

Social Studies STAAR Study Guide

Social Studies STAAR Test | Thursday, 12 May 2016

TEKS Objective 1 | HISTORY

What is the significance of the following dates:

- **1607: Jamestown** (Founding of the first permanent English colony in Virginia—saved by tobacco)
- **1620: Mayflower Compact** (Document signed by Pilgrims to make laws for the good of the entire colony)
- **1776: Declaration of Independence** (Signed at Philadelphia, PA, on July 4, 1776 | Author: Jefferson)
- **1787: Constitutional Convention** (Held at Philadelphia, PA, from May to September, 1787 | Replaced A/C)
- **1803: Louisiana Purchase** (Jefferson paid \$15 million to Napoleon of France to double size of country)
- **1861–1865: Civil War** (North/Union defeats South/Confederacy to preserve the United States)

Why were the original Thirteen Colonies established in British North America?

- **Economic:** High unemployment in England | Manufacturers sought markets for their goods | Manufacturers sought raw materials | Merchants hoped to make a profit from colonies (e.g., Virginia Company at Jamestown)
- **Political:** Search for new trade passage to India | Sought gold to increase England's wealth | Acquire territory to add to their empire | Buffer against Spanish colonies in America (e.g., New York taken from Dutch)
- **Social:** Freedom from religious persecution in England | Protection of culture (e.g., Pilgrims and Puritans at MA)

What is mercantilism and explain how it may have caused the American Revolution?

- **Mercantilism:** An economic policy based on a state monopoly over trade and an attempt to transfer wealth, especially precious metals (gold and silver), from colonies (America) to parent country (England).
- **Acts of Parliament:** Each of the "Acts" imposed on the colonies limited colonial manufacturing and trade with other European countries | A popular colonial slogan was "No taxation without representation!" which sums up the colonists' frustrations of not being in control of their own economic or social policies.
- **French and Indian War:** (1754-1763) English debt after this war revived mercantilism policies with many "Acts."
- **Sons of Liberty:** Secret citizens' group organized in the colonies during the mid-1760s to protest the Stamp Act | Leader: Sam Adams | Main event: Boston Tea Party (Cause: Tea Act/1773) | Related group: Daughters of Liberty.

Explain the roles played by the following individuals during the American Revolution:

- **Samuel Adams:** Political activist, leader of the Sons of Liberty and the Boston Tea Party. (Cousin: John Adams)
- **Benjamin Franklin:** Drew first political cartoon (1754, "Join or Die") in support of his Albany Plan of Union prior to French and Indian War | Negotiator of Treaty of Paris (1783) that ended the American Revolution.
- **King George III:** Believed American colonists should pay more taxes and was determined to restore the power of the monarchy with aggressive policies against colonial resistance (he feared defiance would spread elsewhere).
- **Thomas Jefferson:** Political leader during the Revolution, wrote the Declaration of Independence.
- **Thomas Paine:** Wrote pamphlet, *Common Sense*, which urged colonists to revolt and form an independent, democratic republic | Stated that colonists owed no allegiance to the king | Published in January 1776.
- **George Washington:** Appointed commander-in-chief of the Continental Army by the Second Continental Congress.

Explain the important events of the American Revolution:

- **Battles of Lexington and Concord:** (April 1775) British attempt to capture colonial leaders and ammunition | Paul Revere makes famous ride to warn minutemen | First fighting of the war ("the shots heard 'round the world").
- **Battle of Saratoga:** (1777) Turning point of the war | French joined war on the American side after Patriot victory.
- **Articles of Confederation:** (Adopted: November 1777 / Ratified: March 1781) First constitution | Power rested with the states, leaving a weak central government | One success: Northwest Ordinance.
- **Battle of Yorktown:** (October 1781) Aided by French fleet, Washington won decisive battle and accepted surrender of main British army under command of General Cornwallis | Last major battle of war.
- **Treaty of Paris:** (1783) England recognizes independence of United States | Land acquired from Appalachians to Mississippi River.

What were the major issues and compromises of the Philadelphia Convention of 1787?

- **Structure of Congress:** *Virginia Plan* suggested two houses based on population | *New Jersey Plan* suggested one house based on equal representation | *Great Compromise* set two houses—House of Representatives based on population and Senate based on equal representation for each state (2 per state).
- **Counting Slave Population:** South wanted to count slaves for representation | North did not want to count slaves | *Three-Fifths Compromise* agreed to count 1 slave as 3/5th of a person for representation.
- **Election of President:** Some wanted direct election by the people | Others wanted Congress or state legislatures to select president | Compromise called for a strong president with veto power to be elected indirectly by an Electoral College (majority of these votes needed for election, not popular vote).
- **Ratification of the Constitution:** *Federalists* favored a strong federal (national) government and supported Constitution as is | *Anti-Federalists* feared a strong federal government and demanded a Bill of Rights to protect citizens' rights | Federalists agree to add a Bill of Rights (Amendments 1-10) to insure its ratification.

What were the main features of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787?

- Set up to govern the Northwest Territory, gained from Britain in the Treaty of Paris (1783) | Three to five states could be organized from this region | A population of 5,000 free white males gave an area territory status | A population of 60,000 could allow the territory to apply for statehood | All territories west of the Mississippi River entered the Union under the same system (Note: Texas entered Union as independent country, not a territory).
- Rights granted in the Northwest Ordinance: Religious freedom protected | Right to private property protected | Education encouraged | Slavery and involuntary servitude banned | Good faith toward Indians encouraged.

Explain the origin of American political parties:

- Political party: Group of individuals with similar beliefs (faction) who support each other for political office | Seen as a threat to national unity by George Washington because a party's cause may conflict with the nation's interest.
- Federalist Party: Leaders: Alexander Hamilton and John Adams | Supported a strong central government led by educated upper classes | Appealed to merchants, manufacturers, and bankers | Believed in *loose construction* of the constitution | Pro-British—supported strong ties with Britain and trade with former mother country.
- Democratic Republican Party: Leaders: Thomas Jefferson and James Madison | Supported a weak central government and a nation run by farmers, the middle classes, and sovereign state governments / Agriculture was the basis of the American economy | Believed in *strict construction* of the constitution | Pro-French—supported strong ties with France (and Jefferson supported French Revolution).

What were the key elements of Washington's Farewell Address in 1796?

- Urged Americans to avoid political parties and to stay neutral—do not make long-term pacts with foreign nations.

What was the significance of the Monroe Doctrine in 1823?

- Warns European countries to keep out of the Americas / How to enforce it? British support us with its strong navy.

What is Manifest Destiny?

- Manifest Destiny: The belief that it was the nation's destiny to expand across the continent from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean | This concept promoted by expansionists since colonial times | Term: John O'Sullivan, a newspaper editor and promoted by James K. Polk in 1844 presidential election | Polk later annexed Texas in 1845 (a move which led to a border dispute with Mexico and the Mexican War).

What policies and conflicts affected the United States before the Civil War?

- Tariffs: A tax on imported goods | Used at various times to protect primarily manufacturers in the North (higher) or cotton planters in the South (lower) | Senators most involved: Henry Clay (KY), Daniel Webster (MA), and John C. Calhoun (SC) | At times, tariffs led to threats of nullification, especially by Calhoun and South Carolina.
- Nullification: A political doctrine that upheld the right of a state to nullify (cancel) an act of Congress when the state considered the act of the federal government to be unconstitutional | Main proponent: Calhoun | Main opponents: Clay and Webster.
- Popular sovereignty: Proposed by Sen. Stephen Douglas in the Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854), it allows the people of a territory to decide if that territory would be slave or free.
- States' rights: This political doctrine upheld the supremacy of a state's power over the power of the federal government | This was a favorite doctrine of southern states to maintain their "peculiar institution" of slavery | Led to secession of South Carolina (1860) and beginning of Civil War | Main proponent: John C. Calhoun.
- Sectionalism: Greater loyalty to region, not country | North (manufacturing) and West (cheap land, canals & roads) usually clashed with South (cotton & slavery) on economic matters (tariffs) and states' rights (slavery).
- Missouri Compromise: (1820) Proposed by Henry Clay (known as the "Great Compromiser"), maintained balance of free and slave states at 12 each | Missouri admitted as slave state & Maine admitted as free state | Slavery banned in the Louisiana Territory north of 36°30' parallel.
- Compromise of 1850: Proposed by Clay and Webster | Opposed by Calhoun | California admitted to Union as free state | A strict Fugitive Slave Law is enacted (slaves are returned to owners if caught in North) | New territories in Mexican Cession (Utah and New Mexico) to decide slavery issue by popular sovereignty.
- Kansas-Nebraska Act: (1854) Territory split into two territories, Kansas and Nebraska, and residents to decide slavery issue by popular sovereignty | Missouri Compromise is voided by Congress | Led to "Bleeding Kansas" battles between pro- and anti-slavery forces | Republican Party formed to stop spread of slavery into territories.
- Dred Scott v. Sandford: (1857) Chief Justice Roger Taney ruled that Dred Scott (a slave) was not a citizen of the U.S., could not sue in federal court for his freedom, and that all blacks had no rights under the constitution (slaves were "property" of their owners) | Ruled the Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional and that Congress could not ban slavery in the U.S.

What was the impact of slavery on the United States?

- North: Slavery banned before Civil War | Abolitionists in the North actively campaigned to end slavery in all states | Best selling novel: *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (Harriet Beecher Stowe, 1852) depicts the evils of slavery | Underground Railroad (led by Harriet Tubman) leads many escaped slaves to freedom in the North and Canada.
- South: Slavery was the foundation of the economic, social, and political systems | Expanded with the invention of the cotton gin (1793, Eli Whitney), which made growing short-staple cotton more profitable in the interior regions of the South | At the time of the Civil War, the total population of the South was 9 million—4 million of which were slaves | Slave Codes restricted movement of slaves | Fact: Most southerners were small farmers with no slaves.

How did individuals and events contribute to the outcome of the Civil War?

- Abraham Lincoln: President of the United States of America (North/Union) | Issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, which freed the slaves in the rebelling states | Gettysburg Address honors the dead and asks if democracy lives | Assassinated by John Wilkes Booth on April 14, 1865, at Ford's Theater in Washington.
- Jefferson Davis: President of the Confederate States of America (CSA/South/Confederacy).
- Ulysses S. Grant: Commander-in-Chief of the Union Army (North) | Noted for his use of "total war" against South | Grant received Lee's surrender on April 9, 1865, at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, ending the Civil War.
- Robert E. Lee: Commander-in-Chief of the Confederate Army (South) | Lincoln offered him command of the Union Army, but Lee could not fight against his native state (VA) | Earlier, as a colonel in U.S. Army, he captured John Brown at Harper's Ferry, VA, in 1859 | His best general/tactician: Gen. Stonewall Jackson.
- Battle of Antietam: (September 17, 1862) Bloodiest day of war | Military draw | South unable to gain European support as a result | Lincoln convinced of need to issue Emancipation Proclamation as a result.
- Battle of Gettysburg: (July 1863) Union victory was turning point of the war | Lee's invasion attempt was meant to force North into peace talks and encourage foreign nations to recognize the CSA | Noted for Pickett's Charge.
- Siege of Vicksburg: Confederate stronghold on Mississippi River falls to Grant on July 4, 1863, to cut South in half.

TEKS Objective 2 | GEOGRAPHY

Describe the westward expansion of the United States:

- Original Thirteen Colonies: From the Atlantic Ocean to the Appalachian Mountains. (Colonial regions: NE / M / S)
- Treaty of Paris Acquisition: (1783) From the Appalachians to the Mississippi River. (Includes Northwest Territory)
- Louisiana Purchase: (1803) From the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains. (Doubles size of country)
- Adams-Onís Treaty: (1819) East and West Florida ceded by Spain.
- Annexation of Texas: (1845) Added under President James K. Polk and led to Mexican War.
- Oregon Country: (1846) Northwest United States gained from Great Britain.
- Mexican Cession: (1848) Southwest United States gained from Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo after Mexican War.
- Gadsden Purchase: (1853) Lower portions of Arizona and New Mexico purchased from Mexico.

TEKS Objective 3 | ECONOMICS / SOCIAL ISSUES

- Capitalism: Economic system in which anything that can be used to produce goods and services (capital) is privately owned by individuals or businesses | Based on four principles: Freedom to own, freedom of choice, freedom to compete, and freedom to earn a living | First promoted by Adam Smith in his book, *Wealth of Nations* (1776) | Opposite of mercantilism.
- Free Enterprise System: Free markets to make a profit | Private ownership, as opposed to government ownership.
- Industrial Revolution: Samuel Slater opens first textile mill in Pawtucket, RI (1793) and introduces factory system.
- Reform Movements: Temperance (end drinking of alcohol), Education (established public schools / Horace Mann), Abolition (end to slavery), Hospitals/Prisons/Mental Health (Dorothea Dix), Women's Rights (Seneca Falls Convention [1848] focused on equal rights & suffrage / Eliz. Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Lucretia Mott)

TEKS Objective 4 | POLITICS / GOVERNMENT / CITIZENSHIP

Identify the importance of the following in the political developments of the United States:

- Magna Carta: (1215) The cornerstone of English justice and law | Limited power of the king by guaranteeing certain rights to the people | Included protection against cruel and unusual punishment, the right to a fair trial, and no taxes without approval.
- English Bill of Rights: (1689) Established the supremacy of Parliament | Guaranteed freedom of speech and debate in Parliament, individual freedoms against the power of the government, right of petition, and reaffirmed right of trial by jury.
- Virginia House of Burgesses: (1619) First representative assembly in the colonies, used as a model by colonies.
- Mayflower Compact: (1620) Agreement to form a political body and grant power to enact laws for their own good.
- Declaration of Independence: (July 4, 1776) Document established the 13 colonies as independent states, free from rule of Britain | Jefferson listed reasons (grievances) for separation from the king, that "unalienable rights" of the citizens are God-given, and that the people have the right to control their own government.
- Federalist Papers: (1787-1788) Series of 85 essays written by Hamilton, Madison, and John Jay to explain and support ratification of new Constitution | Stressed importance of federalism—balance of power between the federal and state governments. (Opposed by Anti-Federalists who supported inclusion of Bill of Rights.)

Define the seven basic principles of limited government found in the U.S. Constitution:

- Limited Government: Powers of government are restricted by the Constitution (Articles I, II, and III).
- Popular Sovereignty: Government gets its authority from the people and the people have the right to create, alter, or abolish their government (Preamble and Article I).
- Checks and Balances: Each of the three branches exercises some control over the others, sharing power among them (Articles I, II, and III).
- Federalism: Power is divided between the national and state governments, limiting central power (Amendment 10).
- Separation of Powers: Each branch of government has its own responsibilities and limitations (Articles I, II, and III).
- Republicanism: Instead of taking part directly in government, citizens rule through their elected representatives. (Preamble and Amendment 9).
- Individual Rights: Unalienable rights protected and guaranteed to all citizens (Preamble and Bill of Rights).

Listing of the Bill of Rights (Amendments 1-10 of the U.S. Constitution):

- Amendment 1: Freedoms of religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition.
- Amendment 2: The right to bear arms.
- Amendment 3: No quartering of soldiers in homes during times of peace.
- Amendment 4: Protection from unreasonable search and seizure.
- Amendment 5: Rights of accused persons; no double jeopardy; no self-incrimination; assures due process of law.
- Amendment 6: Right to a fair and speedy trial.
- Amendment 7: Trial by jury guaranteed in federal cases.
- Amendment 8: Guarantees reasonable bail if arrested and protection from cruel and unusual punishment.
- Amendment 9: Powers are reserved to the people if not delegated to the United States by the Constitution.
- Amendment 10: Powers are reserved to the states if not delegated to the United States by the Constitution.

What are the steps for changing the Constitution?

- By Amendment: (Article V) Congress or state conventions can propose an amendment | Approval by three-fourths of the states.
- Elastic Clause: This clause in the Constitution gives Congress the power to make laws “necessary and proper” to fulfill its duties. Named because it lets Congress stretch the meaning of its power. (Art. I / Sec. 8 / Clause 18)

What is the significance of the following Supreme Court Cases:

- Marbury v. Madison: (1803) Established principle of judicial review—Supreme Court can rule laws unconstitutional.
- Dred Scott v. Sandford: (1857) Ruled blacks/slaves are property, not citizens; Congress cannot ban slavery in terr.

Timeline of Events | “Mind Dump”

1607	First English colony at Jamestown, VA (tobacco)
1619	Virginia House of Burgesses (1619: also first slaves & women in VA)
1620	Mayflower Compact (Pilgrims: laws for good of colony)
1754 to 1763	French and Indian War (1763: Treaty of Paris / debt leads to taxes)
1770	Boston Massacre (5 killed / engraving by Paul Revere)
1773	Boston Tea Party (Sons of Liberty / 1774: Intolerable Acts)
1775	Battles of Lexington and Concord (first battles of Revolution)
1776	Declaration of Independence (author: Jefferson)
1775 to 1783	American Revolution (Turning Point: Battle of Saratoga) (surrender at Yorktown) (1783: Treaty of Paris)
1777	Articles of Confederation (A/C) (first American constitution)
1787	Northwest Ordinance (one success of A/C)
1787	Constitutional Convention (Madison called “Father of Constitution”) (cause: Shays’ Rebellion) (Great Compromise and 3/5th Compromise)
1789	Bill of Rights (author: Madison)
1793	Slater’s first textile mill (Industrial Revolution / factory system begins)
1803	<i>Marbury v. Madison</i> (judicial review)
1803	Louisiana Purchase (Jefferson pays \$15M to France)
1804 to 1806	Lewis and Clark Expedition (explore LA Territory / map to Pacific)
1812 to 1814	War of 1812 (1814: Treaty of Ghent) (1815: Battle of New Orleans)
1820	Missouri Compromise (Henry Clay: MO/Maine keep balance)
1823	Monroe Doctrine (Europe told to keep out!)
1830	Indian Removal Act (Jackson / Cherokees: Trail of Tears)
1844	Manifest Destiny (belief in U.S. from sea to sea)
1845	Annexation of Texas (leads to war with MX)
1846 to 1848	Mexican War (1848: Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo)
1848	Mexican Cession (1853: Gadsden Purchase is last piece)
1850	Compromise of 1850 (CA added + Fugitive Slave Law)
1857	<i>Dred Scott v. Sandford</i> (ruled slaves are property)
1861 to 1865	Civil War (Presidents: Lincoln [USA] and Davis [CSA]) (Turning Point: Battle of Gettysburg) (surrender at Appomattox Court House, VA)

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