limits on the kings.
4. The Albany Plan of Union was the first attempt to put the 13 colonies under one central government. It never happened because the states didn't want to give up any power.
5. After the colonies became independent, a federal government was formed under the Articles of Confederation. It was weak and didn't work because the power stayed with the states.
6. The different colonies each had their own militia.
7. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 provided a process for admission of new states to the Union.

## **The United States Government**

1. The concepts behind the constitution came from Enlightenment thinkers.
2. John Locke wrote that people should have the right of “life, liberty and property”. He also said that if the government in power does not give people the rights it deserves, then they have the right to change it.
3. Montesquieu believed in “Separation of Power”. This stopped one part of the government from having too much control.
4. British history and documents such as the Magna Carta, Petition of Rights, and the English Bill of Rights contributed to the ideals of American democracy. They took power from the king and protected the rights of the people.
5. Federalism is a system where power is divided between different levels of government (national, state and city).
6. Because the Articles of Confederation didn’t work because of their weaknesses, a constitutional convention was held to set up the new government.

## **The U.S. Constitution**

1. The Constitutional Convention met in 1787 with the job of correcting the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation and forming a federal government and setting basic laws for the US.
2. The “Great Compromise” set up a bicameral legislature. The Senate would have 2 representatives from each state. The House of Representatives would be based on the population of each state. This gave the smaller states protection against the larger ones.
3. The Three-Fifths Compromise said that for every 5 slaves in a states population, they would be counted as 3 citizens (even though they had no rights). This gave the South more representation in the House of Representatives.
4. Federalism allows for different levels within government. This can be on a state or national level/
5. Those who favored the Constitution were called “Federalists”. Those who were against it were know as “Anti-Federalists.”
6. The Federalist Papers were essays in favor of the constitution and helped get it passed.
7. The Constitution is based on the ideal of “popular sovereignty” where the power of the government comes from the people.
8. The power of the government is limited by law for both the state and federal governments.
9. Separation of Power divides the federal government in three branches; executive, legislative and judicial. Each parts powers are derived from the Constitution.
10. Checks and balances give each branch of the government control over the other branches and curbs excessive power.
11. The “Elastic Clause” states that Congress can pass laws that allow the principles of the Constitution to be carried out.
12. Amendments are changes to the Constitution and required passage by Congress and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the states.

13. Delegated Powers are powers given only to the federal government (declaring war).
14. Implied Powers are powers not written in the Constitution but needed to carry out federal powers (Elastic Clause).
15. Denied Powers are those powers specifically not given to either the national government, state governments of both.
16. Concurrent Powers are shared by both the federal and state governments (right to tax).
17. Reserved Powers belong only to the states (divorce laws).
18. Executive branch includes the President and Vice-President. The President is commander in chief and controls the armed forces. He signs or vetoes laws and he recommends new laws to Congress.
19. The Legislative Branch includes the Senate (2 members from each state) and the House of Representatives (based on state populations).
20. The Judicial Branch includes all the different level of courts with the Supreme Court being the ultimate interpreter of a laws constitutionality.
21. The amendment process was added to allow the Constitution to meet changing times and needs.
22. The first ten amendments to the Constitution are the Bill of Rights which give guaranteed basic freedoms (speech, the press, religion, etc.).
23. The “Unwritten Constitution” is best defined as practices of the government that are based on custom and tradition.
24. Ours is a republican form of government in which representatives are elected by the people.
25. The Electoral College was set up to stop direct election of a president. Each state has a certain number of members passed on their population as taken by the census.
26. “Lobbyists” are registered people who try to convince representatives to vote for laws in their interest. They sometimes have too much power.

## **The Road to Revolution**

1. Because the colonies were so far from England and the King was not able to give his full attention the colonies, they became stronger and more independent over time.
2. The colonists believed that they themselves had the right to impose taxes upon themselves.
3. The King, because of the cost of protecting and controlling the colonies wanted to put taxes on the colonies.
4. The Colonists felt “taxation without representation” was unfair.
5. The Colonists also believed in “Manifest Destiny” which said that the United States should expand from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast.
6. England need to tax the colonies made for problems because the colonies had been taking care of themselves for so long.
7. The English put different taxes on the colonies to help raise money. The Sugar Act put a tax on sugar, rum and coffee. The Stamp Act put a tax on printed materials such as papers and legal documents. Even though these taxes were very low, the colonists didn’t want to pay them.

8. The Quartering Act allowed British soldiers the right to take over and sleep in American homes.
9. The “Boston Massacre” happened when British troops fired on an American crowd of protesters killing three. This helped raise the anger of Americans against the British.
10. The “Boston Tea Party” was led by Sam Adams. Americans dressed as Indians threw tea into Boston harbor to protest a tea tax. This enraged the King and increased tension between the colonies and England.

## **The American Revolution**

1. The British wanted to seize American guns and powder that were to be used in a Revolution.
2. Lexington was the first battle where the Americans and British faced each other. This was the start of the Revolution.
3. Thomas Paine wrote “Common Sense” which explained to the colonists why the colonies should revolt against England.
4. The Declaration of Independence was issued on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1776. It had three parts; the Enlightenment ideas of John Locke saying why people should be free, a list of grievances against the King and the actual declaration stating that we were separating from England.
5. The war at first went very well for the British but with the help of France, the colonies won.

## **Forming a National Government**

1. The new government had no army, no money and no courts.
2. Two parties were beginning to form; one supporting a strong central government and the other strong state governments.
3. President Washington set up a cabinet to help him run the country.
4. Political parties and cabinets were not written into the Constitution.
5. Alexander Hamilton knew that it was important for the United States to pay off the debt it had accumulated during the Revolutionary War.
6. Hamilton came up with the idea of a national bank and a national mint.
7. Hamilton wanted the bank. Thomas Jefferson said there should be no bank because it wasn't mentioned in the Constitution. The Supreme Court agreed with Hamilton saying that the Constitution implied that a bank was necessary to carry out national business.
8. President Washington knew that our country was young and weak and stressed a policy of “neutrality” with the rest of the world.
9. Jefferson appealed to the common man and made it possible for men to vote who did not own property.
10. Jefferson purchased the “Louisiana” territory from France doubling the size of the U.S. He said it was a treaty which gave him the power to do this.
11. “Impressment” was the policy of British grabbing American sailors and making them work on British ships. This led to War of 1812.
12. As a result of the War of 1812 (which was won by the U.S.), England was no longer a force over the US. The border between the U.S. and Canada was formally set.

13. The most dramatic event of the War of 1812 was the burning of the White House in Washington by British troops.

## The New Nation

1. From the period of 1800 to 1860, slavery was the biggest problem facing the country. It was also an issue of state's rights.
2. People who were against slavery were called "Abolitionists".
3. Manufacturing started to develop in the North and growing different agricultural products in the South. In order to protect these industries, Congress passed tariffs (taxes on imports).
4. John Marshall was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court from 1801-1805. He believed in a strong central government (federalists).
5. Marbury vs. Madison – In this case the principle of "judicial review" was established. This stated that the Supreme Court could rule on the constitutionality of laws passed by Congress.
6. McCulloch vs. Maryland – In this case the concept of "implied powers" was established. **THIS GREATLY EXPANDED THE POWER OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.**
7. Slavery was very important to the South because of the invention of the cotton gin. The gin made the growing of cotton profitable. Plantations were established with slaves being the main source of labor.
8. One of the biggest problems was to keep the number of free states and slave states even. The South wanted this so that the free states could not pass federal laws outlawing slavery.
9. The "Missouri Compromise" made Missouri a slave state and Maine a free state. It also set the border for new free and slave states as the country expanded westward.
10. The "Monroe Doctrine" said that Europe could not have any new colonies in the Western Hemisphere. It was backed up by military strength.
11. Andrew Jackson was considered the common man's president. More and more MEN were getting the right to vote.
12. The biggest problems facing the country were slavery and state's rights versus the federal government.
13. A crisis occurred when South Carolina said it had the right to nullify any laws passed by the federal government. It raised an army and was ready to fight the federal government. A compromise was reached but this helped set the stage for the Civil War.

## Westward Expansion

1. During this period of time, many new immigrants were coming to the U.S.
2. People who lived here already didn't like it because the immigrants worked for less and took away jobs.
3. The land West of the Mississippi River was also being developed and the Indians were being pushed further West or killed.
4. The Homestead Act gave people land for free if they worked it for a certain number of years. There were wild land rushes to get the land.

5. There was a new feeling in the U.S. towards reform. The work day was being shortened, public schools were being opened and there was a movement against alcohol (temperance).
6. Indians were treated as trespassers on their own land. They were either killed or forced to move to reservations.
7. During this time women were starting to demand more equality under the law and the right to vote.
8. The Declaration of Sentiments from the Seneca Falls Convention of 1848 proclaimed that all men and women are created equal.

## **Slavery Divides The Country**

1. A major problem facing the country was whether new states would be admitted as free or slave states.
2. The underlying problem was over “state’s rights”. The South felt that it was their right to do what they wanted.
3. Abolitionists were trying hard to end slavery.
4. The northern part of the country did manufacturing and the southern part grew cotton and tobacco. The west grew wheat and meat.
5. The south felt that slavery was justified because of history, social practices and economics.
6. Abolitionists such as William Lloyd Garrison and Frederick Douglas push hard against slavery.
7. The “Underground Railroad” was the system of safe houses which moved slaves from the south into Canada where they would be free.
8. Mexico became the next area to join the U.S. The most famous battle was at the Alamo, where all the Americans were killed.
9. In 1846 the U.S. went to war with Mexico and got the rest of Mexican territory which became six states.
10. The problem of free versus slave states was accelerated with the admission of California into the Union.
11. The Compromise of 1850 prevented Civil War by giving both free and slave states more power.
12. The “Fugitive Slave Law” said that any slave that fled to the North had to be returned to its southern owner.
13. The next problem was with Kansas and Nebraska where it was decided these states would decide for themselves if they wanted to be either slave or free states. This caused a lot of bloody fighting within these states.
14. The “Dred Scott” decision by the Supreme Court said that slaves taken to free states are still the “property” of their southern owners. It also said Congress had no right to stop slavery in any state. This helped fuel hatred between the North and the South helping start the Civil War.

## **Sectional Conflicts**

1. The North had the advantage of a greater population from which to recruit an army and the majority of the country's industrial capacity.
2. The South had the advantage of fighting a defensive war and a long military tradition that gave it a decided edge in the early years of the war.
3. John Brown was an anti-slavery fanatic who tried to get weapons from the Harper's Ferry arsenal. He was going to give the weapons to the slave to start an uprising against their masters.
4. The election of Abraham Lincoln was the last straw for the south. South Carolina decided to secede (leave) the Union. Lincoln tried to get them to come back but once Fort Sumter was fired on by confederate troops the war had begun.
5. The South became the "Confederate States of America".
6. The North having most of the navy decided to blockade the southern ports. This stopped the south from getting the arms and other supplies needed to run the war.
7. The first battles of the war were won by the south but it was still not enough to give them a military advantage.
8. The "Emancipation Proclamation" issued by Lincoln freed the slaves in only the southern states. It meant nothing because the south was out of the Union.
9. The Civil War was the first time that a draft was used in the north. Riots broke out because many people didn't want to be enlisted.
10. Besides having to deal with the war in the south, Lincoln also had to deal with Northern protesters. Many people in the North didn't care if the South was out of the Union or about slavery.
11. The turning point of the war were the Union victories at Vicksburg and Gettysburg.
12. One of the most famous military actions of the war was General Sherman's "March to the Sea". He burned crops, destroyed railroads and the city of Atlanta breaking the fighting spirit of the south.
13. The war ended when General Lee surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox.

## **Reconstruction and Growth**

1. Lincoln wanted to forgive the South and make the nation whole as quickly as possible.
2. The radical Republicans wanted to punish the South for causing the war.
3. When Lincoln was assassinated, the radical Republicans became even angrier and more determined to punish the South.
4. President Johnson wanted to keep Lincoln's easy policies of letting the South back into the Union easily. They would only have to set up new state governments, abolish slavery and ratify the 13<sup>th</sup> amendment to the Constitution.
5. To help all the free slaves adjust to their new life the "Freedmen's Bureau" was set up.
6. In order to be sure that slaves were considered citizens the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment was passed.

7. The Southern states didn't want the slaves to be treated as citizens or as equals. They passed "Black Codes" which were laws designed to keep slavery in another form.
8. The North was enraged and Congress passed the Reconstruction Act of 1867. This divided the South into 5 military districts.
9. In order to have the troops leave, each state would have to set up a new government pledging their allegiance to the United States, ratify the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment and allow blacks to vote.
10. The "New South" referred to building up the southern economy with more manufacturing ability and getting away from strictly farming.
11. The 15<sup>th</sup> amendment passed in 1870 guaranteed the right of black men to vote.
12. The conflict between President Johnson and Congress over Reconstruction got so bad the House of Representatives voted to impeach the president. It failed by one vote because some senators were worried that this would destroy the power of the presidency in the future.
13. Northerners who came into the south to take advantage of the situation were called "Carpetbaggers". They were hated by the Southerners as opportunistic vermin.
14. The South which legally now had to give slaves their rights turned to violence to keep them from gaining power and any position in society.
15. Within a few years Southern democrats gained control of the Southern state legislatures and reversed all the good done by the Reconstructionists.
16. The Southern states passed "Jim Crow" laws which were designed to take away the new rights blacks had gotten. Examples of these laws were the poll tax and the literacy test which stopped blacks from voting.
17. Also to make sure blacks were afraid to exercise their rights, groups such as the Ku Klux Klan were formed. These groups terrorized and killed blacks.
18. Most blacks lived on farms as "Tenant Farmers". This system was little better than slavery.
19. The result was that even though the slaves were technically free, they still wouldn't be given their rights until the 1960's.
20. Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. Du Bois felt that African Americans should have increased civil rights.
21. The years following the Civil War had a huge increase in technology and industrial production.
22. Andrew Carnegie created a vertical steel industry and monopoly.
23. A "monopoly" happens when one business has total control over a specific market. This bad for consumers because the company can charge anything it wants without competition to keep it in line.
24. A "trust" or "pool" is a combination of large companies working together to control an entire industry. This also greatly decreases competition and greatly raises prices paid by consumers.
25. Different examples of trusts involved the steel industry, railroads and oil.
26. The Interstate Commerce Commission and the Sherman Antitrust Act were passed by Congress to limit monopolies and protect the interests of small business.
27. With all the opportunities businesses gave to people living in the city, it made no sense to stay on small farms. This large movement from rural farms to the urban city was called "urbanization".



## Growth and Transportation

1. During the last part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the United States filled in from coast to coast. The group that were most effected by this were the Indians who were either killed or put on reservations.
2. The Daws Act of 1887 was an attempt to assimilate Native American Indians into American culture. It failed.
3. The reason the country was able to greatly expand was because of the railroad. It allowed goods to be shipped quickly and cheaply.
4. As the railroads became stronger they began to overcharge customers and destroy the competition. They became monopolies.
5. Because the railroads were out of unrestricted (monopoly), Congress was forced to pass legislation to control the railroads.
6. Agriculture was greatly changed with the invention of new technology such as the reaper.
7. The effect of the new technology and growth of large farms was hardest on the small farmers. They were unable to compete with the big farms.
8. The south tried to attract industry but was unsuccessful. The result was the south was very poor and agricultural.
9. Because of the poor economic conditions whites continued to discriminate against blacks. This is called segregation.
10. Segregation was practiced in schools, restaurants, hotels, hospitals and railroads.
11. The Supreme Court in Plessy vs. Ferguson ruled that as long as the conditions that whites and blacks used were the same, discrimination was legal; "Separate But Equal". This would not be changed until the 1960's.
12. The west was filled in because of the railroads and the good farming lands. People also rushed to California to find gold.
13. The Indians were constantly being squeezed by the white settlers. A famous Indian victory was at the Little Big Horn where Custer made his last stand. The defeated Indians were put on reservations where conditions were very bad.
14. The "Open Door Policy" was adopted so that the US could get trading rights in China along with the European imperialists.
15. "Yellow Journalism" describes inaccurate reporting in newspapers meant to raise sentiments. Joseph Pulitzer and William Randolph Hearst used it to generate support for the Spanish-American War.
16. The "Big Stick" and "Dollar Diplomacy" were terms used for American control over South America.
17. The United States built its own little empire. From Spain the U.S. got control of Puerto Rico, Cuba and Guam.
18. Alaska which had been brought from Russia was called "Seward's Folly" because people didn't realize it's value. Alaska has oil, gold and is a valuable spot against the Russians.
19. Hawaii became an American territory in the late 1800's and achieved statehood after World War II. Pearl Harbor is the main naval port for the navy in the Pacific.

20. Supporters of Mahan favored a policy of a strong navy and finding new foreign markets for trade.

## **Discontent and Reform**

1. In order to save time for shipping and to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans it was decided to cut a canal through Panama.
2. The building of the canal was very difficult because of disease and the heat. It was completed in 1914.
3. Because Americans were involved in the governments and businesses of South American countries we were called “Ugly Americans”.
4. In order to improve our image and have cooperation, the Organization of American States was formed.
5. Farmers during this time were not doing well because of new machinery and farming techniques. Overproduction was common driving down the price and leaving the farmers broke.
6. Tenant farmers in the south were also having a bad time. If they produced a normal crop, they didn’t make enough money. If they overproduced, prices went down and they still didn’t have enough money.
7. Making things worse was the high prices being charged by the monopolistic railroads.
8. In order for the farmers to have more power as a group they formed the Granger Movement. This was a cooperative that gave them more buying power and leverage with the railroads.
9. Farmers wanted to have more political strength so they formed the Populist Party to give them more power in Congress.
10. The Populists wanted to increase the amount of silver money making it easier for farmers to repay their debts.
11. Both Populists and Progressives felt that there should be greater control of the government by the people.
12. As the economy became stronger farmers began to have an easier time and the Populist Party died out.
13. Henry Ford invented the assembly line which allowed the mass production of cars at cheap prices. This enabled all Americans to buy cars and built up the economy.
14. Factory workers during this time were working long hours, getting paid low wages and being either injured or killed. Women and children were being treated worse than the men.
15. In order to give the workers more power, unions were formed. The owners used strikebreakers to break union strikes.
16. The government either didn’t get involved in labor disputes or sided with the owners.
17. The first large unions were the Knights of Labor and the American Federation of Labor.
18. The main tactic of unions was to call a strike. When the companies tried to bring in replacement workers riots would break out. The government would send in troops to calm everything down. Other tactics used by employers were blacklists and yellow dog contracts.
19. From the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century through World War 1, the Progressives worked to improve conditions for people working in factories.

20. Samuel Gompers, Terence Powderly and Eugene Debs all worked to improve working conditions.
21. Dorothea Dix, Jane Addams and Jacob Riis were all known as social reformers.
22. Social Darwinism maintained that economic success comes to those who are hardest working and more competent.
23. Muckrakers were people who wrote books and articles about business abuses and bad conditions.
24. One of the most famous muckrakers was Upton Sinclair who wrote “The Jungle”. This book was about the disgusting conditions in the Chicago meat packing industry. As a result laws were passed to clean it up.
25. Because of all the muckrakers, laws were passed to protect children, raise the working age in factories, shortening the work day and making children go to school.
26. Teddy Roosevelt named his administration “The Square Deal” because he wanted to give people a fresh start where their lives would be better.
27. He first went after the railroads, making sure they charged everyone the same prices and that they weren’t too powerful.
28. He passed the Pure Food and Drug Law to protect food and medicine supplies the public used.
29. Roosevelt was a great conservationist and established many national parks and forest safety programs.
30. Under President Taft the 16<sup>th</sup> amendment was passed giving the federal government the right to tax individuals directly. This was called the “Income Tax”.
31. The 17<sup>th</sup> amendment made for direct election of U.S. Senators by the people rather than the state legislatures.
32. Woodrow Wilson passed the Federal Reserve Act which set up a national banking system. It required banks to deposit money with the government and hold reserves. This would cut down on the number of bank panics and failures. It also gives the government a way to control the money supply.
33. As the country grew, immigrants were welcome because they did the work nobody else wanted to do cheaply.
34. As organized labor grew they wanted to stop immigration because they were afraid of falling wages.
35. When the Great Depression hit, immigration came to a stop because there was no work. Today there is restricted immigration but many illegal aliens still get in.

## **World War I**

1. In 1914, America following George Washington’s advise was trying to stay out of WWI. We only wanted to sell munitions to both sides.
2. Causes – M.A.N.I.A (militarism, alliance system, nationalism, imperialism, assassination)
3. The Germans eventually started to sink American ships and President Wilson was forced to ask Congress for a declaration of war.

4. Wilson's "Fourteen Points" was a plan to end wars and set up the League of Nations. It was never ratified by the U.S. Senate and without our participation; the league was powerless and couldn't get anything done.
5. The US Senate didn't pass the Versailles Treaty to keep us out of European problems and entanglements.
6. In 1917, the first Communist government was established in Russia. This began the "Red Scare" where Americans were afraid of communism taking over the entire world.
7. The Washington Conference Treaty of 1921 and the Kellogg-Briand Treaty of 1928 were efforts to maintain peace through international agreements. Did not really work.

## **The Great Depression**

1. The "Roaring 20's" was a time of great prosperity and social change. Women could now vote and were trying to exert more power.
2. The Teapot Dome scandal was a scandal over the government sale of oil fields to private companies. Government officials had taken bribes to allow the sales.
3. When President Harding died, President Coolidge took over and let business run free. Farmers were already in trouble because of over production. These factors would help lead to the Great Depression.
4. In the 1920's, Americans were worried about the large number of immigrants. Different groups tended to live together in cities and kept their ethnic beliefs.
5. "Nativism" is the belief that immigration should be kept to a minimum or stopped to keep out non-americans.
6. Examples of laws that supported nativism were the Chinese Exclusion Act, the Gentlemen's Agreement and the National Origins Act.
7. The Ku Klux Klan which had originally targeted blacks, now included Catholics, Jews and immigrants.
8. Immigration came to a stop when the Great Depression hit.
9. During the 1920's the old conservative, religious right clashed with the modern, liberal left.
10. An example of this was the "Scopes Trial" where a teacher was arrested for teaching Darwin's evolution instead of the Bible's version of creation.
11. 1919 to 1933 Prohibition against drinking alcohol was tried. It didn't work because gangsters were able to supply liquor and everyone wanted to have it.
12. During this time, many blacks moved from the south to the north for better opportunities. The "Harlem Renaissance" was a writing and artistic movement to showcase Black culture.
13. The Great Depression started in 1929. The stock market crashed, banks went out of business and four out of every ten people were out of work. People stood in line for food and had no place to live.
14. Farmers were also very hard hit besides having their usual problems. There was a drought that turned the Midwest into the "Dust Bowl". A million farmers left their homes with many going to California where they were still unable to find jobs.

15. President Hoover was blamed for the Depression and not doing enough to end it. “Hoovervilles and Hoover Blankets” were terms used to show Americans displeasure with him.]
16. President Roosevelt called his program to get business going “The New Deal”. He passed many programs designed to give public work projects a chance to pick up the economy. Most of his programs did little good but made people feel better.
17. The New Deal – Relief, Recovery, Reform
18. Roosevelt declared a “BANK HOLIDAY” to restore public trust in the banking system.
19. An example of FDR’s programs was the Tennessee Valley Authority. This gave people jobs and helped meet the regional electrical needs.
20. The best program started by FDR was Social Security. This would ensure that people who retired had some income for their older years.
21. Because Roosevelt was having many of his programs declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, he decided to “Pack The Court” with more justices of his choice. ( 9 to 14) This too was declared unconstitutional.
22. The National Labor Relations Act (Wagner Act) of 1935 gave labor unions the right to represent workers in collective bargaining.
23. The U.S. didn’t really get out of the Great Depression until World War 2. Manufacturing and jobs became important to support the war.

## World War II

1. Because of the peace treaties that ended WW1, Germany and Japan faced hard economic times. This was made worse by the Great Depression.
2. Dictators in Germany, Italy and Japan promised their people greatness and began to take over other countries to fuel their industrial machines.
3. The U.S. remembering Washington’s works of neutrality and unhappy with the outcome of WW1 wanted to again stay neutral.
4. Congress at first passed laws stopping the United States from supplying any country at war. This became increasingly difficult as Germany and Japan expanded more and more.
5. In 1940, the U.S. started the “Lend-Lease Program” which supplied England with materials to run the war. The United States was seen as the “Arsenal of Democracy”.
6. The U.S. was forced into WW2 when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in Hawaii.
7. The entire productive capacity of American factories was turned into the war effort. Instead of making cars, we produced tanks and planes.
8. During WW2, posters of Rosie the Riveter were used to recruit women to work in wartime industries.
9. Because the Japanese stood out and Americans were paranoid, internment camps were set up. All Japanese including US citizens were forced to live there.
10. In 1944, the Supreme Court decided in Korematsu vs. The United States that the camps were justified based on “military necessity”.
11. World War 2 was fought on two fronts with priority given to Europe. In the Pacific “Island Hopping” was used.

12. The government used rationing of supplies at home to insure that the war effort would not be hurt. Examples of this were will gasoline and nylons.
13. In May 1945, Germany surrendered and the US along with Russia took control of the country. This was the start of the Cold War.
14. In the Pacific the US had reached a point where it was ready to invade Japan. Because it had many islands with caves and mountains it was feared that the US would loose 1 million soilders.
15. The project which created the atomic bomb was called the “Manhattan Project”. President Truman decided to use the atomic bomb to end the war. After Hiroshima and Nagasaki were bombed Japan unconditionally surrendered.
16. American troops took over Japan and we brought American democracy and culture.
17. Convictions of war criminals by courts in Tokyo and Nuremberg after WW2 made government and military officials accountable for war crimes.

## **The Cold War**

1. With World War 2 over, the US and Russia were the two world superpowers.
2. This started the Cold War between American democracy and Russian communism. It was called the Cold War because there was never any real fighting; just a psychological war.
3. Through a series of meetings (Yalta & Potsdam) the US, Russia. England and France decided on the boundary’s and territories to be established after WW2. This would help cause the Cold War.
4. Immediately after the war the United Nations was started. Its purpose is to settle international disputes, fight disease and end hunger. This time the US joined and took its place as a true superpower involved with the rest of the world.
5. The world was now divided into two main camps. The US with its idea of democracy pitted against the communism of Russia.
6. Realizing that the countries now controlled cannot be changed the US started a policy of “containment”. This was designed to stop communism from spreading more. It became know as the “Truman Doctrine”.
7. The fear of communism became so strong that the US government lead by Senator Joseph McCarthy began official investigations which started witch hunts for Communist sympathizers.
8. In order to stop countries from becoming communist, secretary of state George Marshall set up a plan to pump up economies of the countries that had been devastated by war. The “Marshall Plan” was very successful and helped to contain communism.
9. As a response to the creation of West Germany, the communists blocked the supply lines into West Berlin. The Berlin Airlift flew supplies into the city for the next nine months. This helped show the world that the democracies would not give into the communists.
10. Another strategy was the creation of NATO (North American Treaty Organization) which was a defensive alliance of free countries against Russia. If one was attacked, then all the others would come to its defense.

11. Because of communist aggression into North Korea, the US got involved in the Korean War. It was considered a police action sanctioned by the United Nations. After three years of fighting a truce was declared and to this day no peace treaty had been signed.
12. General MacArthur, who lead American troops in the Pacific during WW II was in charge of Korea. He came into conflict with President Truman over what should be done. Truman using his power as Commander In Chief fired MacArthur.

## Civil Rights

1. When the soldiers came back from WW2, the country had to adjust.
2. Men who had been at war wanted to replace women who had worked in the factories.
3. In order to make things better for the returning soldiers, the GI Bill was passed. It gave veterans low cost home loans and money for college.
4. Truman started to work on civil rights by ending racial discrimination in government and in the army.
5. President Eisenhower felt that the greatest threat facing the US was communist aggression. In order to stop an attack on the US, Eisenhower called for a huge build up of nuclear weapons. The “Massive Retaliation’ would destroy any country that attacked us. This helped established a balance of power between the two superpowers.
6. When Russia set off its first atomic bomb, it started the “Red Scare”. Anyone who was thought to be a communist was black listed. They couldn’t get work and were socially snubbed.
7. Hollywood was greatly affected by the Red Scare. Writers and movie studios had to be careful or they were considered communists and had the government on them.
8. The height of communist paranoia was reached with the Senate investigations of Senator Joseph McCarthy. He wildly accused and badgered people and the American public eventually turned against him.
9. The Rosenberg’s were tried for espionage and executed. They were convicted of giving atomic secrets to Russia.
10. In the 1950’s, the economy of the US took off. This was because our factories had not been damaged during WW2 unlike the rest of the major industrial powers. Businesses were growing and franchises became available.
11. Workers were now getting more benefits and service industries began to grow.
12. As the cities became more crowded, people started to move to the suburbs. This was made possible because of improved road and train systems.
13. After WW2, black soldiers returning from the war wanted equal rights. There were a few improvements such as Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier in baseball. However blacks in the south still suffered segregation and violence.
14. Activists such as Cesar Chavez worked to organize poor farm labor into unions.

## The Great Society

1. Blacks tired of segregation and the policy of “separate but equal” which they considered unfair.
2. In *Brown v. Board of Education*, school segregation was declared unconstitutional.
3. In Little Rock, Arkansas, President Eisenhower used federal troops to allow 9 black students to go into an all white high school.
4. Rosa Parks fought for integration by sitting in front of a bus. Martin Luther King became famous as black civil rights leader. He led non-violent demonstrations calling for blacks to have equal rights.
5. In order to prevent blacks from voting, poll taxes and literacy tests were used. Laws were passed to make these illegal.
6. President Kennedy had few victories in Congress. He did get the space program going and started the Peace Corp.
7. The Bay of Pigs invasion was a major embarrassment for the US. Cuba Nationals in an attempt to oust Castro from power invaded the island. They never got the air support President Kennedy had promised them.
8. The Cuban Missile Crisis brought the US and Russia to the brink of nuclear war. Russia had been putting missiles on Cuba which could easily strike the US. President Kennedy put a blockade around Cuba to stop more missiles from getting in. With war only days away, Russia backed down and agreed to pull out the missiles.
9. Both the US and Russia realized that there had to more control on nuclear weapons. They signed the Limited Test Ban Treaty which outlawed above ground nuclear testing.
10. After Kennedy was assassinated, Lyndon Johnson started his “Great Society”. The 1964 Civil Rights Act gave blacks their best civil rights since Reconstruction.
11. Johnson also declared war on poverty, starting programs such as Medicare and Medicaid. Johnson’s biggest problem was Viet Nam. It was a war that couldn’t be won and it caused huge demonstrations at home by college students and anti-war activists.
12. One of the greatest embarrassments was at the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago. The police beat and gassed anti-war demonstrators.
13. The “Domino Theory” said that if Viet-Nam were to fall, one country after another would become communist, falling like dominos.
14. The US realizing that the war in Viet Nam was futile tried to exit gracefully. President Nixon negotiated a cease fire where the US just left the country. 50,000 American troops died for basically nothing.
15. As a result of presidential abuse of power in getting us into Viet-nam, the War Powers Act of 1973 was passed. This greatly limits a presidents power to send troops into battle without Congressional approval.
16. President Nixon started a policy of “Détente”. This was when we tried to get along with the Communists rather than confront them.
17. President Nixon was forced out of office because of the Watergate scandal. Facing impeachment, he chose to resign as President.



## Changing Culture

1. The babies born in the period after WW2 are called the “Baby Boomers”.
2. The baby boomers had much more liberal ideas than their parents. This is called the “Generation Gap”.
3. As the baby boomers are getting older they are causing the federal government to spend more on Social Security.
4. When Rachael Carson wrote the book, “Silent Springs” people started to become aware of the environment. Congress passed laws to protect air and water quality.
5. Conservatives were able to organize themselves into powerful political groups such as The Moral Majority.
6. In 1973, Roe v. Wade gave women the right to an abortion. This setup two groups; the “right to life” (against) and the “pro-choice” (for).
7. President Carter hosting Israel and Egypt helped broker the “Camp David Accords”.
8. “Affirmative Action” is a policy where minority groups such as blacks are given job and educational preference to make up for past injustices and segregation.
9. In 1980 President Reagan who was a conservative was elected President.
10. He believed in supply-side economics. He cut taxes but spent a lot of money building up the military. This caused a big budget deficit.
11. Reagan also helped bring about the end of Communism in Russia. By standing tough and building up our military the Russians were forced to leave Germany and the other countries they had been controlling.
12. Since the 1980’s the Republican Party has been seen as to the right, wanting to limit government and cut taxes. The Democrats are seen as to the left and in favor of spending money on social programs.

## Century’s End

1. One of President Reagan’s pet projects was the “Star Wars” program. It is supposed to use laser satellites to protect against Russian missiles.
2. The Savings and Loan scandal cost the federal government 500 billion dollars. Banks had been making bad loans and the government had to make good on it.
3. NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) between the US and Canada and Mexico. Labor unions were afraid that it would cost American jobs. It did create more competition and lower prices for consumers.
4. President Reagan with his large military buildup put the final nails in the coffin of Russian Communism.
5. President Bush acting with United Nations approval attacked Saddam Hussein’s Iraqi army when he invaded Kuwait. The Iraqi army was pushed back and we never invaded the control until 2003.
6. President Clinton sent troops to Bosnia and Kosovo in response to human rights violations.

## Supreme Court Cases

Marbury v. Madison – Case of the Midnight Judges – established supreme courts right to judicial review

McCulloch v. Maryland – supported use of the elastic clause

Dred Scott v. Sanford – declared that slaves are property and can be transported to free states without fear of loss.

Plessy v. Ferguson – “separate but equal” okay for racial discrimination

Scheck v. United States – set “clear and present danger” standard. Free speech can be restricted during times of war.

Korematsu v. United States – allowed for internment of Japanese during WW II

Brown v. Board of Education – segregation in schools in unconstitutional – Overturned Plessy

Mapp v. Ohio – citizens are protected against unlawful search and seizure by government

Tinker v. Des Moines School District – certain types of nonverbal language are protected as free speech,

Miranda v. Arizona – required police to give arrested individuals their rights to console and not to self-incriminate.

Gideon v. Wainwright – required legal representation be given to those unable to pay for it themselves.

Tinker v. Des Moines – nonverbal communication can be protected under the first amendment

Roe v. Wade – gave women the right to an abortion

United States v. Nixon – limited the president’s right to confidentiality