Chapter 2: The First Civilizations in the Americas

- Farming allowed tribes like the Olmec, Maya, Aztec and Inca to build food surpluses and support large cities for the first time.
- The Olmec were the first civilization in the western hemisphere.
- They lived in Central America about 3500 years ago.
- They built stone temples and giant stone heads.
- The Olmec disappeared mysteriously into the jungle.
- The Mayans lived in the southern Mexican and northern Central American rainforest, rising to power from about A.D. 300 to 900.
- Cities like Tikal and Chitzen-Itza were centers for religion, trade, art, and for farmers to sell their food.
- Priests and Nobles were most powerful in Mayan society, while farmers and slaves were the least powerful.
- Priests made amazing advances in math, calendars and astronomy.
- The Mayans also mysteriously disappeared, probably as a result of disease, famine or war.
- Centuries after the Mayans fell, Aztec nomads settled in the Valley of Mexico (1100’s AD.)
- They built their capital, Tenochtitlan, on an island in Lake Texcoco, fulfilling an old prophecy.
- In the 1400’s they expanded by conquering their neighbors, forcing them to pay tribute.
- The Aztec, like the Maya, had an Emperor, nobles, priests, warriors, farmers and slaves, as well as gifted craftsmen.
- Through warfare and strategy the Incas gained control of nearly the entire western coast of South America.
- By the 1500’s, the Inca ruled over 12 million people. Their language, Quechua, is still spoken today.
- Incan engineers built a complex system of roads and rope bridges to unite its empire.
- Indian tribes lived in every area and climate of North America. They were able to adapt their lifestyles, clothing and homes to fit every climate.
- The Iroquois Confederacy was the most powerful group living in the eastern part of North America at this time. The Iroquois were led by specially chosen leaders called Sachems. These leaders were chosen by the women of the tribe.

Chapter 3: Colonies in the New World

- After Columbus told the Spanish of the new world, many conquistadors traveled here for adventure and wealth.
- In 1519, Hernan Cortes reached the heart of the Aztec empire at Tenochtitlan. Within months he had killed the emperor and controlled the empire.
- In 1532, Francisco Pizarro arrived at Cuzco, the Incan capital. He kidnapped and killed Emperor Atahualpa, claiming the empire for Spain.
• Despite being outnumbered, the Spanish Conquistadors were able to defeat Mesoamerican empires because:
  • Guns and steel armor.
  • Horses scared the natives.
  • They were believed to be Gods.
  • Recruited enemies of the empires.
  • Many Indians were dying from European diseases.
• The Spanish thirst for treasure lead them to claim country further north as well.
• Explorers like Juan Ponce de Leon, Hernan de Soto and Francisco Coronado explored the Spanish borderlands for mythical treasures in the 1500’s. Along the way they expanded the Spanish empire in America.
• Eventually, New Spain was settled by Peninsulars and society in the empire was strictly divided according to race. Indians were forced to work in mines and on farms. As they died out, the slave trade brought Africans to replace them.

Chapter 4: Life in the Colonies
• The first English colonists in America sought gold and riches like the Spanish. They came to Virginia in the late 1500’s and early 1600’s.
• The colony of Jamestown nearly failed because instead of planting food, the colonists mostly looked for gold. The colony only succeeded when it began to grow and sell tobacco, which became very popular in Europe.
• They found no gold, but they did bring English principals of representative government with them.
• England had become a Protestant country in the 1500’s. The group of people that we now call the Pilgrims faced persecution in England because they believed that other English people were not protestant enough.
• In 1620, the Pilgrims came to Massachusetts seeking religious freedom.
• The Puritans were another group of Protestants from England very similar to the Pilgrims. They felt England’s church was still too Catholic and wanted simpler ways. (ex: no organ music, decoration)
• The Puritans were convinced that England had fallen on “evil times” and left for Massachusetts in 1629 to establish a colony where people could live a pure, protestant lifestyle.
• The Puritans formed the Massachusetts Bay Colony and planned to build a new society based on biblical law. From 1629-1640, 15,000 Puritans came to Massachusetts in the “Great Migration.”
• The Puritans were very idealistic, but not always tolerant of different ideas.
• Many people were exiled from Massachusetts for their ideas. They formed more religiously and socially tolerant colonies like Connecticut and Rhode Island.
• Puritans all over New England formed small farming communities where most people had a voice in local government.
• At first Puritan relations with Native Americans were good. However, as more Puritans arrived and took Native land, fighting erupted.
• A Wampanoag Chief named Metacom was alarmed at the number of English towns being built on tribal lands and refused to watch any longer.
• Metacom, known to the English as “King Phillip,” began a war to push the English back to Europe.
• Metacom and other New England tribes united in 1637 and killed hundreds of Puritans, sometimes destroying entire towns.
• Metacom’s alliance may have reached their goal, but many Indians began to die of disease.
• By 1675, the powerful Iroquois joined the English and destroyed Metacom’s alliance.
• As the 1700’s arrived, New England became a prosperous region full of trade. As towns like Boston grew, Puritan religion remained, but had less control over people’s lives.
• Most of the middle colonies were formed in the 1600’s on the principals of religious freedom.
• Pennsylvania was a refuge for Quakers.
• Maryland was established to protect English Catholics.
• New York was founded by the Dutch and accepted all religions before becoming an English colony in 1664.
• Because of the mild temperatures and fertile soil, the middle colonies were quickly filled with farmers from all over Western Europe.
• The South, like the middle colonies, also became mainly an agricultural society.
• However, southern society was split deeply between rich planters and regular small farmers.
• The planters had huge tracts of land. They dominated southern society and politics.
• Planters also commonly used enslaved Africans on their huge plantations.
• During the 1600’s European scientists began to use reason and logic instead of superstition to understand the world.
• A movement called the Enlightenment led them to develop theories and perform scientific tests and to prove them.
• In the 13 Colonies, the Enlightenment spread among better educated colonists. They read the latest books and discussed scientific ideas.

Chapter 5: From Protest to Revolution
• Britain’s fiercest rival in America (and across the world) was France.
• The French had established colonies in New France (Canada) in the 1600’s.
• When the French and English went to war in 1754, English colonists and French Canadians also fought against each other. Both sides had Native American allies in the war.
• The French and Indian War lasted 7 years. In the end, Britain won the war and forced the French out of Canada.
• The war was a great victory, but it put Britain into a deep debt.
• In 1763, the British government raised taxes on the American colonies to pay off their debt from the French and Indian Wars.
• Throughout the 1760’s, the British passed taxes like the Sugar Act, Stamp Act, Townshend Acts and Tea Act. These hated taxes led to boycotts (refusing to buy certain goods or services), protests and mob violence.
• Also in 1763, the Proclamation of 1763 was announced, declaring that English colonists were not allowed to cross the Appalachian Mountains and enter Indian land. Angry colonists ignored the proclamation and moved onto Indian lands illegally.
• Colonists claimed the taxes were unjust because they had no say in Parliament or imperial laws. “No taxation without representation” became a cry of the colonists, meaning England had no right to tax them.
• Port cities like Boston and New York became centers of protest.
• British soldiers became targets for colonists to shout at and abuse.
• Clashing between colonists and the British authorities led to the Boston Massacre and the Boston Tea Party.
• The English Parliament then punished the colonists with new strict laws. Extra soldiers were sent to police the colonies.
• By 1774, volunteer minutemen trained regularly, knowing a fight was coming. These men trained as a militia (an unofficial army of citizens who serve during emergencies) and stockpiled their weapons around New England.
• In April of 1775, British commander Thomas Gage attempted a sneak attack to seize a store of arms at Concord.
• At Lexington and Concord (both near Boston), the British soldiers and colonial minutemen opened fire on each other. These battles marked the beginning of the American Revolution.

Chapter 6: The American Revolution

• Early fighting in the war took place near Boston throughout 1775, where a small and unorganized patriot army had set up camp. A Patriot is a colonist who favored war against Britain.
• George Washington eventually led this army to drive the British from Boston.
• That year a group of influential colonists met in Philadelphia for the Second Continental Congress.
• Congress drafted a Declaration of Independence to announce that the colonies were officially separated from Britain.
• According to the Declaration of Independence, people have the right to life and liberty.
• On July 4, 1776, the declaration was signed and printed.
• For Indian people the Revolution was also a war for freedom – freedom from encroaching settlers.
• The Declaration, unfortunately, portrayed Indians as tools of King George, calling them, “…merciless Indian Savages whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.”
• American women took on more duties both at home and with the army. This led many women to believe that they also deserved the liberty and equality that their men sought.
• In 1776, fighting moved to the middle colonies.
• In New York, the Americans suffered a huge defeat. For the rest of the year the continental army barely held together and had to continually run from the British.
• If Washington did not lead the patriots to a victory soon, the army would have fallen apart.
• Washington made bold attacks on the British starting on Christmas Eve, when the army launched a sneak attack on Hessian soldiers at Trenton, New Jersey.
• The victory convinced Americans to fight on against the British, who were now moving the war into the South.
In the South, the Americans were led by clever generals who began to win more battles using clever tactics and their knowledge of the land.

In 1778, the French joined the Americans; the war finally looked winnable.

By 1781 the war had turned in favor of the Americans.

British General Cornwallis abandoned plans to take the Carolinas and marched back north toward Virginia. He then waited along the Yorktown Peninsula for supplies.

At that moment, Washington received word that the French Navy was sailing to help the Americans.

Washington rushed his army to Yorktown and immediately laid siege to the English, pounding them with cannon for weeks.

The English built defenses, waiting for their navy to save them. Instead, At the Battle of Yorktown (the final conflict of the revolution) the French navy trapped the British by sea while combined American and French armies trapped the British by land.

Completely surrounded, Cornwallis surrendered his entire army to Washington.

As they surrendered, the British band played the song, “The world turned upside down.”

From 1882 to 1883, John Adams, Ben Franklin and John Jay met with the British in France to work out a treaty to end the war.

Under the Treaty of Paris, the United States became its own country. The U.S. border expanded from the Atlantic coast to the Mississippi River.

Canada stayed in British hands and Florida was given to Spain. The treaty doubled the size of the United States! After 8 years the war was finally over.

Chapters 7 and 8: The Constitution

After the Revolution, congress approved a plan of government called the Articles of Confederation.

Under the articles, the federal government was limited and weak.

The weak government under the articles failed to solve America’s many problems in the 1780’s.

In response, Federalists called for a strong national government that would have the power to fix the nation’s problems.

In 1787, 55 delegates met at the Constitutional Convention to draft a new constitution.

Antifederalists argued and compromised over the size and structure of the government.

In the end, they created a representative government with 3 branches:

- The Executive branch (President) carries out/enforces the laws.
- The Legislative branch (Congress) makes laws.
  - A legislature is a group of people with the power to make laws.
- The Judicial branch (Courts) judges court cases and can declare laws unconstitutional.

Congress has two houses: the House of Representatives (435) and the Senate (100.)

The most important power of Congress is the power to make the nation’s laws.

Laws start as proposals called bills that are introduced to the House or the Senate.

The bill is debated and must be approved by both houses and the President to become a law.
• The President heads the Executive branch, followed by the Vice President and the Cabinet.
• The President’s job is to execute the nation’s laws.
• The President and Vice President are the only officials elected by all Americans.
• The Constitution also establishes federal courts to solve legal disputes.
• The lowest federal courts are the District Courts. Cases here are decided by a judge and a jury.
• Controversial cases can go to the next highest court: the Appellate Court, or Court of Appeals.
• The highest court is the Supreme Court. This court has 8 associate justices and 1 chief justice. The Supreme Court rules on the most important federal court cases.
• The Founding Fathers looked to examples from the past to create our government.
• From Rome and Greece came the ideas of a republic and civic virtue. In a republic, citizens rule themselves by electing representatives to the government.
• From England came the idea of a Bill of Rights to protect people’s freedoms.
• The Founding Fathers also learned from their own documents like the Mayflower Compact and the Declaration of Independence.
• The Constitution was strongly influenced by European Enlightenment thinkers.
• Most of the founding fathers had read the works of philosophers like John Locke and Baron de Montesquieu.
• Locke was an Englishman who had published works nearly 100 years before the Revolution.
• In Locke’s writing, Two Treatises of Government, he declared that all people had natural rights to life, liberty and property.
• Locke also said that government is an agreement between the ruler and the ruled. If a ruler did not protect people’s rights, the people had a right to rebel.
• The French Enlightenment thinker Baron de Montesquieu declared that the powers of government should be divided up and clearly defined. He suggested 3 branches be created: the legislative, executive and judicial branches.
• This idea is known as the separation of powers.
• The separation of powers and checks and balances between the three branches keep any one branch of government from becoming too powerful.
• Each of the 3 branches have powers that no other branch has.
• Also, each branch can limit the power of the other two by using their checks (Ex: Vetoing, overriding, declaring laws unconstitutional.)
• To veto, means the right of the President to reject bills presented by Congress.
• The Constitution includes Amendments that are added on over time. The first Amendment guarantees the freedoms of speech, religion, the press (news), assembly and petition.
• One by one, states ratified the Constitution. To ratify a document means to approve it.

Chapter 9: Creating Foreign Policy
• Just 6 years after the Americans had finished their war against King George, the French people overthrew their king in a violent revolution.
• The new French Republic declared war on the monarchies of Europe, fighting to spread liberty and freedom to the common people.
Americans were divided over whether to support the French.

Americans like Thomas Jefferson wanted the U.S. to join the French in their wars.

He believed that liberty was worth fighting for, especially after the French had helped us win our freedom.

Others felt that joining the French was too risky for our young nation. Some simply did not like the French and opposed helping them.

As our first President, Washington had to decide how to deal with the wars in Europe. He set many precedents (examples for future generations to follow.)

France wanted Americans to give them supplies and to help fight the British.

President Washington’s foreign policy was to remain neutral – He felt that the U.S. was not prepared for war and he wanted the country to stay out of European conflicts.

Washington issued a Neutrality Proclamation in 1793 stating that the U.S. would support neither France nor Great Britain.

Washington struggled to keep Americans neutral. Both France and England continually captured American ships, but Washington refused to enter the war.

This policy hurt his popularity. By the time Washington left office, anger over issues like the wars in Europe had led American leaders to organize two major political parties to support their views.

Ohio River Valley tribes united into a confederacy in the 1790’s and defeated the U.S. army in two major battles under the leadership of Little Turtle and Blue Jacket.

Over time, however, some tribes left the Indian confederacy. Those that remained fought the U.S. army at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794 and lost.

The defeated tribes were forced to sign the Treaty of Greenville in 1795 and give up huge portions of Ohio and Indiana in exchange for peace.

People who supported a strong federal government and favored the British formed the Federalist Party. They were led by Alexander Hamilton and John Adams.

People who supported state’s rights and wanted to support the French became known as Antifederalists. They were led by Thomas Jefferson.

When Washington retired in 1796, the two sides faced off in the first American election with political parties.

John Adams defeated Thomas Jefferson in the election of 1796.

Throughout his presidency, France continued to attack American ships. Most Americans now wanted to fight against France.

Adams resisted war fever. Like Washington, he felt America wasn’t ready for a war. He ended French attacks by building up the U.S. military.

President Adams strengthened the navy, but kept the U.S. out of war.
Chapter 10: The Jeffersonian Era

- Thomas Jefferson was elected President in 1800. As a Democratic Republican, his policies were much different from his Federalist predecessors.
- President Jefferson believed that a strong federal government threatened the rights of states.
- President Jefferson reduced the size and power of the federal government by cutting the federal budget so it could not spend as much money. He also decreased the size of the federal government so there were fewer government officials. He also shrank the size of the military and relied on militias instead.
- One strong federal action Jefferson did take was buying the Louisiana Purchase from Napoleon in 1803. Not only did the purchase double the size of the U.S., it also ended the French presence in America.
- Jefferson’s policy shrinking the military hurt American merchants.
- Britain and France went to war again in 1803. With fewer frigates to protect our trade ships, the French and English began to capture American ships once again.
- The British also impressed American sailors into the royal navy. Furious Americans demanded a war with Britain.
- Jefferson responded by hurting the French and British with a world embargo (ban on trade.)
- The Embargo Act kept the U.S. out of war and it hurt both the French and British economies. However, it hurt American merchants far worse.
- Despite the failure of the Embargo Act, another Republican, James Madison, was elected President in 1808.
- As Americans expanded into the Midwest, they came into conflict with Indian tribes living there.
- Shawnee leader Tecumseh, and his brother the Prophet, teamed up with other tribes to protect their way of life.
- The goal of Tecumseh’s Confederation was to return to the old ways and unite Indian nations to resist white settlers.
- Americans defeated part of the Confederation at the Battle of Tippecanoe in 1811.
- Americans soon learned that Britain was supplying tribes with guns and encouraging them to attack Americans.
- A group of congressmen called the War Hawks cried out to punish Britain and their native allies.
- When America declared war on Britain in 1812 it took the British completely by surprise.
- The British were already locked in a war with Napoleon, but as the U.S. entered the War of 1812 it had a small army and navy that lacked the training needed to fight the British military.
- Americans suffered embarrassing losses in Canada and the east, but achieved great victories in the west.
- By late 1814, neither side looked ready to win the war. Delegates met in Belgium to make a peace treaty.
- One last battle was fought as the treaty was being made.
- In New Orleans, General Andrew Jackson crushed the invading British army with his own small rag-tag force.
- Though a treaty had already been signed declaring the war a draw, Jackson’s victory made many Americans feel that we had won the war.
**Chapter 11: The Nation Grows and Prospers**

- Before the 1800’s, most Americans were farmers and most goods were produced by hand.
- After the Industrial Revolution, machines replaced hand tools and new power sources like steam replaced animal power.
- Though most people still farmed, the economy began to rely more and more on manufacturing.
- Businessmen in Massachusetts built an entire factory town named Lowell in the 1830’s.
- Visitors called Lowell a model factory town because factory workers there lived in clean, decent housing.
- The mill companies usually hired women from nearby farms.
- The Lowell girls worked in the mills for a few years before returning home to marry.
- Factory work was hard but for the first time women became providers for their families and gained economic freedom.
- Mill owners hired mostly women and children because they would work long hours for half the pay.
- Mill workers usually worked 12 hours a day, 6 days a week, year round (farmers had the winter off.)
- During the Industrial Revolution many Americans left their farms to work in factories in the cities.
- This movement of the population from the country to cities is called urbanization.
- People were drawn to the cities for more than just jobs. The city had attractions like theatres and circuses.
- The 1800’s brought exciting new transportation improvements to America.
- Improved roads like turnpikes and Corduroy roads let people move faster and safer.
- Steamboats and canals let people move faster on water than ever before.
- These inventions connected western farmers with eastern markets. Goods could now be moved quickly and cheaply across long distances.

**Chapter 12: The Jacksonian Era**

- Growing democratic values led an increased number of people to participate in the voting process in the 1800’s.
- For the first time, states granted suffrage (the right to vote) to all white males over the age of 21.
- When Republicans John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson and Henry Clay all ran for President in 1824, a huge number of voters turned out.
- No candidate won a majority (more than half) of the vote, but Adams became President in what Jackson called a “corrupt bargain” with Henry Clay.
- Adams was an unpopular president because, as a Whig, he favored a strong government and increased federal spending.
- In 1828, Adams ran for reelection against Democrat Andrew Jackson.
- Jackson won the election easily. It was considered a victory for the common people.
- After taking office, Jackson fired more government employees that any president before him. He replaced them with his own supporters.
- Critics accused him of rewarding his Democrat supporters instead of qualified men.
- The practice of rewarding supporters with government jobs became known as the spoils system.
- Jackson did give many unqualified supporters jobs in his cabinet,
and couldn’t rely on them for advice.
• Instead, Jackson relied on a group of unofficial presidential advisors known as the “kitchen cabinet.”
• These democratic leaders and newspaper owners offered the president sound advice when they met in the White House kitchen.
• One of Jackson’s most unexpected rivals was his own Vice President, John C. Calhoun.
• Though Jackson did not want to strengthen the federal government, he also believed strongly that the Union must be preserved at all costs.
• Calhoun, however, was a firm believer in each state’s rights to limit the power of the federal government.
• Calhoun argued with Jackson that states had the right of nullification. (The right of states to cancel federal laws that they considered unconstitutional.)
• At the peak of this argument, Calhoun’s state of South Carolina threatened to secede (remove itself from the United States).
• Jackson threatened to use the military to force South Carolina to cooperate. In the end, the state (and Calhoun) backed down.
• While Jackson was President, the state of Georgia attempted to remove the Cherokee tribe and send them across the Mississippi River. The tribe was able to win a Supreme Court case to remain in their homeland, but President Jackson ignored the court’s decision and the tribe was forced west anyway.

Chapter 13: Westward Expansion
• By the 1820’s, most of the best farmland in the east was already taken. The Great Plains and the Rockies were considered too dry to farm.
• In the 1820’s, settlers were lured to Oregon Country by the fertile land, plentiful rainfall and mild climate. It seemed the perfect place to settle and farm.
• Wagon trains lined up and traveled west every spring along the Oregon Trail. By 1860, 50,000 pioneers had survived the heat, disease and starvation of the trail and settled in Oregon.
• American farmers also looked eagerly to Texas, which was a part of Spain in the early 1800’s.
• In the 1820’s, Spain (and later Mexico) allowed Americans to settle in Texas. Within 2 decades, 20,000 Americans lived in Texas.
• In 1833, General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna gained power in Mexico. He became a dictator and threw out the Mexican constitution.
• Rumors spread that he would drive Americans out of Texas.
• Texans, with the support of many Tejanos (Mexicans living in Texas) defeated Mexican troops in Gonzales and San Antonio.
• By the time Santa Anna came north, the Texans had taken up positions at the Alamo, waiting for an attack.
• The Texans were poorly equipped and outnumbered 150 to 6,000! They defended the fort for a few days, but eventually all were killed.
• The fall of the Alamo caused Texans to seek revenge against Mexico.
• Texas declared independence and formed the Republic of Texas on March 2, 1836. Sam Houston was given control of the Army.
• On April 21, 1836 Houston defeated Santa Anna and the Mexican army at the Battle of San Jacinto.
In the 1840’s, America’s determination to expand led us to clash with Britain and Mexico. Both Britain and the U.S. had claimed Oregon, and President James K. Polk had promised to fight for it. Cooler heads prevailed, and the two countries split Oregon. This was not the case with Mexico. In 1844, the U.S. annexed Texas, which infuriated Mexico. Mexico and America went to war in 1846 after soldiers clashed at the Texas/Mexico border. A year after the war started, U.S. troops under General Winfield Scott captured Mexico City. In the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Mexico sold the Mexican Cession to the U.S. for $15 million. A few years later the U.S. bought the Gadsden Purchase and fulfilled its dream of Manifest Destiny.

**Manifest Destiny** is the idea that white Americans had the right and the duty to spread their culture across the continent.

In 1848, workers at Sutter’s Mill caught sight of a glint of gold. Word spread and within weeks gold fever had erupted. Over 80,000 people from all over the U.S. and the world rushed to California in 1849. These miners became known as forty-niners. They had left their homes and everything they knew for a chance to get rich.

Very few forty-niners became wealthy. Most went broke in the mine fields and struggled to survive.

Most 49ers left the minefields, but stayed in California and worked in different jobs. Women joined the gold rush too. Many owned bakeries, boardinghouses or laundromats in California. Almost overnight, towns like Sacramento and San Francisco went from sleepy little towns to giant cities.

Greed led some forty-niners into robbery and murder. As crime grew in mining camps, some miners became vigilantes (self-appointed law enforcers) and dealt out punishment to those even suspected of crimes.

The gold rush brought diverse groups of people to California. Before the Mexican Cession, there were already many Mexicans and Native Americans living in California. Both of these groups faced serious hardships because most 49ers were white Americans. Much of the Mexican culture was preserved in the California’s constitution, but many Mexican Americans were driven off of their family land.

Native Americans suffered the worst. They lost most of their land and many died of starvation, disease or murder. 4/5th of California’s Natives had died by 1870. The Chinese faced great prejudice in California. They were often driven off from their claims in the gold fields. The Chinese worked hard to help build California – they drained swamps, dug irrigation ditches and helped build railroads.

Free African Americans also joined the gold rush, and some struck it rich. California actually had the richest African American population of any state. However, free blacks faced discrimination and were not given equal rights during the gold rush. For example, black people could not testify against whites in court.
Chapter 14: North and South

• By the 1840’s, new inventions like the telegraph, the locomotive, clipper ships and farm machines had changed life dramatically in the north.
• Now Americans could communicate and travel faster than ever. The economy expanded rapidly as western farmers were connected to eastern cities. This created new markets for both to sell their goods.
• Factories also advanced in the 1840’s. Factories that used steam power could be built anywhere. They were also larger.
• Factory conditions changed as well. Entire families now worked longer hours for less pay and usually lived in dark, dingy housing.
• In the 1830’s, workers began to form trade unions, and went on strike. In a strike, workers refuse to work in order to gain better pay, hours and working conditions.
• However, at this time strikes were made illegal in most parts of the U.S.
• In the South, cotton became a hugely profitable crop. However, cleaning the seeds from cotton took too long.
• One invention greatly helped the South’s economy: the Cotton Gin.
• One slave using a cotton gin could do the job of 50 people. Southern planters were finally able to boost their profits by growing cotton.
• The cotton gin led to an economic boom in the South. Wealthy slave-owning planters became known as the Cottonocracy.
• With the cotton gin, more slaves were needed than ever.
• Slaves could no longer be bought from overseas, so it was important for rich southerners to keep their slaves under control.
• Southerners created slave codes to keep slaves uneducated and unable to rebel.
• The primary purpose of slave codes was to prevent slaves from running away.
• Despite these laws, slaves sometimes did run away. Some, like Nat Turner, even rebelled and took their revenge in bloody revolts.

Chapter 15: Reform Movements

• The mid-1800’s were a time of great reform in the U.S.
• Dorothea Dix led the way with her tireless work toward prison and hospital reform.
• The temperance movement attempted to end alcoholism in America. Alcohol was a huge problem because drinking water was often contaminated with dangerous bacteria. Children drank alcohol from a young age, making them much more likely to become alcoholics as adults.
• Two closely linked movements were the women’s rights movement and the abolitionist movement.
• An abolitionist is a person who wanted to completely end slavery in the United States.
• Women and African Americans often worked together toward greater equality.
• Women had few political or legal rights in the mid-1800s. They could not vote and those that were married had to give their land and wages to their husbands.
• Women earned new educational opportunities in the mid-1800s. They now studied medicine, math and science instead of only dancing and drawing.
Chapter 16: Slavery Divides the Nation

- The first half of the 1800’s was a time of expansion in America, but with that expansion came repeated dilemmas between the North and South.
- The Missouri Compromise, Compromise of 1850 and Kansas Nebraska Acts were all attempts to keep the number of slave and free states even. If either side became too weak or powerful a disastrous war would surely come.
- The struggle was never more clear than in Kansas, where the rivalry between proslavery and antislavery settlers led to violence in 1855. The territory became known as “Bleeding Kansas.”
- In the meantime, northerners became more opposed to slavery than ever before. They hated the fugitive slave law and were upset at the Dred Scot decision that allowed slavery in all territories.
- At the same time, a new book called *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* led many northerners to oppose slavery.
- This antislavery movement led to the creation of the Free Soil Party and the Republican Party. Both parties were devoted to keeping slavery out of the territories, though a few members were abolitionists.
- By the Election of 1860, Republican Abe Lincoln was a famous rising star.
- He ran against several democrats and defeated them without winning a single southern state.
- Southern voters were furious. One by one, southern states seceded from the Union and seized federal forts.
- No compromise could save the Union now.

Chapter 17: The Civil War

- As the Civil War began, state had to decide which side to join. Four border states decided to stay in the Union despite the fact that they were slave states. Their resources were a great help to the Union cause.
- At the start of the Civil War the North had one official goal: To keep the Union together.
- Southerners fought to preserve their traditional way of life. They simply wanted to be left alone. The Confederate States of America were determined to be their own country.
- The North had many advantages as the war began. The North had more soldiers because their free population was four times higher. They had far more factories to produce war supplies. The North also far more railroads so they could quickly ship soldiers and supplies.
- The North developed a three-part strategy to defeat the South.
  - First, the Union planned to use its navy to blockade Southern ports, keeping the South from getting supplies.
  - In the East, Union generals aimed to capture Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy.
  - In the West, the Union planned to seize control of the Mississippi. This would divide the South into two parts.
- Some northerners disliked the Civil War because they opposed using force to keep the South in the Union. Pro-war northerners labeled them copperheads after the poisonous snake.
- As anti-war protests spread in some area, President Lincoln declared martial law, which is rule by the military instead of the elected government.
- Early Civil War battles like Bull Run showed that both sides needed better-trained soldiers.
The Confederates won most of the major battles for the first two years of the war thanks to their superior generals. However, as the war dragged on, the Union’s power and determination only grew. By the end of the third year (1864) it was clear to most people that the North would win the war. Along the way, the abolition of slavery became another northern war goal. President Lincoln announced that all slaves living in the Confederacy were free. This statement was called the Emancipation Proclamation.

At first, African American troops served as laborers for the Union army and received half the pay of white soldiers. By 1863, black soldiers were fighting in Civil War battles, organized into all-black regiments and led by white officers. Meanwhile in the South, many black slaves refused to work for their masters or support the Confederate war effort. Whenever the Union army marched nearby, many slaves escaped and joined the northerners.

Determined Union generals like Grant and Sherman pushed the confederate army to its breaking point in 1865. The Union used a strategy called total war, which means to completely destroy an enemy’s resources in order to end their ability to fight.

Robert E. Lee surrendered his Confederate forces that year and the South returned to the Union.

As the war ended, President Lincoln wanted peace between northerners and southerners, not punishment. When the South surrendered, Grant told Union soldiers that the Southerners were no longer their enemies.

The toll of the Civil War was immense. No war has ever resulted in more American deaths. The war also resulted in the rise of the Republican party, which would dominate politics for the next 20 years.

One major result of the Civil War was that slavery was ended everywhere in the U.S. Another major result was that America was now undoubtedly one indivisible nation that would not allow any part to leave without a fight.

The war was not only a struggle for white and black Americans. Around 20,000 American Indians enlisted in the Civil War. Some joined the Union while others joined the Confederacy. The war had a significant impact on the future of many tribes.

The outbreak of the Civil War split the Cherokee tribe. Many owned black slaves while others were abolitionists. Some joined the Union while others joined the Confederacy.

The Civil War caused a Cherokee civil war that set the tribe to fight amongst themselves.

During the war, the Dakota Sioux chose to resist their unfair treatment by the United States. They fought American settlers in a war known as the Great Sioux Uprising in 1862 and were defeated. After the war, President Lincoln decided to execute 38 of the Dakota warriors who had fought in the uprising. Lincoln believed that executing 38 of the Dakota Sioux was just enough to discourage future tribal rebellions without killing so many people as to seem cruel.

Another conflict between white Americans and a western tribe occurred in Colorado in 1864. The Colorado Cavalry attacked the Cheyenne and the Arapaho at a location where the tribe was supposed to be under the protection of the U.S. government. The Cheyenne chief, Black Kettle, tried to surrender before the massacre began but was ignored. The cavalry killed and mutilated 270 Indian people, most of whom were women and children.