**1800-1813 The United States Enters a New Century, Filled with Hope, Promise and Great Dreams**

**1800 Turning Point - Washington D.C. Becomes the Nation’s Capital**

*Summary:*

Washington D.C. began as a meager conglomeration of scaffolded buildings and crude hovels connected by muddy roads - a village built out of grandiose and, as yet, unfinished dreams.

The place of government had to be greater than any state capital.

George Washington recommended a site along the Potomac River that would appeal  to Northern and Southern interests.

Pierre-Charles L’Enfant laid out the plan for the new city.

In 1800 the City witnessed for the first time in modern history, an incumbent political party, the Federalists, accept electoral defeat and turn over the government to its opponents, Jeffersonian Republicans.

The site chosen for Washington D.C. was a compromise to appease

A. Aristocrats and workers C. Federalists and Democrats

B. Northern states and Southern states D. England and France

Washington D.C. was designed by

A. Thomas Jefferson C. John Adams

B. Pierre-Charles L’Enfant D. Frank Lloyd Wright

**1803 Turning Point - The Louisiana Purchase**

*Summary:*

The Louisiana Purchase was a largely uninhabited land of tall grass prairie and mountains that doubled the size of the United States, catapulting the fledgling nation into a world power.

President Jefferson sent James Monroe and Robert Livingston to negotiate the sale of the territory from Napoleon, Emperor of France.

The United States purchased the Louisiana Territory in May of 1803 for $15 million and received 828,000 square miles of rich farmland and potential resources, which included all of the Mississippi valley and its tributaries.

Just as important as the acquisition of new land was the Purchase’s impact on the new Federal Government. By using his powers of office in purchasing the land, Jefferson extended the Executive Powers of the Presidency. His actions initiated the idea of “Implied Powers” in the Constitution.

The United States purchased Louisiana from

A. France C. Luxembourg

B. Spain D. Native Americans

The purchase of Louisiana extended the powers of

A. Congress D. All of these

B. The Supreme Court E. None of these

C. The Presidency

**1804 Turning Point - Lewis and Clark Expedition**

*Summary:*

By June 1803, the lands west of the Mississippi became part of the nation as a result of the Louisiana Purchase. As the ink dried on the Louisiana Purchase Agreement, Jefferson dispatched a Corps of Discovery to explore the Missouri River to its source and to determine if any easy route to the Pacific existed.

Chosen to lead the expedition were Jefferson’s personal Secretary, Captain Meriwether Lewis, and Captain William Clark, brother of revolutionary war hero George Rogers Clark. The expedition set off from the banks of St. Louis and proceeded up the Missouri with 45 men.

The expedition solidified the United States’ claim to the Louisiana Territory and gave Easterners a clear idea of what the vast strange lands west of the Mississippi were like, what resources they contained and the opportunities they made available to the new nation.

One participant of the expedition, John Colter, went on to become a new breed of American, the Mountain Man.

The Corps of Discovery explored the Southwestern part of the country, including Texas and California.

A. True B. False

The Lewis and Clark Expedition returned to St. Louis in

A. September 1805 D. September 1806

B. June 1807 E. They never left

C. July 1804

**1807 Turning Point - Robert Fulton Awakens the World to the Steamboat**

*Summary:*

The steam engine powered the United States’ industrialization in the 19th century. But even before that, the steam engine transformed commerce on America’s interior waterways.

The first steam-powered ship, ‘The Claremont’, was built by Robert Fulton. Robert Fulton was the embodiment of the future American entrepreneur. He took a  dead man’s ideas, partnered with an investor to buy the dead man’s rights, and turned what everyone else was calling a “Folly” into one of the most meaningful inventions of all times.

By 1825, as Fulton had predicted, the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers teemed with over 170 steam ships carrying goods and people up and down the waterways of America’s heartland.

Robert Fulton designed the first

A. Steamboat, the Claremont C. Cotton gin

B. Locomotive, the Clarabell D. Steam iron

The invention that powered the United States’ industrialization was

A. The cotton gin C. The steam engine

B. The reaper D. None of these

**1814 - 1826 An American Spirit Emerges**

**1814 Turning Point - Washington D.C. is Captured and Burned by the British**

*Summary:*

The War of 1812 was a very odd war that did not need to happen and which settled very little.

In 1806 the British Fleet would stop American merchant ships and seizing sailors that they thought had British citizenship or had deserted from the British Navy. This action, called impressment, outraged many Americans and was one of the factors that formed the basis for a War Hawk movement within the U.S. government.

In the United States, the War of 1812, called “Mr. Madison’s War” by New England Federalists, was unpopular with all parts of the nation.

The war itself was fought in two theaters: the western campaign along the Canadian border and the constant sea battles and blockades up and down the Atlantic coast.

The war’s main consequence seemed to be to produce new American heroes: General William Henry Harrison, Commodore Matthew Perry and General Andrew Jackson.

In 1814, the capitol fell, the city was in flames, but the Americans did not surrender and just three days later, President Madison and his entourage returned to the smoldering ruins.

The military importance of the burning of Washington was negligible. Yet its impact on the American character was deep and lasting.

The underlying cause of the War of 1812 with Britain was impressment.

A. True B. False

Two heroes from the War of 1812 were

A. James Fenimore Cooper and Washington Irving

B. Henry Clay and Daniel Webster

C. William Henry Harrison and Commodore Perry

D. Robert Fulton and Samuel Morse

**1814 Turning Point - Star Spangled Banner is Written**

*Summary:*

In the War of 1812 the most memorable and certainly the most lasting result was not a great battle or territorial acquisition but a song.

Francis Scott Key was part of delegation that approached a British Naval officer during the Attack on For McHenry in Baltimore to secure the release of Dr. William Beane, an American surgeon.

Throughout the night of the attack, Key and his friends watched the battle from the deck of a British frigate. Key, a lawyer, wrote a poem, “The Defense of Fort McHenry,” commemorating the fact that the Fort did not fall. It was later put to music. On March 3rd, 1931, Congress passed and President Herbert Hoover signed an act that designated the “Star Spangled Banner” the national anthem.

The British navy’s inability to take Fort McHenry was a turning point in the war for  the Americans. This victory, coupled with Jackson’s defeat of British troops at New Orleans and Perry’s triumph on Lake Erie, helped to confirm the United States as a power in the world.

The Star Spangled Banner became the United States’ official national anthem in

A. 1814 C. 1865

B. 1783 D. 1931

Francis Scott Key’s original title for his poem was

A. “The Star Bangled Spanner” C. “The Defense of Fort McHenry”

B. The Defense of Washington D.C. D. None of the above

**1815 Turning Point - Battle of New Orleans**

*Summary:*

On December 24, 1814 in the historic Belgian town of Ghent, the War of 1812 was ended. Oddly though, the Americans and British would almost immediately begin the process of becoming great allies. Even more oddly, the most significant battle of the war was about to begin.

In the fall of 1814 the British under the command Sir Edward Packenham, brought an 8700-man army into the Gulf Of New Mexico near the vital Mississippi port of New Orleans.

A brilliant self-trained, military genius, Andrew Jackson took a rag tag force of 6500 southern militia men to mount a defense of the port and won, killing 2000 British soldiers while losing only 71 Americans.

The January 1815 victory catapulted Jackson into the White House fourteen years later and ushered in the Era of Jacksonian Democracy, a new ideal that would replace the agrarian utopia of Jefferson with the concept of the “self-made man.”

The Battle of New Orleans was fought after the War of 1812 ended.

A. True B. False

The Battle was important because

A. With its success the United States gained Florida

B. It forced the British to sell the United States Louisiana

C. It demonstrated once and for all that the United States could stand up to great European world powers

D. All of the above

**1825 Turning Point - Erie Canal is Completed**

*Summary:*

At the beginning of the 19th century, America built a system of artificial waterways connecting its vast interior with its Atlantic ports and the world beyond.

The rate of travel by canal was slow but much more comfortable and reliable than by the turbulent currents of the rivers and the jolting passage by roads during the same era. Mass tonnage of goods and hundreds of thousands of people moved along the waterways in the next century.

The Federal government, spurred by the success of the state supported canal systems, increased its role in funding of other infrastructure improvements, including river and road maintenance, that would eventually lead to the support of all manner of transportation such as the Interstate Highway system, railroad and airline travel in the 21st century.

The Erie Canal linked the Great Lakes with

A. Washington D.C. C. Chicago

B. The Hudson River D. Charleston

The Canal’s biggest promoter was

A. Governor De Witt Clinton C. President George Washington

B. President Bill Clinton D. Henry Clay