



Study Questions for United States History

11.1 Students analyze the significant events surrounding the founding of the nation and its attempts to realize the philosophy of government described in the Declaration of Independence.

- Who was John Locke? What were his principles?
- What were the main ideas of the Enlightenment? How did they influence American ideas?
- What was the Great Compromise?
- What was the 3/5th Compromise?
- Who were the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists and what were their ideas?
- What is the Bill of Rights and why was it added?
- Who was John Marshall and how did he strengthen the Federal government?
- What is Judicial Review?
- What is Marbury vs. Madison?
- What is McCulloch vs. Maryland?
- What was the States Rights controversy?
- What is Jacksonian Democracy? How did it expand peoples' rights?
- What were the social and political effects of the Civil War and Reconstruction?

11.2 Students analyze the relationship among the rise of industrialization, large-scale rural to urban migration, and the massive immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe.

- What were the effects of Industrialization on American industries, cities, and individuals?
- Who were the Muckrakers and what was their effect on society? (e.g. The Jungle)
- Why and how did America change from a rural to urban society? And what were the effects?
- What was the Americanization Movement?
- What were political machines and what was their relationship to immigrants?
- How did corruption and graft lead to middle-class reformers?
- What were the forms of monopoly (cartels) and what was the government's response? (Sherman Anti-Trust Laws)
- How did industrial growth and physical geography influence U.S. trade?
- What were the similarities and differences between Social Darwinism and Social Gospel? (e.g. William Graham Sumner, Billy Sunday, Dwight L. Moody)
- What was the Populist platform and why was it unsuccessful at the time?
- What were the effects of political programs and activities? (16th, 17th, 18th, 19th Amendments, Teddy Roosevelt, W. Wilson, Hiram Johnson.)

11.3 Students analyze the role religion played in the founding of America, its lasting moral, social and political impact, and issues regarding religious liberty.

- What were the contributions of religious groups to American civic principles? (e.g. Puritans, Quakers)
- What were the effects of religious revivals and who were their leaders? (1st Great Awakening, 2nd Great Awakening, Fundamentalism)
- What are some examples of religious intolerance in U.S. history? (in the 1890's, 1920's, 1960's e.g., 2nd Vatican Council)
- What are the Establishment and Free Exercise Clauses of the 1st Amendment?

11.4 Students trace the rise of the United States to its role as a world power in the 20th century.

- What were the purpose and the effects of the Open Door Policy?
- How did American imperialism lead to the Spanish-American War and U.S. expansion in the South Pacific?
- How did Roosevelt's Big Stick Diplomacy, Taft's Dollar Diplomacy, and Wilson's Moral Diplomacy affect American foreign policy in the early twentieth century?
- What were the political, economic, and social ramifications of World War I internationally and on the home front?

11.5 Students analyze the major political, social, economic, technological, and cultural developments of the 1920s.

- What were the economic policies of the 1920s? (Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover.)
- What were the effects of the ratification of the 18th and 19th Amendments?
- How did the Harlem Renaissance and new trends in literature, music, art, radio, and movies affect life in America in the 1920s?
- How did the rise of mass production techniques and the marketing of new products affect American social life?

11.6 Students analyze the different explanations for the Great Depression and how the New Deal fundamentally changed the role of the federal government.

- What were the causes of the Great Depression?
- How did the government respond to the problems of the Great Depression?
- What were the controversies of the New Deal programs? (Supreme Court, Townsend, Long, Court Packing)
- How did the Great Depression affect labor unions?

11.7 Students analyze the American participation in World War II.

- How did America become involved in World War II?
- What was United States and Allied wartime strategy?
- What were the key turning points that led to Allied victory?
- What were the unique sacrifices of individual American soldiers and the contribution of special fighting forces? (Tuskegee Army, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Navajo Code Talkers, Women)
- Why did the United States decide to drop atomic bombs on Japan and what were the short and long term consequences of that decision?

11.8 Students analyze the economic boom and social transformation of post-World War II America.

- What were the social, cultural, and economic changes that occurred in post-war America? (immigrants, labor, job sectors, government spending, and presidential power)
- What were major technological developments after World War II? (communication, agriculture, medicine)
- What were the major changes in pop culture of the 1950's? (music, sports, arts, architectural)

11.9 Students analyze U.S. foreign policy since World War II.

- What were the origins of the Cold War?
- How did the U.S. respond to the Cold War?
- What were the military alliances of the Cold War and their affects?
- What were the major events of the Cold War? (e.g. McCarthyism, Truman Doctrine, Berlin Blockade, Korean War, Bay of Pigs, Cuban Missile Crisis, Brinkmanship, disarmament policies, Latin America, Vietnam War)
- What were the results of U.S. Middle East Policy? (e.g. Egypt, Iran, Afghanistan, Israel.)
- What was the role of the Reagan Administration in ending the Cold War?

11.10 Students analyze the development of federal civil rights and voting rights developments.

- What were the conditions that led to the Civil Rights Movement? (e.g., A. Philip Randolph, Dred Scott, Plessy vs. Ferguson, Brown vs. the Board of Education)
- Who were the civil rights advocates and what were their philosophies?
- What were the key events, policies, and court cases of the civil rights?
- How did the civil rights efforts of African Americans influence women and other minority groups in their efforts to gain similar rights? (e.g. Elizabeth Stanton, Susan B. Anthony.)

11.11 Students analyze the major social problems and domestic policy issues in contemporary American society.

- How did the Immigration Act of 1965 transform American society?
- What were the major domestic policy issues of Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Carter, Reagan, Bush, and Clinton?
- What were the causes and results of Watergate?
- What major issues led to the development of environmental protection laws?
- How did the persistence of poverty influence welfare and health insurance reform?