





U.S. History



The Revolutionary Era

	Benjamin Franklin -- American statesman who convinced France to help the colonists during the Revolution. Franklin was also a member of the 2 nd Continental Congress and a delegate to the Constitutional convention.
	Thomas Paine -- He wrote the pamphlet " <i>Common Sense</i> ". Paine argued that the U.S. should separate from England.
	George Washington -- Commander of the Continental Army during the American Revolution. He was also the 1 st President of the United States.
	<p>Thomas Jefferson -- Author of the Declaration of Independence and 3rd President of the United States.</p> <p>Declaration of Independence -- Lists grievances against King George III and justifies the colonies breaking away from England.</p> <p>Unalienable rights -- rights that cannot be taken away: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.</p>

Causes of the Revolution

- The British taxed the colonies for revenue to pay for the French and Indian War.
- "No taxation without Representation!" -- Colonists resented being taxed without having a voice in Parliament.
- Tax acts passed include the Stamp Act, Sugar Act and Tea Act.
- The Boston Massacre
- The Intolerable Acts

Loyalists -- Americans who supported Great Britain during the revolution.

Patriots -- Americans who favored independence from Great Britain during the revolution

The American Revolution(1775-1783)

The Battle of Saratoga -- The turning point in the Revolution. The French entered the war as allies to the colonists.

The Battle of Yorktown -- Major British defeat that effectively ended the war.

Treaty of Paris (1783) -- The British recognize American independence.

The United States Constitution

Influences

Magna Carta (1215) – Limited the king's powers; provided trial by jury

English Bill of Rights (1687) – Influenced the Constitution by forbidding cruel and unusual punishment; granting the right to bear arms; laws must be passed by the legislative branch; taxes must be approved by the legislative branch

Virginia House of Burgesses – The first form of representative government in the colonies. Thomas Jefferson was a member.

Declaration of Independence (1776) – The Bill of Rights and the Constitution address grievances from the Declaration of Independence. It also lists the unalienable rights: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Federalist Papers (1787-1788) – Essays written to encourage ratification of the Constitution. The authors include Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison.

Replacing the Articles of Confederation

The Articles of Confederation (1781) – First form of government established by the thirteen states. Replaced by the U.S. Constitution because it was a weak form of central government.

Weaknesses include...

- No executive branch to enforce laws
- Congress could not collect taxes
- No national court system
- Each state had only one vote in Congress, regardless of population



The Constitutional convention of 1787

Important Facts

- 1787 – Delegates from the thirteen states drafted the U.S. Constitution in Philadelphia.
- The Preamble is the introduction of the Constitution that states its purpose
- Ratification – to formally approve

-Before it went into effect, 9 out of the 13 states had to ratify the Constitution.

The United States Constitution

Principles of the U.S. Constitution

Separation of Powers – Divides the powers of the govt. into three branches Legislative Branch – makes the laws Executive Branch – executes the laws Judicial Branch – interprets the laws	Checks and Balances – makes sure no branch of the govt. becomes too powerful. <i>Example: The President can veto a bill and Congress has the power to override the veto.</i>
Federalism – Power is shared between the states and national government.	Limited Government – Power of the govt. is restricted by the U.S. Constitution. “No one is above the law.”
Republicanism – A system where people vote for elected representatives to run the govt.	Popular Sovereignty – The people hold supreme power. Addressed in the preamble... “We the people...”

The Bill of Rights

- The first ten amendments of the Constitution
- Protect individual rights and liberties
- The Bill of Rights was necessary in order for some states to ratify the Constitution

1st Amendment – Freedom of speech, religion and press; right to assemble; right to petition

2nd Amendment – Right to bear arms

3rd Amendment – No quartering of soldiers during peace time.

4th Amendment – No unlawful search and seizure

5th Amendment – No double jeopardy; cannot be compelled to be a witness against himself

6th Amendment – The right to a fast and public trial

7th Amendment – Trial by jury

8th Amendment – No cruel or unusual punishment

9th Amendment – Rights reserved to the people

10th Amendment – Powers reserved to the states

STATES RIGHTS, THE CIVIL WAR & RECONSTRUCTION

Nullification Crisis – Argument between South Carolina and the federal govt. over the role of the national government.

- South Carolina opposed a high tariff (tax on imports) implemented by the national govt.
- South Carolina claimed that states had the right to reject (or nullify) any national law that was to its disadvantage.
- The federal govt. disagreed and threatened military action.
- A compromise was reached through Henry Clay.

CIVIL WAR (1861-1865) – War between the North and South from 1861 to 1865.

Causes of the Civil War

- Differences between the North and South over slavery and states' rights.
- Increase of anti-slavery sentiment in the North.
- Lincoln is elected President.



Abraham Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln – President of the United States during the Civil War. Lincoln was the first Republican President and his election encouraged the South to secede from the Union.

Emancipation Proclamation (1863) – Document declaring that all of the slaves in the South were free.

Gettysburg Address – Speech given by Abraham Lincoln after the Battle of Gettysburg.

Results of the Civil War

- Robert E. Lee surrenders at Appomattox Courthouse and the South loses the war.
- Abraham Lincoln is assassinated five days after the war.
- The Southern economy is devastated while the Northern economy becomes stronger than before the war.
- Reconstruction begins.

Reconstruction (1865-1877) – The period after the Civil War in the United States when the southern states were reorganized and reintegrated into the Union; 1865-1877

Reconstruction Amendments

13th Amendment – Abolished slavery.

14th Amendment – Made former slaves citizens and gave equal protection under the law for all citizens.

15th Amendment – African-American males are given the right to vote.

WESTWARD EXPANSION



California Gold Rush (1849) – After gold was discovered in California, over 40,000 people migrated from the East to “strike it rich.”





Great Plains- Grassland of Central North America that extends from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains.

Homestead Act (1862) – Law that provided 160 acres to anyone who was willing to settle land in the West.

Exodusters – African-Americans who migrated to Kansas after Reconstruction.

Cattle Drives – As demand for beef increased, cowboys drove herds of cattle along cattle trails to be shipped to the East by railroad. Famous trails include the Chisholm, Western, and Goodnight-Loving.

Technology on the Great Plains

	Soddy – a house built of mud and grass that was settled in because of a lack of wood on the Great Plains.
	Barbed wire – Used to fence in land on the Great Plains, eventually leading to the end of the open frontier.
	Windmill – allowed dry-land farming by bringing up underground water to irrigate crops on the great Plains.
	Steel Plow – Farm machine used to break up soil to allow the planting of crops. The steel plow made farming more efficient.

Native Americans and A Way of Life



Buffalo – The Great Plains Indians relied on the buffalo to continue their way of life. When the buffalo was killed off, so was the lifestyle of the Plains Indians.

Reservations- Plots of land given to Native Americans to live on as white settlers moved West.

Dawes Act – U.S. law that attempted to assimilate Indians by giving them individual plots of land.

Battle of Wounded Knee – U.S. soldiers massacred 300 unarmed Native Americans in 1890. This ended the Indian Wars.

The Gilded Age

Business During the Gilded Age



Andrew Carnegie – Business tycoon who controlled most of the steel industry. Carnegie was also known as a “Captain of Industry” and a “robber baron.” He was also a philanthropist who gave large amounts of money to charity. “The Gospel of Wealth” was Carnegie’s famous essay about the role of industrialists.



John Rockefeller – Business tycoon who owned Standard Oil and controlled 90% of the oil industry in the late 1800’s. He was able to control the industry by making Standard Oil a trust.

Monopolies – Situation in which one company controls the supply of a product or service.

Trusts – Small companies join together to form one large company.

Laissez faire – The idea that government should not interfere with business practices.

“Social Darwinism” – The belief that the rich succeed because they are superior to the poor. This belief was applied to big business during the Gilded Age.

Reactions to Big Business

Sherman Antitrust Act – Outlawed business monopolies.

Labor Unions – Organizations that protected the interests of the worker.

- Labor unions dealt with the dangerous conditions and long working hours that workers were faced with.
- They helped create the 40-hour work week and end child labor practices.
- Famous labor unions include the Knights of Labor and American Federation of Labor (AFL).
- Labor unions helped organize strikes to protest the injustices of the workplace.

Industrialization& Urbanization

Industrialization – The rise of a manufacturing economy and decline of an agricultural economy.

Urbanization – The large growth of cities. With urbanization came a large range of urban problems including sanitation, transportation, and crowded living conditions.



Jane Addams

Jane Addams – Founder of Chicago’s Hull House: campaigned for feminists and child labor reform.

Settlement houses – Community centers that helped immigrants address the problems of squalid living conditions, disease, illiteracy, and unemployment.

The Gilded Age

Politics During the Gilded Age



William Tweed

Political machines – Corrupt organized groups that controlled political parties in the cities. A political boss leads the machine and attempts to grab more votes for his party.

Tweed Ring Scandal -- Political scandal involving William Tweed and the Tammany Hall political machine in New York City.

Pendleton Service Act – Appoints government jobs on merit and qualifications. This was designed to prevent the “spoils system” and patronage.

Immigrants

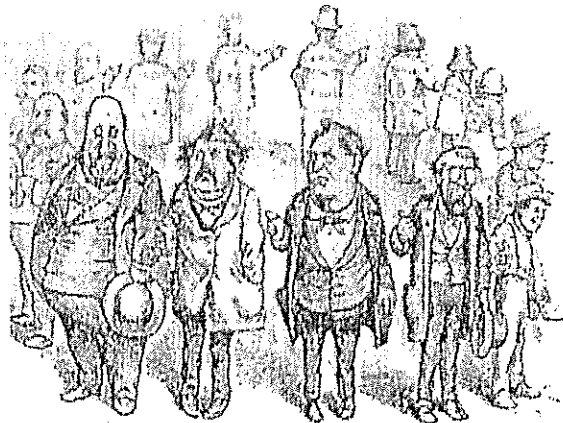
- About 20 million European immigrants arrived in the U.S. between 1870 and 1920.
- Before 1890, most immigrants came from Western and Northern Europe. These were known as the “Old Immigrants.”
- An increase of Southern and Eastern immigrants occurred after 1890. They were known as the “New Immigrants” and their arrival increased social tension.
- 300,000 Chinese immigrants arrived between 1851 and 1883.

Tenements- Apartments built in city slums to house large numbers of people. Many immigrants were forced to live in tenements in “slum” neighborhoods.

Sweat shops- A small factory where workers are paid very little and work many hours in bad conditions. Immigrants were considered cheap labor and paid very little for their work.

Child Labor was a major problem during the Gilded Age.

Political cartoons by Thomas Nast helped raise awareness of political corruption.



The Progressive Era

Goals of Progressivism:

- Protect social welfare
- Create economic reform
- Political reform of government

Important terms:

Muckraker – Reporters and writers who exposed government corruption and the abuses of big business.

Suffrage – The right to vote.

Important Legislation:

16th Amendment - Established the federal income tax.

17th Amendment - The direct election of U.S. Senators. Made govt. more responsive to the people.

18th Amendment - The Prohibition of alcohol.

19th Amendment - The right to vote for women.

Initiative - Procedure by which citizens can propose a law to be placed on a ballot.

Recall - Procedure by which a public official may be removed from office by popular vote.

Referendum – A vote on an initiative.

The photographs of Jacob Riis helped expose the poor living conditions of the inner city.



The Progressive Era

Theodore Roosevelt's Impact



Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt

Trustbuster – Term used to describe Roosevelt's attempt to reform big business by breaking up trusts.

Conservation – The preservation of wilderness areas.

Meat Inspection Act – Provides govt. inspection of meat.

Pure Food and Drug Act – Regulation of the preparation of foods and the sale of medicines.

Bull Moose Party – Roosevelt's political party in the election of 1912. Roosevelt ran as a third-party candidate.

Important People:



Susan B. Anthony- Leader of the women's suffrage movement.



Robert LaFollette – Wisconsin Senator who helped reform government at the state level



W.E.B. Du Bois - Early civil rights leader and founder of the NAACP. DuBois demanded equality for African-Americans.



Eugene V. Debs- Labor leader who attempted to form a labor union of skilled and unskilled workers. In 1912, he ran for President under the Socialist Party as a third-party candidate. He won 6% of the popular vote.



Upton Sinclair- Author of The Jungle, a book that describes the terrible conditions of meat-packing plants and the struggles the immigrants faced. Led to the Meat Inspection Act and Pure Food and Drug Act.



Woodrow Wilson- The last President of the Progressive Era. Wilson passed the Clayton Antitrust Act which continued to crack down on monopolies.

Imperialism

Imperialism – the process of a stronger nation controlling a weaker territory through political, economic, or military means.



Alfred Thayer Mahan – U.S. admiral who encouraged the U.S. to strengthen its naval power to become a world power.

Expansionism



Alaska (1867) – Purchased from Russia in 1867. Alaska was known as “Seward’s Folly” and was initially considered a bad purchase.

Hawaii (1898) – Queen Liliuokalani was removed from power and Hawaii was annexed by the United States in 1898.

Spanish American War (1898)

Causes of the Spanish-American War

- Spanish cruelty – Spain’s military abused power and mistreated Cubans
- Yellow Journalism – News that exaggerates the truth in order to get a reaction
- De Lome Letter – Letter intercepted from a Spanish ambassador criticizing President McKinley of the United States
- U.S.S. Maine – U.S. warship blown up in Havana Harbor off the coast of Cuba. The Spanish were blamed and war was declared.

Results of the Spanish-American War

- Spain loses most of its empire
- The Platt Amendment allows the U.S. to control Cuba
- The U.S. acquired the territories of the Philippines, Guam, and Puerto Rico
- The U.S. increases its strength as a world power

Teddy Roosevelt and Imperialism



Rough Riders – Volunteer cavalry unit led by Teddy Roosevelt that gained fame at the battle of San Juan Hill.

Roosevelt Corollary – Teddy Roosevelt declared that the U.S. would act as an international police power in Latin America.

Panama Canal – Man-made waterway that connects the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. Roosevelt was President when construction began in 1904.

Open Door Policy – Ensured that the United States could trade with China.

WORLD WAR I (1914-1918)

Causes of World War I

Militarism	Nations built large armies to help them secure their empires.
Alliances	European nations signed secret treaties with each other that created a system of alliances.
Imperialism	Competition between European countries to create empires.
Nationalism	Strong feelings of pride for one's country.

Important Dates

1914 - World War I begins in Europe

1917- The United States enters WWI on the Allied side

1918- The Allies win WWI when Germany surrenders

Important People



Archduke Franz Ferdinand- Archduke of Austria Hungary assassinated by a Serbian in 1914. His murder was one of the causes of World War I.



Woodrow Wilson- President of the United States during World War I. Wilson wanted to fight the war "to make the world safe for democracy."



Gen. John Pershing - The commander of the American Expeditionary Force during World War I. Under his leadership, American forces helped end the stalemate and led the Allies to victory.



Henry Cabot Lodge - U.S. Senator who opposed the League of Nations.

Allied Powers	Central Powers
- Great Britain	- Germany
- France	- Austria-Hungary
- The United States	- The Ottoman Empire
- Russia	- Bulgaria
- Serbia	

WORLD WAR I (1914-1918)

Reasons for U.S. Involvement in WWI

Close Ties with the Allies – Americans and British spoke the same language. We shared the notion of democracy. Many Americans traced their ancestry to Great Britain.

Unrestricted Submarine Warfare – German policy of sinking any ships in the water, including merchant and passenger ships.



Lusitania – British passenger ship that was destroyed by a German submarine. 128 Americans were killed.

Zimmerman Note- Telegram sent by Germany, proposing that Mexico ally itself with Germany if the United States entered the war. In return, Mexico would receive land that it had lost to the United States.

Key Terms:



French Warfare- Opposing sides attack from ditches instead of in an open battlefield.

New weapons introduced during the war: machine guns, poison gas, tanks, and airplane warfare or “dog fighting.”

Stalemate- A situation where neither side can gain an advantage in combat.

Battle of Argonne Forest – Battle that led to the surrender of the German army and the end of WWI.

Wilson's Fourteen Points – Woodrow Wilson's proposal for peace after WWI. Wilson called for freedom of the seas, ending secret treaties, a League of Nations and other peaceful measures.

League of Nations – International organization formed after WWI to help solve disputes between countries. The United States did not join and it was considered a failure.

Treaty of Versailles – The treaty that ended WWI. It blamed Germany for WWI and handed down harsh punishment. The treatment of Germany in the treaty helped lead to the rise of Adolf Hitler and WWII.

The Roaring Twenties

Important People



Henry Ford – Automobile manufacturer who created the Model T and began to mass-produce the automobile. Ford used the assembly line to speed up production and satisfy demand. The assembly line lowered the prices to make the automobile more affordable for an average American.



William Jennings Bryan – The prosecutor in the Scopes Trial. He supported creationism in school. He is also famous for the “Cross of Gold” speech that argued against using the gold standard to back money.



Clarence Darrow – Defended John Scopes during the Scopes Trial. He argued that evolution should be taught in schools.



Charles Lindbergh – American pilot who made the first non-stop flight across the Atlantic Ocean.



Sacco and Vanzetti – Anarchists and Italian immigrants accused of murder. Both were convicted and sentenced to death. Because of their political stance and nationality, they were not given a fair trial.

Political Issues



Red Scare – The fear that Communists were going to take over the United States in the 1920's. This fueled people's suspicions of foreigners and led to immigrant quotas.






Teapot Dome Scandal – The prime example of corruption during Warren G. Harding's Presidency.

Economic Issues: Causes of Prosperity during the 1920's

- Government policies that reduced govt. interference in business
- The growth and use of the automobile industry
- Efficient production techniques such as the assembly line
- Mass consumerism from the American public

The Roaring Twenties

Social Issues

 <p>Flappers</p>	<p>Women's Issues in the 1920's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flappers embraced urban attitudes and fashions. - Women began to demand more freedom and assert their independence. - A double standard between men and women still existed.
 <p>Al Capone</p>	<p>Prohibition – Reform movement that banned the sale and consumption of alcohol. It also increased organized crime.</p> <p>18th Amendment – Prohibition is enacted and alcohol is illegal.</p> <p>21st Amendment – The 18th Amendment is repealed and Prohibition ends.</p>
	<p>The Scopes Trial – The famous "Monkey Trial" that pitted creationism against Darwin's theory of evolution. The trial represented the clash between science and fundamentalist religion.</p>

Cultural Issues

The Jazz Age – Term coined by F. Scott Fitzgerald to describe the 1920's.

Jazz – A popular form of music. Famous jazz composers include Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington.

The Great Migration – The mass migration of African-Americans to Northern cities from 1910 to 1930.

The Harlem Renaissance – Period of African-American cultural creativity in music, art, and literature during the 1920's, centered in Harlem. *Ex: poet Langston Hughes.*

The paintings of Georgia O'Keeffe, including those focusing on New York City:



The Great Depression

1929-1940

Programs during the Great Depression



Hoover Dam (Boulder Dam) – Dam built on the Colorado River to help stimulate business and provide jobs.

Roosevelt's New Deal

The New Deal – Roosevelt's program to fight the Great Depression.

FDIC (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation) - Provided insurance for people's bank accounts.

SEC (Securities and Exchange Commission) – Govt. agency that regulates the stock market.

Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA) – Law that attempted to raise crop prices by lowering production.

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) – Public works program that gave jobs to young men. The workers planted trees, fought forest fires and built public parks.

Works Progress Administration (WPA) – Created jobs by hiring writers and artists.

Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) – Program that build dams in the Tennessee Valley area in order to control flooding and provide electric power.

*** Social Security Act *** – The most important act of the New Deal. Social Security provided unemployment insurance, aid to the disabled, old age pensions, and insurance for families.



- FDR battles the Supreme Court – The Supreme Court had declared several New Deal programs unconstitutional. In order to get his programs passed, FDR tried to add more members to the Supreme court, a tactic known as court-packing.

- WWII brought us out of the Depression by creating jobs in industry and the military.

WORLD WAR II (1941-1945)








Important Dates

1939 – Adolf Hitler invades Poland. WWII begins.

1941 – Japan attacks Pearl Harbor naval base in Hawaii. As a result, the U.S enters the war.

1945 – Germany is defeated to end the war in Europe. The atomic bomb is dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to end the war in the Pacific.

Important People

	Franklin D. Roosevelt – President of the United States during WWII. Declared war on Japan after the attack on Pearl Harbor.
	Harry Truman – President of the United States during WWII. Made the decision to use the atomic bomb on Japan.
	Gen. Dwight Eisenhower – U.S. general in Europe during World War II. He was in charge of the Invasion of Normandy (D-Day).
	Gen. Douglas MacArthur – U.S. general in charge of the Allied forces in the Pacific Ocean.
	Gen. George Patton – U.S. general who led the U.S. Third Army and helped liberate Paris.
	Gen. Omar Bradley – U.S. general who led the U.S. 1 st Army during the Invasion of Normandy.
	Gen. George Marshall - Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army during World War II. He oversaw all military operations in the War in Europe. After the war, he was responsible for the Marshall Plan.

Allied Powers	Axis Powers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Great Britain - France - United States - Soviet Union 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Germany - Italy - Japan

WORLD WAR II (1941-1945)

Causes of World War II

- Harsh treatment of Germany after World War I
- The rise of dictators and totalitarianism in Europe
- Germany's invasion of Poland

The War in the Pacific

Pearl Harbor – On December 7, 1941, Japan attacked the United States naval base at Pearl Harbor. As a result, the U.S. enters the war.

Battle of Midway – The turning point in the war in the Pacific. This pivotal battle dealt a severe blow to the Japanese navy.

Island-hopping -- Allied naval strategy to reach Japan by taking one island at a time.

The atomic bomb – Powerful weapon dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Harry Truman made the decision to drop the bomb in an effort to reduce American casualties. As a result, WWII ends.

The War in Europe

The Holocaust – The mass murder of 6 million Jews and others in Nazi concentration camps.

Two-front war – Germany was forced to fight British and American troops from the West and Russia from the East. This divided Germany's army in two and helped the Allies gain the advantage in Europe.

Invasion of Normandy (D-Day) – On June 6, 1944, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower led an Allied attack on German-controlled France. The Allied forces won the battle, causing German forces to retreat.

The Homefront

- Entering WWII helped the United States end the Great Depression.
- Rationing: Restricting the supply of items used by the public during wartime.
- Internment of Japanese-Americans: Forcing over 100,000 Japanese-Americans to relocate to crowded prison camps during WWII



Rosie the
Riveter

- During the war, women and minorities played a large role at home.
- Women and minorities were asked to fill the jobs that were left behind by soldiers going overseas.

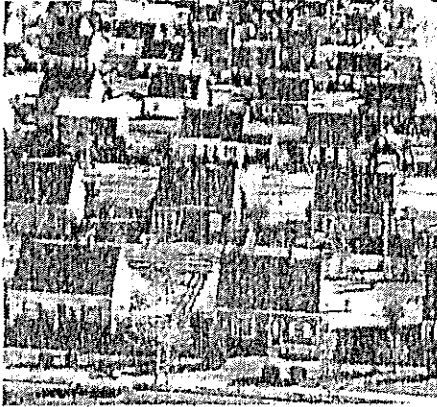
POST-WAR AMERICA (1945 – 1974)

Life under Harry Truman (1945-1952)



GI Bill- A 1944 law that gives military veterans financial and educational benefits.

Taft-Hartley Act- Law passed in 1947 that struck a blow to the power of the labor union. The bill overturned many rights won by unions under the New Deal.



Suburbs- Communities built on the outskirts of major cities. Levittown was the first suburb community.

The Baby Boom- The period from the end of World War II through the mid-1960s marked by unusually high birth rates.

Life under Dwight Eisenhower (1953-1960)



Interstate Highway Act (1956) - Authorized the building of a national highway system. The new roads encouraged the development of suburbs away from the city.

Rock N' Roll – Form of music that became popular in the 1950's.

Life under John F Kennedy (1961-1963)



- Kennedy and Richard Nixon were involved in the first televised debate.

Pence Corps- Volunteer program that helped developing nations.

New Frontier – Kennedy's program that addressed social and international concerns and the expansion of the space program

NASA – The United States' space agency that sent Americans into outer-space. In 1969, the first man landed on the moon.

20 - On November 22, 1963, John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, Texas

POST-WAR AMERICA (1945 – 1974)

Life under Lyndon B. Johnson (1963-1968)



Great Society – Lyndon Johnson's program that addressed America's social problems including health care, civil rights, and urban decay.

The War on Poverty– Johnson's agenda designed to help poor Americans. This included the head Start program and Job Corps Training.

Medicare (1965) – Federal program that provides health insurance to Americans over the age of 65.

Medicaid (1965) – Program that provides health insurance for people on welfare.

HUD (Housing and Urban Development) – The federal department responsible for the major housing programs in the United States.

Johnson's Civil Rights record – Civil rights was a focal point during the Johnson administration and many laws were passed during his Presidency including:

- The Civil Rights Act of 1964 - Made discrimination based on race, religion or national origin in public places illegal
- The Voting Rights Act of 1965 - eliminated literacy tests for voters.
- 24th Amendment- abolished the poll tax.
- The Civil Rights Act of 1968 - Prohibited discrimination in the sale or rental of housing.

Life under Richard Nixon (1969-1974)



26th Amendment – Gave voting rights to Americans 18 years and older.

Nixon's trip to China – In 1972, Nixon visited China, a Communist nation, to open up diplomatic and economic relations. This was seen as a success with the American public.

Watergate- A political scandal involving abuse of power and bribery and obstruction of justice; led to the resignation of Richard Nixon in 1974.

The Cold War Era

Important Terms and Events

Containment – The policy that the United States should prevent communism from spreading to other nations.

United Nations (1945) – International organization formed after WWII to serve as a peacekeeper in world conflicts. The United States and Soviet Union used the UN to promote their beliefs during the Cold War.

Truman Doctrine (1947) – U.S. policy that gave military and economic aid to countries threatened by communism.



Marshall Plan (1948) – Program, proposed by Gen. George Marshall, to help European countries rebuild after WWII. The United States offered economic aid to the war-torn countries.

NATO (1949) – North Atlantic Treaty Organization. A military alliance formed between the United States, Canada and ten western European countries.

Berlin Airlift – U.S. operation that flew food and supplies into West Berlin after the Soviet Union set up a blockade in 1948.

Korean War (1950-1953)

- After WWII, Korea was divided between North and South at the 38th parallel.
- North Korea (Communist) invaded South Korea (Democratic) in 1950.
- As a result, the United States sent troops to help the South Koreans.
- In 1953, the war ended in a stalemate but South Korea remained a democracy.

The Rosenbergs (1951) – An American couple who were accused of Communism and helping the Soviet Union obtain information about the atomic bomb. They were found guilty and sentenced to death.

Nuclear weapons- In 1952, the U.S. successfully detonated the H-Bomb, the first nuclear weapon. The Soviet Union exploded a nuclear weapon in 1953. The arms race followed as both countries amassed more nuclear weapons.



Joe McCarthy – Senator from Wisconsin who became famous by accusing people of being Communists without providing evidence.

McCarthyism (1954) – Witch-hunt of suspected Communists in the early 1950's. This tactic was used by Joseph McCarthy.

The Cold War Era



Sputnik (1957) – the first man-made satellite to be launched into outer space. Sputnik was a success for the Soviet Union and a symbolic success for communism. This caused the United States to increase interest in its space program and a space race developed between the United States and the Soviet Union.

U-2 Incident (1960) – A U-2 spy plane was shot down over the Soviet Union and the pilot, Francis Gary Powers, was captured. This increased tension between the Soviet Union and the United States.

Berlin Wall (1961) – A wall built by the Soviets to separate East and West Berlin. The wall stood until 1989 when communism collapsed.



Bay of Pigs (1961) – A failed invasion of Cuba planned by the United States government. The U.S. used Cuban exiles to invade Cuba but were soundly defeated by the Cuban military.

Cuban Missile Crisis (1962) – A standoff between the United States and the Soviet Union when it was discovered that the Soviets had installed missiles pointed at the United States. The United States pledged not to invade Cuba when the Soviet Union removed the missiles.



Vietnam War (1954-1975) – A war between the communist armies of North Vietnam who were supported by the Chinese and the non-communist armies of South Vietnam who were supported by the United States.

- At home, the nation was divided over U.S. involvement in the war.
- The United States withdrew and South Vietnam was overtaken by communists in 1975.

Domino theory – The belief that if a nearby nation becomes communist, surrounding nations will follow suit.

Tonkin Gulf Resolution – Congressional approval that gave President Lyndon B. Johnson the power to escalate the war in Vietnam.

Hawks – Supporters of the Vietnam War who believed the U.S. should increase military force in order to win the war.

Doves – Critics of the Vietnam War who believed the U.S. should withdraw.

War Powers Act- A law passed in 1973 that limited the President's right to send troops into battle without Congressional approval.

CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

The Struggle for Freedom



Frederick
Douglass

Slavery – Bound in servitude as the property of another person. The slave trade brought slaves from Africa to the colonies and the United States.

Abolition movement – The movement to end slavery. Famous abolitionists include Frederick Douglass and William Lloyd Garrison.

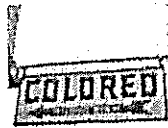
Emancipation Proclamation (1863) – during the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln freed all slaves in the Confederate states. Slave states loyal to the Union were allowed to keep their slaves.

13th amendment – Abolished slavery

14th amendment – Gave all U.S. citizens equal protection under the law regardless of color.

15th amendment – Gave African-American men the right to vote

Early Struggles for Equality



Segregation – separation of races

Jim Crow laws – Southern race laws that encouraged segregation and discrimination against African-Americans



Plessy v. Ferguson (1896) – Supreme Court decision that upheld segregation and said that "separate but equal" facilities were legal.

Techniques used to prevent voting:

- Poll taxes
- Literacy tests
- The Grandfather clause
- Racial violence with the Ku Klux Klan and others

Early African-American Leaders



W.E.B. Du Bois – Early civil rights leader and founder of the NAACP. DuBois demanded equality for African-Americans.



Booker T. Washington – Early African-American leader who believed African-Americans should achieve economic independence before social equality.

CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Important People



Rosa Parks – Refused to give up her seat to a white passenger. After she was jailed, the Montgomery bus boycott was organized.



Malcolm X – Black Muslim leader who argued for separation, not integration, and influenced the Black Power movement. He changed his stance but was assassinated in 1965.



Shirley Chisholm – The first African-American woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.



Martin Luther King Jr. – Civil Rights leader during the 1950's and 60's. He helped organize the Montgomery bus boycott to protest segregation on buses. He organized the March on Washington where he delivered his "I Have A Dream" speech. King was assassinated in 1968.

Important Terms

Brown v. Board of Education (1954) – Supreme Court decision that made segregation illegal in public schools.

The Little Rock Nine – Group of African-American students that were integrated into an all-white school in 1957.

24th Amendment – Abolished the poll tax.

Civil Rights Act of 1964 – Made discrimination based on race, religion or national origin in public places illegal and required employers to hire on an equal opportunity basis.

Reynolds v. Sims (1964) – Ruled that state legislature districts had to be roughly equal in population.

Regents of the University of California v. Bakke (1978) – Supreme Court case dealing with affirmative action.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Transportation



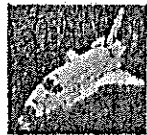
Transcontinental railroad- Completed in 1869, it helped connect the West and East coasts. It made transportation of people and goods faster and helped jumpstart industry.



Automobile – The automobile transformed the American landscape. It made the biggest impact on the economy from the 1920s until the 1970s.



Airplane – In 1903, the Wright Bros. conducted the first successful flight of an airplane. Since then, the airplane has been used for military purposes and the transportation of people and goods.



Space Travel – In 1961, the Soviets put the first man in space. In 1969, the Americans put the first man on the moon. Today, astronauts use space shuttles and other aircraft to travel in space.

Communication & Entertainment



Telegraph – Invented by Samuel Morse, the telegraph was the first machine to enable long-distance communication. The telegraph used the Morse code to translate codes.



Telephone – Invented by Alexander Graham Bell in 1876, the telephone allowed people to transmit messages from long distances.



Radio – This invention allowed communication through wireless sound waves making voice transmission possible. By the 1930s, the radio was a major source of entertainment and advertising.



Television – The television became popular in the 1950's. By 1960, 90% of American households had a television. The television is a main source of entertainment and advertising.



Computer – Computers were developed in the late 1940s and are the most important invention of the last 50 years. Computers have transformed life at home and in the workplace.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Medicine



Penicillin – Penicillin is an antibiotic used to cure or stop the spread of certain infections. The development helped people survive infections that would normally kill.

Polio Vaccine – In the early 1950s, Jonas Salk invented the vaccine for polio, a crippling disease. The most famous person affected by polio was President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Agriculture



Barbed wire – Used to fence in ranches on the great Plains, eventually leading to the end of the open frontier.



Windmill – allowed dry-land farming by bringing up underground water to irrigate crops on the great Plains.



Steel Plow – Farm machine used to break up soil to allow the planting of crops. The steel plow made farming more efficient.

Other Revolutionary Developments



Steel – Steel is a light, flexible and rust-resistant metal that helped in the development of structures such as bridges, cars and skyscrapers.

Bessemer Steel Process – the technique used to convert iron-ore into steel.



Electricity – In 1880, the light bulb, invented by Thomas Edison, was patented and helped change business. In the 1920s, electricity was widespread in American homes and household appliances made life easier.



Petroleum-based products – These products are used in our everyday life and include gasoline, oil, and asphalt. Gasoline powers vehicles. Asphalt is used to construct the nation's highways. Oil provides about 40% of the energy that Americans consume.

Important Terms

Important Economic systems

Traditional Economy – An economic system in which economic decisions are made on the basis of customs.

Example: Poor developing nations such as Congo or Bangladesh.

Command Economy – An economy in which economic decisions (supply, prices, etc.) are made by the government rather than by market forces.

Example: Communist nations such as the former Soviet Union or Cuba.

Free Enterprise Economy – A system by which people can conduct business free of government control except for reasonable regulations made for the public good.

Example: Wealthy developed nations such as the United States.

Subsistence Agriculture – The farmer produces just enough to support himself and his family with nothing left for purchasing manufactured goods.

Market-oriented Agriculture – Agricultural goods are produced in mass quantities with the intention of selling them on the market.

Cottage Industries – Business or industry in which goods are produced primarily in the home of the producer for local or family use.

Commercial Industries – A business or industry that employs a large number of workers to produce goods in a factory.

Megalopolis – A region made up of several large cities and their surrounding areas.

Communism vs. Democracy

- Controlled by a dictator	- Election of a President or leader
- The govt. owns all property	- Private property is allowed
- One political party	- Multiple political parties
- Government controls the economy and wealth is distributed equally.	- Relies on a free market economy or capitalism.

Important Terms

Immigration - Movement of people into a country from another country.

Migration - the movement of persons from one location to another.

Spatial Diffusion – To spread from within a community or from one community to another.

Examples:

-**Bubonic Plague** - the epidemic experienced during the Middle Ages which killed nearly 1/3 of western Europe. Also known as the Black Death.

-**Columbian Exchange** – the exchange of crops, animals, disease and ideas of different cultures after Europeans landed in the Americas.

The Americas contribution	European contribution
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Maize, potatoes, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, peanuts, most beans, and squash- Environmental preservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Horses, pigs, sheep, goats, burros, and cattle- Disease such as small pox, influenza and the measles- Wheat, oranges, onions, lemons

Developed Nations - Countries that have achieved a high degree of industrialization and enjoy higher standards of living made possible by wealth and technology.

Developing Nations – Countries that have a lower standard of living and less industrialization than the world average.

Indicators of Developed and Developing Nations:

Developed Nations	Developing Nations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- A high GDP- High literacy rates- Longer life expectancy- Mass consumption of natural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- low income per person- High infant mortality rates.- Low literacy rates.- low income and high population growth