**Important Dates**

* **1607 – Jamestown, Virginia** first permanent English settlement
* **1620 – Arrival of Pilgrims;** signing of **Mayflower Compact**
* **1776 – Declaration of Independence** is written by **Thomas Jefferson**
* **1787 – Constitution** is written (and ratified) by **James Madison**
* **1803 – Louisiana Territory** is purchased by **Thomas Jefferson**  from France for $15 million
* **1861-1865 – Civil War** between the Union (North) and the Confederacy (South)

**Colonial America 1607 – 1774**

**Documents:**

* **Magna Carta (1215)** – protected the rights of citizens
* **Fundamental Orders of Connecticut (1639) -** considered the first written colonial constitution
* **English Bill of Rights (1689)** – influenced the U. S. Bill of Rights

**Government**: House of Burgesses (1619) – first representative government

**Why were the 13 colonies founded? The 3 G’s**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| God - Religion | Gold- Money | Glory |
| To escape religious persecution | Looking for Gold | Establishment of English colonies |
| To spread Christianity | Mercantilism – raw materials from colonies | Gaining world power |

**New England Colonies** – cold, rocky soil, ship building, whaling

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Influences on Colonial Government | |
| Thomas Hooker | colonial leader, who founded the Colony of Connecticut |
| William Penn | established the colony of Pennsylvania as a refuge for Quakers |
| Charles de Montesquieu | the theory of separation of powers influenced the writing of the U.S. Constitution |
| John Locke | philosopher who believed in the protection of individual rights including life, liberty and property |
| William Blackstone | Commentaries on the Laws of England influenced the legal system in the colonies and the U.S. |

* Connecticut, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island
* Settled by the Puritans and Pilgrims searching for religious freedom

**Middle Colonies –** “Breadbasket,” crops grown for profit

* + New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware
  + Founded for trading, religious freedom, equality (Quakers)

**Southern Colonies** – Long growing season, tobacco, cotton

* + Virginia, Maryland, North/South Carolina, Georgia
  + Religious freedom (Catholics) – Maryland
  + Home for debtors – Georgia
  + Demand for cotton led to slave labor

**Revolution and Independence**

**Causes of the American Revolution**

* English debt from the **French and Indian War** **(1754-63)**
* **Proclamation of 1763** - Prevented colonists from moving west of the Appalachian Mountains
* **Sugar Act (1765)** – Tax place on sugar and other products shipped to the colonies – Colonists cried, “No taxation without Representation.”
* **Stamp Act (1765)** – all paper documents had to carry a tax stamp – Sons of Liberty began to form led by **Samuel Adams**
* **Boston Massacre** **(1770)** – English soldiers fired on colonists, killing 5
* **Tea Act (1773)** – British taxed tea
* **Boston Tea Party (1773)**– colonists boarded the ships and destroyed British tea by throwing it into Boston Harbor
* **Intolerable Act (1774)** – Punished Boston for the Tea Party by closing Boston Harbor

**Battles of the American Revolution**

* **Lexington/Concord (April 1775) –** 1st battles of the American Revolution
* **Saratoga(1777) –** The turning point of the war; the French begin to support the colonists in their fight for independence
* **Valley Forge (Winter 1777) –** Washington’s winter camp
* **Yorktown (1781) –** Last battle of the American Revolution
* **Treaty of Paris** **(1783)–** ended the American Revolution; the 13 colonies = the United States of America

**Important People**

* **King George III** – King of England
* **George Washington –** Commander of the Continental Army; 1st president
* **Samuel Adams** – Leader of the Sons of Liberty
* **Benjamin Franklin** –urged France to support the colonies; signed the D of I and the Constitution
* **Thomas Jefferson** – Father of the Declaration of Independence; 3rd president, bought Louisiana Purchase
* **Thomas Paine** – Author of “Common Sense;” urged Americans to fight for independence
* **Patrick Henry –** “Give me Liberty or Give me Death!”
* **Wentworth Cheswell –** an African-American patriot, who warned colonists of the arrival of British troops
* **Mercy Otis Warren –** was a patriot writer and the first women historian of the Amerian Revolution
* **Bernardo Galvez –** sealed off the port of New Orleans so that British ships could not use the Miss. river
* **Haym Salomon-** lent money to the 13 colonies to finance the American Revolution
* **James Armistead-** an African American spy during the American Revolution
* **Cripus Attucks–**the first American to die (Boston Massacre) in the colonists’ fight for independence

**Declaration of Independence (July 4, 1776)** – Grievances against King George III

* No taxation without representation in Parliament
* Colonists deprived of trial by jury
* Colonists could not pass local laws

**Unalienable rights** – Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness

**Articles of Confederation**  **(1781)** - 1st American Constitution

**Northwest Ordinance** **(1787)** – decided how new territory was settled and application for statehood

**Constitution and New Government**

**Constitutional Convention (1787)**

* Created a new constitution to correct the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation
* **Great Compromise** – Combined the New Jersey and Virginia Plans to create **Congress**
* **House of Representatives** – based on population
* **Senate** – 2 senators from each state
* **3/5s Compromise** – Slaves would be counted as 3/5s of a person for representation

**U. S. Constitution ( 1787)** – Blueprint/framework for American Government

* **Popular Sovereignty** – authority of government comes from the people
* **Republicanism –** people are represented by elected officials
* **Federalism** – shared power between state and federal governments
* **Separation of Powers** – The 3 branches of government (Executive, Legislative, and Judicial) have their own powers and limitations
* **Executive** – President – Enforces the laws
* **Legislative** – Congress – Makes the laws
* **Judicial -**  Supreme Court – Interprets the laws
* **Checks and Balances** – prevents each branch from becoming more powerful than the other branches
* **Bill of Rights** – 1st ten amendments to the Constitution

**George Washington’s Farewell Address (1796)**

* Urged America to remain neutral in foreign affairs and not to form political parties

**Political Parties**

**Federalists led by Alexander Hamilton**

* Strong central government; pro-British; favored national bank
* Economy based on manufacturing

**Democratic-Republicans led by Thomas Jefferson**

* Strong state government; pro-French; opposed national bank
* Economy based on agriculture

**Marbury v. Madison (1803) -** Strengthened the principle of **judicial review**

**War of 1812**

* British tried to prevent U.S. from trading with other countries, affecting the U.S. economy
* British kidnapped American soldiers to work on British ships
* Treaty of Ghent – ended the war of 1812
* Francis Scott Key – wrote the “Star Spangled Banner”

**Monroe Doctrine (1821)**

* President James Monroe stated that the Americas were closed to further European colonization; U.S. would not interfere in European affairs if Europe did not interfere with American affairs

**Inventions, Industrialization, Transportation and Reforms**

**Inventions**

* **Benjamin Franklin** – Franklin stove, bifocals; **Eli Whitney** – Cotton gin, interchangeable parts
* **Robert Fulton** – Steamboat; **Elias Howe** – Sewing machine; **John Deere** – steel plow
* **Cyrus McCormick** – mechanical reaper; **Samuel Morse** – telegraph

**Industrialization**

* Gradually human and animal power were replaced by machines in factories
* **Samuel Slater** helps design the first successful factory in the U.S.
* **Factories** began making products that had been previously made by hand
* **Francis Cabot Lowell** combined spinning thread and weaving cloth in one factory. He also employed young women (**Lowell Girls)**, giving them the opportunity for financial and education freedom
* The growth of factories led to the growth of cities

**Transportation**

* As settlers moved west, the demand for better roads increased
* **Steamboats** increased the use of river travel for farmers and merchants
* The building of canals would allow western farmers to ship their products East
* The **Erie Canal** became the 1st successful canal, connecting New York City to western farmers
* Cities developed around canal building sites.

**Henry Clay and the American System**

* Clay wanted to promote growth for all sections of the U.S.
* His **American System** called for taxes on imports, which would encourage the purchase of American products
* The taxes would be used to build roads, bridges and canals

**Reforms**

* **Anti-Slavery – Abolitionists**
* **William Lloyd Garrison**  - White publisher of anti-slavery newspaper
* **Frederick Douglas** – former slave; speaker against slavery
* **Harriet Tubman** – conductor of the Underground Railroad
* **Education** - **Horace Mann -**  improved public education
* **Temperance-** Campaign against the abuse of alcohol
* **Prison/Hospital Reform** - **Dorthea Dix** – persuaded states to treat the mentally ill as patients, not criminals; led the fight for improved prison conditions
* **Women’s Rights**
* **Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Susan B. Anthony** fought for social and political rights for women
* They led the **Seneca Falls Convention,** writing the Declaration of Sentiments.
* **Sojourner Truth** women’s rights leader born into slavery; “Ain’t I a Woman”

**Westward Expansion and Manifest Destiny**

**Land acquired from the United States**

* **Treaty of Paris (1783)** – all the land East of the Mississippi River
* **Louisiana Purchase (1803)** – Thomas Jefferson purchased the Louisiana Territory from France for $15 million dollars, which almost doubled the size of the United States
* **Florida (1819)** – Adams-Onis Treaty; Spain ceded Florida
* **Texas Annexation (1845)** – Texas became a state after its own country for 9 years
* **Oregon Territory (1846)** – Acquired through negotiations with Britain
* **Mexican Cession (1848)** – Acquired from Mexico after the Mexican War; formed the territories of Utah and New Mexico and the state of California
* **Gadsen Purchase (1853)** – Bought from Mexico for $10 million dollars to complete railroad to California

**Andrew Jackson (1828 – 1836)**

* Member of the Democratic Party who supported the common man – expanded suffrage
* Prevented the renewal of the **Bank of the United** States charter
* He ended the **Nullification Crisis,** by demanding that “the Union be preserved”
* **Trail of Tears** – Jackson had the Indians moved west of the Mississippi River (**Indian Removal Act)**

**Manifest Destiny**

* The idea that the U.S. was destined to own the land from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean
* Ended French/Spanish occupation in the U.S.; displaced Native Americans
* U. S. gained wealth from rich farmland, timber, and minerals that could be mined.
* Settlers moved west for land and opportunities (Gold Rush) and for religious reasons (Mormons).

**Mexican War (1845 – 1848)**

* Texas became a state in 1845 starting a border dispute with Mexico
* U. S invaded Mexico, capturing key cities. U. S. wins the war
* **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848)** ended the war
* U. S. paid Mexico $10 million dollars for the Mexican Cession
* The Rio Grande was set as the border between Texas and Mexico

**The Civil War and Reconstruction**

**Sectionalism** - Loyalty to one’s state or region rather than country

**Events leading to the Civil War**

* **Missouri Compromise (1820)** – Admitted Missouri as a slave state and Maine as a free state; prevent slavery in territories above the 36 30’ Missouri Compromise Line
* **Compromise of 1850** – Admitted California as a free state; New Mexico and Utah territories had the option to become slave areas;
* **Fugitive Slave Act (1850)** – required all citizens to help catch runaway slaves regardless of beliefs
* **Uncle Tom’s Cabin** **(1852)** – Book written by **Harriet Beecher Stowe**, a northern, white woman; her book made slavery a political issue
* **Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854**)– opened the territories of Kansas and Nebraska to the possibility of slavery
* **Bleeding Kansas** **(1854)–** Pro and Anti-slavery groups fought for the control of the Kansas government; more than 200 people are killed.
* **Dred Scott v. Sanford** **(1857)** – Supreme Court ruled that slaves were not citizens but property; the Court also ruled that the Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional
* **John Brown and Harper’s Ferry** **(1859)–** Abolitionist John Brown and his accomplices raided the government fort at Harper’s Ferry hoping for a slave uprising; they used weapons to kill pro-slavery settlers in Kansas
* **Election of Lincoln** (**1860)** – Southerners believed Lincoln would immediately abolish slavery if elected, which would ruin the South’s economy. When Lincoln wins the election, South Carolina seceded from the Union

**Civil War Leaders**

* **Abraham Lincoln** – President of the U.S. (Union)
* **Jefferson Davis**  - President of the Confederate States of America
* **Ulysses S. Grant**  - Union General
* **Robert E. Lee**  - Confederate General

**Battles**

* **Fort Sumter, South Carolina (April 12, 1861)** – Beginning of the Civil War
* **Antietam (1862)**– More than 23,000 Union and Confederate soldiers died in 1 day
* **Vicksburg (1863)** - Union troops captured the city and controlled the Mississippi River
* **Gettysburg (1863)** - Union defeated the South**; turning point of the war**
* **Appomattox Courthouse (April 9, 1865) – Lee Surrenders to Grant; Ended the Civil War**

**Documents**

* **Emancipation Proclamation (Jan. 1863)** - Lincoln freed the saves in the Confederate states.
* **Gettysburg Address (Nov. 1863)** - Lincoln’s speech “that government of the people, by the people, and for the people will not perish from this earth”

**Lincoln’s Assassination** – Killed at Ford’s Theater by John Wilkes Booth

**Reconstruction -** the rebuilding of the South after the Civil War

* **Legislative plans:** 10% plan, Wade-Davis Plan, Johnson Plan, Radical Republicans
* Passage of the **13th, 14th and 15th Amendments**
* **13th Amendment (1865)** - abolished slavery
* **14th Amendment**  (**1868)** - rights of Citizens to former slaves
* **15th Amendment**  (**1870)-** Voting rights for former **slave MEN**
* Election of **Hiram Rhodes Revel** – first African American elected to the Senate (1870)
* Creation of the **Freedmen’s Bureau**, government agency to help former slaves
* Southern legislatures also passed **black codes**, laws that severely limited the rights of freedmen
* Reconstruction problems: sharecropping, carpetbaggers, scalwags, KKK
* **Homestead Act (1862)** gave an applicant ownership at no cost to farmland called a "homestead" – typically 160 acres of undeveloped federal land west of the Mississippi River.
* **The Morrill Act (1862)** allowed for the creation of land-grant colleges.
* **The Dawes Act (1887)** authorized the survey of Indian tribal land and divide it into allotments for individual Indians and provided that the government would purchase Indian land "excess" to that needed for allotment and open it up for settlement by non-Indians.

**Map Skills**



**Read the Title**

**Read the legend/key**

**Read the test question**

**Study the map**

**Quotes and Excerpts**

**Identify the author, date, time or period**

**Read the quote, identify the subject of the quote, and highlight the key words.**

**Read the test question**



**Charts and Graphs**



**Read the title and key**

**Read the horizontal and vertical information**

**Read the test question**

**Political Cartoons**



**Identify the subject, time, period and symbols**

**Identify the author’s point of view or bias (stand on the issue)**

***If the question has this in it..................................................Look for something like this in the answer***

The Colonia Era

Mayflower Compact………………………………………………………………………….Self Government

Virginia House of Burgesses ……………..…………………………………….1st representative government

1607………………………………………………………………………………………Jamestown, Virginia

Jamestown…………first permanent English Colony, died from diseases carried by mosquitoes (settled too close to swamps)

Maryland Colony…………………………………………………………………Mostly Catholics settled there

Georgia Colony ………………………………………………….…..Created as a debtor (owed money) colony

Magna Carta ……….………….1215, document said Kings have to obey laws and Citizens have basic rights

English Bill of Rights……………………………….………….document guaranteed rights of English Citizens

Pennsylvania Colony………………………………………………...Established by William Penn for Quakers

Massachusetts Colony……………………………………………………………………...The Puritan colony

Quakers…………………………………..……………Religious group believes in non-violence and equality

New England Colonies…………………………………………..…………Fishing, shipbuilding, and lumber

Southern Colonies……………………………………………………………………plantation and agriculture

Triangular Trade…………….trade between England, Africa and the Americas and back (slavery – negative)

Mercantilism……………………………..colonies exist ONLY for the benefit of the mother or main country

Revolutionary Era

1776……………………………..……………………………………………….…Declaration of Independence

Grievances…………………………………………….……………………………….Letter to King George III

Life, Liberty and Pursuit of Happiness……………………………………………Declaration of Independence

Unalienable rights………………………………………………………………God given, can’t be taken away

Natural rights………………………………………………….………….life, liberty and pursuit of happiness

Thomas Paine…………………………………………………………………….….Writer of Common Sense

Thomas Jefferson…………………………………………………..Writer of the Declaration of Independence

Samuel Adams…………………………………………………………………………………Sons of Liberty

Sons of Liberty…………………………………………………………………………..boycotts and protests

Boston Massacre…………………………………………….……………………Propaganda, 5 colonists killed

Boston Tea Party…………………………………Colonists dressed as Indians, throw tea into Boston Harbor

Stamp Act, Townshend Act, Intolerable Acts…………………………………Taxation without representation

Battle of Lexington and Concord………1st battle of the American Revolution; “Shot heard ‘round the World”

Battle of Saratoga………………………………………………………………turning point, French join us

Valley Forge……………………………………………………………………………..winter, cold, hungry

Battle of Yorktown………….Cornwallis surrenders to Washington; Final battle of the American Revolution

Benjamin Franklin………………………………………..……………..Inventor, writer, printer, diplomat

The Constitution

1787………………………………………………………….……………………..Signing of the Constitution

Articles of Confederation……………………………………………………………….A loose alliance, weak

Shay’s Rebellion…………………………………………….a conflict between angry farmers and government

Virginia Plan ………………………………………………………..…2 house legislature (good for big states)

New Jersey Plan……………………………………………………..1 house legislature (good for small states)

Great Compromise……………………….….…………..representation, debate between large and small states

3/5 Compromise……………………………………………………………………….slavery issue, population

Federalists…………………………………………………………………………………...For the Constitution

Anti-Federalist………………………………………………………………..……..AGAINST the Constitution

Bill of Rights…………………………….…………………………….1st 10 Amendments to the Constitution

13th, 14th, 15th Amendments………………………………………..………………………Free, Citizens, Vote

James Madison……………………………………..………………………………..Father of the Constitution

Ideas behind the Constitution………………………………………….…Magna Carta, English Bill of Rights

Separation of Powers………………………………3 branches of government, Executive, Legislative, Judicial

Checks and Balance System…………………………………….……………………..no one has all the power

Preamble………………………………………………………….beginning of the Constitution, states the goal

Amendments…………………………………………………………………………changes to the Constitution

The New Nation

Washington’s Farewell Address…………………………………………………………neutrality, avoid wars

Origin of Political Parties…………………………………………………disagreement over Hamilton’s plan

Federalists(Hamilton)…………………Strong FEDERAL government, loose interpretation of the Constitution

Lots of industry, fear of the rich ruling the country, Pro-British

Democratic-Republicans (Jefferson)…….Strong STATE government, strict interpretation of the Constitution

farming for country, feared ruled by the few, Pro-France

Alien and Sedition Act……………………..gave government right to expel (deport) immigrants more easily

Louisiana Purchase……………….…………………………………………almost doubled the size of the U.S.

Marbury v. Madison……………………………………………………………..…established Judicial Review

War of 1812…………………………………U.S. vs. England, no real land gains, U.S. gains respect of World

Era of Good Feelings………………………………………………………………………Monroe Presidency

Treaty of Ghent…………………………………………………………………...Officially ends War of 1812

Industry, Expansion and Reform

Industrial Revolution………………………………….………………………..going from farming to factories

Textile mills………………………………………………………………….factories where clothing is made

Lowell Mills Girls……………………………………factory in Lowell, Massachusetts worked by young girls

Monroe Doctrine……………………….Monroe’s foreign policy, no more European colonies in the Americas

Missouri Compromise………………………..………...1820 agreement, equal number of free and slave states

Indian Removal Act…………………………………………………….forced relocation of Cherokee Indians

Trail of Tears……………………………………...................................path the Cherokee’s took to Oklahoma

Nullification Crisis ……………………………………………….argument over state’s rights regarding Taxes

Mexican War and Cession………………………...War between U.S. and Mexico, U. S. got TX, CA, NM, AZ

Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo……….ended the Mx War, established Rio Grande as border between U.S. (Texas) and Mexico

Gadsden Purchase……………………………………………….Mexico sold strip of land in S. Arizona to U.S.

Industrial Revolution leaders……………Eli Whitney, Elias Howe, Samuel Morse, John Deere, Cyrus McCormick, Robert Fulton

Reform Leaders………………………….Dorthea Dix, Sojourner Truth, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman,

Susan B. Anthony, William Lloyd Garrison

Court Cases

**Marbury v. Madison (1803)** gave the Supreme Court the right to determine whether a law violates the Constitution ( judicial review).

**McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)** ruled that states had no right to interfere with federal institutions within state borders.

**Gibbons v. Odgen (1824)** upheld the power of the federal government to regulate interstate commerce.

**Dred Scott v. Sanford (1857)** was the Supreme Court decision that said slaves were property and not citizens.

**U. S. History**

**8th Grade STAAR**

**Study Guide**

**Pass the STAAR!**

**It’s Common Sense!**

**TEST TAKING STRATEGIES**

1. **Cover up the answer choices**
2. **Read the question and ask, “what do I need to know or be able to do to answer this question?” (Use map skills? Interpret a quote?, Read a timeline?, Identify parts of a chart?).**
3. **Use the social studies skill that best helps you.**
4. **Eliminate the wrong choices**
5. **Choose the best answer.**