

---

## Study Guide for “3.1 American in the Age of the Common Man”

Dr. Price’s History 201 Classes

### Terms

Alexis de Tocqueville  
*Democracy in America*  
“almighty dollar”  
business  
equality  
“the help”

Harriet Martineau  
James Fennimore Cooper  
Cult of Domesticity  
self-improvement books  
dining in America

### Questions

1. Visitors to America in the 1820s and 30s found American civilization to be both fascinating and more than a little terrifying. Discuss their observations, in particular their observations of change, the pace of American life, pursuit of wealth, business, and equality.
2. Unlike Europe in the early 1800s, the various distinctions of class were few and difficult to recognize. There were few beggars and few families that had enormous wealth, and the various markers of wealth and status that Europeans saw in their home countries seemed absent in America. Reflect on the lecture notes and discuss.
3. Compare and contrast the lives of women in the relatively urban East with the lives of women on the frontier. What was the “cult of Domesticity”?
4. Discuss the democratization of American Religion. How did religious activity in America differ from religion in Europe.

---

## Study Guide for “3.2 Andrew Jackson & His Administration”

Dr. Price’s History 201 Classes

### Terms

Andrew Jackson

John Quincy Adams

Henry Clay

Democrats

National Republicans

Election of 1824

Election of 1828

The “Corrupt Bargain”

The Kitchen Cabinet

The “Eaton Malaria”

Peggy Eaton

John C. Calhoun

Trail of Tears

Tariff of 1816

The Tariff of Abominations (1828)

Nullification Crisis

Webster-Hayne Debate

The Force Bill

Second Bank of the U.S.

William Jones

Langdon Cheves

Panic of 1819

“Czar” Nicholas Biddle

Election of 1832

### Questions

1. Why was Andrew Jackson so popular? Do these conditions sound familiar to other, previous national leaders? If so, who?
2. What issues did Jackson champion in the 1824 and 1828 campaigns? What were the results of the 1824 election, and why did it result the way it did? Did those results help or hurt Jackson’s message, and why?
3. Discuss the Jackson administration’s policies. What changes did Jackson bring to the office of the president and the nation as a whole?
4. Jackson enjoyed major support from voters on the frontier. What were some policies that were enacted in order to protect those voters’ interests? Explain these policies and the effects of them.
5. What was the “Nullification Crisis”? How did it come about? In your opinion, was South Carolina’s attempt constitutional? How did Jackson respond, and why? Did Jackson’s response align with the comparisons between him and Thomas Jefferson?
6. Discuss the Second Bank of the United States. What were Jackson’s attitudes and actions towards the Bank. Who were his chief adversaries? How did this play out?
7. Analyze Jackson’s administration as a whole. What were his main accomplishments, setbacks, and blunders? In regard to the issues that he based his campaign on, do you believe that his administration was an overall success?

---

## Study Guide for “3.3 Antebellum Reform”

Dr. Price’s History 201 Classes

### Terms

Revivalism	Benjamin Lundy
The Great Awakening	William Lloyd Garrison
American Bible Society	Frederick Douglas
Lyman Beecher	Mason-Dixon Line
Temperance Movement	Harriet Tubman
Cult of Domesticity	Underground Railroad
Seneca Falls (1848)	Harriet Beecher Stowe
Horace Mann	<i>Uncle Tom’s Cabin</i>
Abolition Movement	Nat Turner
Quakers	“Positive Good”
American Colonization Society	“Peculiar Institution”
Militant Abolitionism	John C. Calhoun

### Questions

1. Identify the various religious denominations that participated in the Revivalist reform movements. What was the common cause of these movements? What were some differences, what caused these differences, and why?
2. Discuss the specific reforms that these various religious groups tried to implement. Which were successful and which were not? What were some lasting effects of these movements?
3. When did the first anti-slavery societies appear in the United States? How did attitudes towards slavery evolve throughout the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries?
4. What were two possible solutions that the early abolitionists came up with? What were the problems surrounding these plans?
5. Discuss the main figures of the Abolition Movement. What were the differences in their goals and methods? Other than the political and social abolitionists, some took matters into their own hands. Discuss these attempts as well.
6. Explain the northern resistance to abolition. Why did northerners fear the end of slavery? What was one example of their reaction?
7. After Nat Turner’s rebellion, southerners began to argue that slavery was a “positive good.” What types of rationalizations did southerners use for their “peculiar institution?” Discuss some of these rationalizations. According to southerners, would slaves benefit from freedom? Why?

---

## Study Guide for “3.3 (continued) American Whigs”

Dr. Price’s History 201 Classes

### Terms

Whig Party

Henry Clay

The American System

Election of 1836

Martin van Buren

Election of 1840

Daniel Webster

William Henry Harrison

John Tyler

“President without a Party”

Republic of Texas

Sam Houston

Santa Anna

Texas Annexation

### Questions

1. How do more recent historians view the Whig Party? How does this differ from previous views? Discuss the differences between the Whigs and the Jacksonian Republicans.
2. What attributed to Martin van Buren’s success in the 1836 election? What was the strategy of the Whigs in 1836?
3. How did the Whigs emerge victorious in 1840? What were their tactics, and how did those tactics resemble those of Jackson’s campaigns?
4. How did John Tyler become president? How were his views different than that of other Whigs? How did he become the “president without a party”?
5. Despite not having the support of his own party, Tyler did accomplish some lasting good. Discuss the accomplishments of Tyler’s administration and how he accomplished these.
6. In the years that Texas was an independent republic, what efforts were made to bring it into the Union? What were some of the issues surrounding the annexation question? How did Tyler manage to gain the support to allow annexation? Placing yourself in the context of the time, what possible issues could the annexation of Texas cause?

---

## Study Guide for “3.4 Manifest Destiny”

Dr. Price’s History 201 Classes

### Terms

Manifest Destiny	Spot Resolution
“natural boundaries”	Mexican War
Moses Austin	Zachary Taylor
“GTT”	John Fremont
Sam Houston	Bear Flag Republic
San Jacinto	Winfield Scott
Texan Annexation (1844)	Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo (1848)
James K. Polk	Mexican Cession
Abraham Lincoln	Gadsden Purchase

### Questions

1. What were the ideas behind Manifest Destiny? In the minds of the Americans, what contributed to the necessity of expansion? What were the religious, political, economic, and strategic influences?
2. Briefly discuss the Texas Revolution and some of the causes and major players. What were the grievances the American colonists had against Mexico? Who was Sam Houston and what was he doing there?
3. Was the Texas Revolution an extension of the American Revolution, where Americans fought off oppression of a foreign power, or was it an active operation of expansion facilitated by Jackson? Both sides can be argued, but give reasons for each.
4. What causes led up to the Mexican War? In your opinion, considering these causes, was war inevitable?
5. How did the war with Mexico start? What were Mexico’s hopes and expectations? What was the Spot Resolution? How did the war progress?
6. What were the lasting implications of the Mexican War? Compare what the United States looked like before the Texan Annexation in 1844 and after the Mexican-American War. With the political climate of the time, and the ever-looming question of slavery, how could these gains made through treaty and conquest disrupt things?

---

## Study Guide for “3.5 The West in Fact & Fantasy”

Dr. Price’s History 201 Classes

### Terms

Frederick Jackson Turner

Fur trade

John Jacob Astor

Pioneering

Frontier diseases

Donner Party

Lansford Hastings

*The Immigrant’s Guide*

Election of 1848

Barn Burners

Liberty Party

Zachary Taylor

Slavery Question

Sutter’s Mill

Admission of California

### Questions

1. Explain Frederick Jackson Turner’s frontier theory. How did the frontier affect those who lived on it, and how did it guide, according to Turner, the history of the United States?
2. Highlight some of the common myths of frontier life. How did these myths differ from the reality of life on the frontier? What was life really like in the west?
3. Discuss the Donner Party expedition. What went wrong? How does this extreme example portray the westward journey experienced by many western settlers?
4. What were the major issues of the 1848 election? Who won the election? What qualifications did he have? How are these qualifications similar to previous presidents?
5. How did the question of slavery affect the political parties in the 1840’s? How did the institution of slavery evolve as more land was added to the United States?
6. Discuss the admission of California into the Union. Does California align with Frederick Jackson Turner’s frontier theory? Why was California so important and what were the issues involving its admission?