AP US HISTORY TIMELINE

**COLONIAL AMERICA:**

**DATES: 17TH CENTURY (1600’s)**

**Major Themes:**

1. Differences between the Southern, New England, and Middle colonies:

* Northern colonies were established for religious reasons and Southern colonies were established for commercial gain
* Southern: colonies were founded in order to compete with other European powers in the quest for land and wealth; developed prosperous economies based on cultivation of cash crops such as tobacco, rice, and indigo; noted for reliance upon slave labor
* The Virginia Company introduced the headright system, as a means of attracting new settlers to the region; a tract of land that was usually granted to colonists
* Land grants infringed upon rights of N. Americans, whose values regarding the environment and property ownership were vastly different from the values of the Europeans who settled in this region

Contextualization: These southern colonies foreshadow the “Deep South” for its heavy reliance on slaves and during the Civil War; the Deep South was part of the Confederacy and was pro-slavery because of its dependency on agriculture

* New England 1622: group for religious travelers known as the Pilgrims arrived on the Mayflower from England and the Netherlands early in 1620 to est. Plymouth Colony

-Mayflower Compact asserted that the government’s power derives from the consent of the governed and not from God

-Puritans est. the MA Bay colony under John Winthrop

* Middle Colonies: Delaware, NJ, NY, Penn; part of the New Netherland until the British exerted control over the region; had rich soil and the lumber and shipbuilding industries enjoyed successes; were the most ethically and religiously diverse British colonies; freedom of religion (tolerance was unusual and distinct from other British colonies); Quakers in Penn.
* Chesapeake (Maryland and Virginia): combined features of the middle colonies and lower South; slavery and tobacco played role and farmed grain

2. Characteristics of the Puritan experience (City upon a Hill)

* The leader of the Puritan migration, John Winthrop planned to create a **utopian society** based on Puritanism that would have no class distinction and would stress the importance of community and church. The society was to be an example to all the world of what could be achieved. It was anticipated that once the world saw this great city it would follow it example.
* Puritans were guided by their religion and created a government and society tied to the church
* The puritans who migrated to America were dissenters from the Church of England who created a new church in the colonies. Religious outcasts from the puritan church such as Ann Hutchinson and Roger Williams were also dissenters.
* Puritans believed that wealth and success were a sign of saintliness and that idleness was a sin; covenant with God

Contextualization: The MA Bay Colony were strict Calvinists and had the “protestant work ethic” that led to the eventual development of a market economy

* Roger Williams was banished for believing in separation of church and state and Anne Hutchinson believed in antinomianism, that faith and God’s grace suffice to earn one a place among the “elect”

Contextualization: The fact that Hutchinson was an intelligent, well-educated, and powerful woman in the patriarchal society turned many against her; this foreshadows the liberation of women in the 1960’s and how in the 19th century many women wanted educational, property, and legal rights

3. Origin of Slavery:

* Most of the colonies introduced slavery into their communities to help their economy prosper. Slavery was most prominent in the South because of the need to pick cotton and rice that was a tedious and hard job to do without slaves that were forced to do the job.
* Middle Passage: allowed the colonies access to slaves from Africa; Congress outlawed slave trade in 1808

4. Indentured Servitude and its role in the colonial economy:

* Indentured servants were promised land and freedom if they worked for an x amount of years on the colonies to help the economy prosper
* Before colonists started bringing in slaves, indentured servants were the main workers to harvest crops and bring in money for the colonies
* Because slaves were forced to work and the colonists did not have to promise them anything for their work, colonies started bringing in more slaves

5. The slow evolution from separate colonies to unity by 1763:

* Great Britain used a term called “salutary neglect” to describe their relationship with the colonies; the colonies had independence but when the Crown started to impose taxes on them, the colonists became enraged
* Most of the proprietary colonies were converted to royal colonies; their ownership was taken over by the king, who could then exert greater control over their governments
* Mercantilism: colonies were seen as markets for british and West Indian goods; valued as sources of raw materials that would otherwise have to be brought from a foreign country
* Navigation Acts 1651-1673: required the colonists to buy goods only from England, to sell certain of their products only to England (colonists were less strenuous to these than the Stamp Act)
* Every colony had a governor who was appointed by the king or the proprietor
* Bacon’s Rebellion 1676: when Governor Berkeley refused to allow Bacon to revolt against tribes, Bacon relented b/c Indians were raiding the farmers; early example of a populist uprising in America
* Stono Uprising: similar to Harpers Ferry; slaves revolted and colonies passed more restrictive laws to govern behavior of slaves

Important Events:

* Salem Witch Trials in 1692: showed oppression of women
* First Great Awakening 1740 response to Enlightenment and emphasized rationalism over emotionalism
* Ben Franklin’s Almanac, Sinners in the Eyes of an Angry God (Edwards)

**REVOLUTIONARY AMERICA:**

**DATES: 1754-1776 (18TH CENTURY)**

EVENTS LEADING TO THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR:

1754: French and Indian War:

* Franklin’s Albany Plan was rejected because the colonists did not want to relinquish control of their right to tax themselves, nor were they prepared to unite under a single colonial legislature “Join or Die”
* Colonists called F & I War because the French and the Indians were on the same side; when colonial settlers started to move into the Ohio Valley, French tried to stop them by building forts
* 1756: England declared war on France; Native Americans allied themselves with the French because they had good relations and based on Washington’s performance, they thought the French would win
* when the war was over, England was the undisputed colonial power of the continent

1763: F & I War Ends:

* Treaty of Paris gave England control of Canada and almost everything east of Mississippi Valley; French kept sugar islands
* Pontiac Rebellion: caused by the British raising their prices of goods sold to the Native Americans and Pontiac attacked colonial outposts; was in part a response of the colonists expanding into the Ohio River Valley and ennroaching on land
* Proclamation of 1763: was issued in response to Pontiac and forbade settlement west of the rivers running through the Appalachinas; agitated colonial settlers because they wanted to use the land granted to them in the Treaty of Paris; turning point in British-colonial relations and marks the end of salutary neglect

1764:

* Sugar Act: Grenville PM of Britain believed that colonists should pay for the huge debt from the F & I War; protective tariff against French imports

-duties were to be collected and became more difficult for colonial shippers to avoid commiting even minor violations; violators were to be arrested and tried in courts in which a single judge issued verdict (Parliament was overstepping)

* Currency Act: forbade colonies to issue paper money

1765:

* Stamp Act: tax aimed at raising revenue; self taxation was being taken by Parliament; tax on good produced within the colonies
* Otis put forward “No taxation without representation” b/c wanted representation in parliament or greater degree of self gov’t
* Virginia Resolves by Henry: self government and protested against Stamp Act; protests groups called Sons of Liberty spread throughout the colonies
* Quartering Act: large number of troops in America made the colonists responsible for the cost of feeding and housing them

1766:

* Parliament repealed Stamp Act; Rockingham was now PM and issued Declaratory Act which asserted the British gov’ts right to tax and legislate in all cases anywhere in the colonies

1767:

* Townshend: taxed goods imported directly from Britain and created more courts and new gov’t officers enforced the Crown’s will in the colonies
* Writs of assistance: licenses that gave British the power to search any place they suspected of hiding smuggled goods

1770:

* Townshend acts were repealed (except tea tax); soldiers were still present
* Led to the Boston Massacre: mob pelted group of soldiers with rock-filled snowballs and soldiers fired on the crowd, killing five

1772:

* British implemented the part of the Townshend Acts that provided for colonial administrators to be paid from customs revenues (not by colonial legislatures)
* Colonists created Committees of Correspondence: trade ideas and inform one another of the political mood

1773:

* British gave the Dutch East India Tea Company monopoly on tea in colonies
* Boston Tea Party: Sons of Liberty threw tea into the Boston Harbor b/c parliament was once again imposing taxes on them

1774:

* Coercive Acts (Intolerable Acts)

-P: Port Bill: closed Boston Harbor until all tea was paid for

-A: Admins. Justice Act: tightened control over the courts and MA gov’t

-N: New Quartering Act: stricter to put British soldiers in colonial homes

-G: Gov’t Bill: tightened control over colonial gov’t

* Quebec Act: granted greater liberty to Catholics, and extended boundaries of Quebec Territory, thus impeding westward expansion
* First Continental Congress meets: enumerate grievances, formulate position on relationship between royals and colonials
* Continental Association: towns setting up committees of observation to enforce boycott of British goods

1775:

* Battle of Lexington and Concord “Shot Heard Round the World”: British wanted to take away weapons from colonists; MA militia inflicted casualities on british redcoats and forced them to retreat
* 2nd Continental Congress: est. Continental Army, and chose Washington to lead the army
* Dickinson est. Olive Branch Petition to negotiate peace but failed

1776: Declaration of Independence:

* Paine Common Sense: produced sentiment for war
* Individual liberty and fundamental responsibility to serve the people; war for independence

1781:

* British surrendered at Yorktown
* Troubles: Continental Army could not recruit soldiers and recruited blacks to serve in the war (like in WWI and WWII)
* Women also helped soldiers and played important role
* Franco-American alliance brought French into the war on the side of the colonists after colonists won Battle at Saratoga

1783:

* Treaty of Paris: granted US independence and territorial rights

**CONSTITUTION AND EARLY REPUBLIC**

**DATES: 1777-1800**

1. Failures of the Articles of Confederation:

* Created little to no central government
* Could not tax the people nor had the power to regulate trade
* Too concerned with prohbiting the gov’t from gaining too much power than with empowering it to function efficiently
* Needed unanimity to amend laws
* Tried to finance the war by printing more money and led to inflation
* Unable to impose tariffs to impose duties on imported goods b/c the additional cost would be added to the selling prices and raising cost of foreign products

2. Shay’s Rebellion 1787:

* Army of 1500 farmers marched to protest a number of unfair policies; like Bacon’s, it revealed resentment on the part of the backcountry farmers toward the coastal elite
* National gov’t could not stop rebellions b/c of Articles of Confederation

3. Achievement: Northwest Ordinance of 1787:

* Trial by jury, freedom of religion and excessive punishment; abolished slavery in the NW territories (northwest of Ohio River and east of Miss. River) and set conditions for which territories could apply for statehood; claimed Native land

Contextualization: This Ordinance set the principles for statehood during era of Manifest Destiny; forerunner to the Bill of Rights and other progressive policies

4. Philadelphia Convention:

* New Jersey Plan wanted equal representation from each state and Virgnia Plan wanted new gov’t based on checks and balances and representation based on population
* Great Compromise blended the two and created bicameral legislature

-only in the 20th century will the direct election of senators be enacted by 17th amendment

* 3/5 Compromise: slaves were counted as 3/5 of a person
* Federalists: wanted strong federal government (HAMJ) while anti-federalists wanted weak federal government not to threaten states’ rights
* Constitution went into effect in 1789 and the Bill of Rights was added in 1791 to please the Anti-federalists

5. Alexander Hamilton: sec. of treasury under Washington

* Disagreed with Jefferson’s Anti-Federalist views
* Hamilton was a loose constructionist: stated that the National Bank was expressed as an implied power of the gov’t b/c gov’t had explicit power to coin and borrow money and collect taxes (Washington agreed with Hamilton)
* Jefferson and Madison were strict constructionists (democratic republicans): only those powers granted that are necessary and proper
* Hamilton’s financial plan called for the federal gov’t to assume the states’ debts and to repay those debts by giving debt holders land on the frontier
* Federalists like Hamilton, Washington, Adams, Jay, and Marshall wanted an economy based on commerce and appealed to the wealthy NE; loose constructionists
* Anti-Federalists or democratic republicans like Jefferson and Madison appealed to the yeoman farmers and southerners who wanted an economy based on agriculture and were strict constructionists

6. Citizen Genet:

* When French gov’t appealed to America through Genet, Washington declared to be neutral

Contextualization: Wilson was a lot like Washington in the neutrality acts to stay away from “belligerent powers”

7. Whiskey Rebellion: another farmer’s rebellion

* Rebellion on excise tax on whiskey; Washington dispatched the militia to disperse the rebels; demonstrated the lasting class tensions between inland farmers and coastal elites who ran the gov’t

8. Jay’s Treaty:

* Receive land from Northwest Territory; made too many concessions to the British; failure for Washington b/c British did not see America as sovereign nation

9. Pinckey’s Treaty or San Lorenzo:

* High point of Washington: able to extract a promise from Spain to try to prevent attacks on Western settlers from Native Americans and use of the Mississippi River

10. Farewell Address:

* “steer clear of permanent alliances” and call for neutrality defined foreign policy from 1800 until the late 1890s

11. Adams as President 1796 Federalist:

* “Republican mother”
* XYZ Affair: France began seizing US ships on the open seas and Adams sent three diplomats where French officials demanded a huge bribe before they would allow negotiations to begin; now public was anti-French
* Alien and Sedition Acts: allowed the government to expel foreigners and to jail newspaper editors for scandalous and malicious writings; enraged Democratic Republicans like VP Jefferson
* In response, Jefferson created Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions which argued that states had the right to judge the constitutionality of laws

Contextualization: Precursor to the nullification crisis under Calhoun in which SC seceded from the Union

12. Revolution of 1800:

* Jefferson won against Burr; Hamilton hated Burr so he campaigned for Jefferson
* President was saddled with a VP he did not want and was remedied in 1804 with 12th Amendment which allowed electors to vote for a party ticket
* Transfer of power from Federalists to Democratic Republicans

**JEFFERSONIAN AGE**

**Dates: 1800-1824 (JEFFERSON, MADISON, MONROE) VIRGINIA DYNASTY**

1. Midnight appointments:

* Adams was upset about the election so he tried to fill up as many gov’t positions with federalists as he could; Jefferson refused to recognize these appointments
* Resulted in Marbury v. Madison: Marbury (one of appts.) sued Madison (sec. of state) for not recognizing his appt.
* Est. judicial review: reviewing the constitutionality of congressional acts

2. Louisiana Purchase:

* Napoleon had his sights in the New World but after the Haitian Revolution in his colonies, he abandoned his interests and offered to sell Monroe the whole Louisiana territory for 15 milllion
* Nowhere in the constitution did it say the president could purchase land and Jefferson resolved this issue by stating he had the right to negotiate treaties
* Lewis and Clark were sent to survey the land and all returned with favorable reports that led to many pioneers turning their attentions westward in search of land, riches, and economic opportunities

3. Aaron Burr:

* Killed Hamilton during the 1804 elections for governor of NY; Jefferson won election of 1804

4. War of 1812:

* US suffered from the blockades between Britain and French because they were trade partners
* British began stopping American ships and impressing sailors by declaring that they had deserted from British navy
* Embargo Act of 1807: shut down America’s import and export business, wirh disastrous economic results
* Non-Intercourse Act: reopened trade with most nations but banned trade with Britain and France
* Madison took presidency in 1808 and Macon’s Bill No. 2 reopened trade with Britain and France but Madison promised that if either country renounced its interference with American trade, he would cut off trade with the other one; France still continued to harass US ships
* War Hawks: war as an opportunity to grab new territories in the west and southwest like Clay and Calhoun
* Native Americans allied with the British (just like in Rev. War); Treaty of Ghent ended the war
* Battle of New Orleans: unaware of the signing of the treaty, Jackson won Battle and Hartford Convention convened to secede but Federalists were no longer relevant after the Treaty was signed
* Effects of the war:

-represented end of Native American’s ability to stop American expansion

-the American economy relied less on Britain and spurred American manufacturing

-made Jackson into a celebrity to pave the way for presidency

-victory of New Orleans led to natural euphoria

-destroyed Federalists, who had opposed it, and taught US politicians that objecting to going to war could be hazardous to their careers

* The Rush-Bagot Treaty, or "Rush-Bagot Disarmament", was an agreement between the United States and Great Britain to substantially reduce their naval vessels to patrol boats at the Great Lakes and Lake Champlain following the end of the [War of 1812](http://www.american-historama.org/1801-1828-evolution/war-of-1812.htm).

5. Madison’s policies: American System

* Extended federal gov’t cautiously as a Democratic Republican; championed internal improvements, protective tariffs on imports, improvements to interstate roads, rechartering of the National Bank (Clay)

6. Era of Good Feelings under Monroe:

* Period of unity but rise of economic sectionalism
* McCulloch v. Maryland: states could not tax national bank, establishing national law over state law
* Tariff of 1816: (also known as the Dallas tariff) is notable as the first tariff passed by Congress with an explicit function of protecting U.S. manufactured items from foreign competition
* Panic of 1819: compounded by excessive speculation in public lands, fueled by the unrestrained issue of paper money from banks and business concerns; when bank called in loans, borrowers couldn’t repay them and people were thrown into poverty; Monroe won reelection in 1820
* Adam-Onis Treaty of 1819: purchase of Florida under sec. of state Q. Adams
* America should asserts its authority over the western hemisphere and est. the Monroe Doctrine 1823: mutual noninterference: you stay out of the Americas, (to Europe) and we’ll stay out of your squabbles; claimed the right to intervene anywhere in its own hemisphere, if it felt its security was threatened (no European nation tried to intercede in the Americas)
* Missouri Compromise of 1820: Missouri would be let in as a slave state and Maine would be let in as a free state not to counter the balance; est. the southern border of Missouri as the northernmost point at which slavery would be allowed

7. Improvements:

* By making it possible to mass produce goods and transport them across the country cheaply, a market economy began to develop and less dependent on imports to create national economy
* Eerie Canal est. in 1816 and completed in 1825; funded by state of NY under Dewitt Clinton; by 1850, canal era had ended b/c of railroads
* Steamships: traveled faster than sailing vessels for long sea voyages
* Railroads were first built during the 1830s
* Eli Whitney invented cotton gin in 1793 and made it easier to remove seeds from cotton plants; interchangeable parts gave birth to machine tool industry, which produced specialized machines for growing industries such as textiles and trans.
* Invention of power loom in 1813 meant that textile manufacturers could produce both thread and finished fabric in their own factories
* Lowell System: worker-enticement program and as conditions worsened, labor unions were created to protect their interests
* Clothing manufacturers were located in the Northeast and transportation industry grew as a result of the need to ship products
* Vessey Slave Revolt: Denmark Vesey, known as Telemaque while enslaved, was a free black and former slave in Charleston, South Carolina who is noted for his plan for "the rising," a major slave revolt in 1822
* Fulton’s Folly: best known for designing and building the first commercially successful steamboat but failed

8. S. Court Decisions:

* 1824: Gibbons v. Ogden: A New York state law gave to individuals the exclusive right to operate steamboats on waters within state jurisdiction.
* 1821: Cohens v. Virginia: assertion of its power to review state supreme court decisions in criminal law matters when the defendant claims that their Constitutional rights have been violated
* Dartmouth College v. Woodward (1819): The decision settled the nature of public versus private charters and resulted in the rise of the American business corporation and the American free enterprise system

**AGE OF JACKSON (QUINCY ADAMS, JACKSON, VAN BUREN)**

**DATES: 1824-1840**

1. Corrupt Bargain:

* Of the four candidates, no one won a majority to the election went to the house; Clay threw support to Adams when Adams named Clay sec. of state (road to presidency) and Jackson called the election a corrupt bargain
* Q. Adams faced opposition as a federalist president to impose new tariffs, interstate highways, and internal improvements

2. Election of 1828:

* Jackson won as a supporter of states’ rights and thwarted all of Adams’ efforts to initiate improvements through the federal government
* Age of the Common Man: interests of the West in mind and administration jobs that had previously circulated among insular circle of political supporters fell into the hands of the spoils system (trading jobs for political favors)
* Jacksonian ushered in democracy that replaced Jefferson’s republicanism; Jackson’s democracy benefited from universal male suffrage, even those who did not own property

3. Indian Removal Act of 1850:

* White attitudes toward the tribes: from noble savages to hostile attitudes particularly among whites in western states whom Jackson came to represent “savages” now uncivilizable
* The Black Hawk War: battle between white settlers in Illinois and alliance of Sauk and Fox Indians under aged warrior Black Hawk (refused to recognize treaty between them)
* Wanted to negotiate treaties with the southern Indians that would remove them to the West and open their lands
* Cherokees refused to move and appealed to S. Court:

-Cherokee Nation v. GA and Worcester v. GA: Marshall sided with the tribes but Jackson refused to comply

4. Trail of Tears:

* About 1000 Cherokees fled across the state line to NC where fed. Gov’t reserved for them in Smoky Mountains that began in winter of 1838
* Perished before or soon after reaching unwanted destination
* All of the 5 tribes were expelled from the states and forced to relocate with the Congress Indian Intercourse Act of 1834

5. Nullification Crisis:

* Tariff of 1828 or Abominations: was a protective tariff passed by the Congress designed to protect industry in the northern United States; It was labeled the Tariff of Abominations by its southern detractors because of the effects it had on the antebellum Southern economy
* In response, Calhoun (S. Carolinian under Jackson) argued that states who felt that the 50% tariff was unfairly high could nullify the law; these cut into trade with Britain on which the South relied to sell its cotton and buy British wools in return
* After the Tariff of 1832 failed to lower rates to an acceptable level, SC nullified the tariff
* Force Bill in response: Jackson threatened to call in troops to enforce the tariff, but Calhoun and Clay brokered behind the scenes compromise, lowering the tariff and diffusing tensions

6. Webster-Hayne Debate:

* Hayne said that tariff was a way for the East to gain political power and economic power
* Webster attacked Hayne in terms of the issue of states rights vs. national power

-Hayne (coached by Calhoun) responded by the theory of nullification; Webster then spent two afternoons delivering “Second Reply to Hayne” that concluded liberty and union, now and forever

-Jackson stated, “Our Federal Union must be preserved” and drew sharp lines with Calhoun; believed that nullification endangered the Union

7. 2nd Bank of the United States:

* Jackson had distrust of big government and Northeastern power brokers
* Vetoed attempt to recharter the bank and withdrawed federal funds into pet banks; argued that the bank was an unconstitutional monopoly; S. Court ruled against him using commerce clause in McCulloch v. Maryland

8. Specie Circular:

* Ended policy of selling gov’t land on credit and buyers now had to pay hard cash, caused money shortage and a sharp decrease in the treasury which helped trigger the Panic of 1837

9. Nat Turner’s Rebellion:

* Black liberation movement that failed; southern states passed restrictive laws known as black codes, prohibiting blacks from congregating and learning how to read
* Peculiar institution: a euphemism for slavery and the economic ramifications of it in the American south

10. Election of 1836:

* Whig party formed and believed in gov’t activism, especially in social issues
* Van Buren entered the presidency right when the Panic of 1837 occurred and continued Jackson’s policy of favoring hard currency

11. Log Cabin Campaign Election of 1841:

* Harrison became 1st Whig President and Tyler took his place when Harrison died
* Tyler is often referred to as the president without a party because he favored states’ rights but was a Whig

**WESTWARD EXPANSION AND SECTIONALISM:**

**DATES: 1830’s-1860**

**(HARRISON, TYLER, POLK, TAYLOR, FILLMORE, PIERCE, BUCHANAN)**

1. Manifest Destiny:

* After Louisiana Purchase, Americans wanted to claim their land in the Western territories
* Canada, Mexico, and even all of the land in the Americas will belong to the US
* Moving into lands that were rightfully Native American land and Mexican land
* The North: was becoming more industrialized with the railroad, canals, and the American System that was implemented under Monroe; farming played less of a role in the NE economy than it did elsewhere; technological advances, transportation, industry
* The South: remained agrarian and and protected slavery which the landholders depended on; Southerners looked for new slave territories to include in the Union in order to strengthen their position in Congress and protect slavery from Northern legislators
* West: fur trapping, commercial farming, and distrusted the North which they regarded as the home of powerful banks that could take their land away; wanted to avoid involvement in the slavery issue

2. Election of 1844:

* James K Polk won against Whig leader Henry Clay
* Whigs stood for a policy of internal improvements: building bridges, dredging harbors, digging canals, and in short civilizing the lands the US already possessed
* Democrats tended to push the nation’s border outwards and felt that the gov’t shouldn’t do anything with newly added land, and it should instead be kept in private hands
* Whig-dominated New England with bustling towns and busy factories vs. heavily Democratic South with its isolated plantations

3. Polk Presidency:

* Biggest achievement: Oregon Treaty of 1846 that was signed with Great Britain that allowed the US to acquire peacefully what is now Oregon, Washington, and parts of Idaho, Washington, Wyoming, and Montana
* The Webster-Ashburton Treaty of 1842 left the Oregon Territory unsettled and resolved border disputes concerning the Maine / New Brunswick boundary partially delineating the northeastern U.S - Canada border which led to the Aroostook War
* Polk concentrated on getting the Southwest from Mexico

4. Remember the Alamo:

* Stephen Austin: got permission to settle in Texas as long as they followed Mex. Law and would convert; had 30,000 Americans in Texas in 1830;

-Mexican didn’t allow any more immigrants come to Texas and were agitated that they weren’t converting to Roman Catholicism

* Sam Houston: military leader in Texas and Santa Anna led the Mexican Army; Mexican Army followed Houston and the Texans to the San Jacinto Creek and Texas Army yelled “Remember the Alamo”
* Polk went to Congress with a joint resolution to accept Texas and in 1845, Texas becomes the 28th state

5. Mexican War (1846-1848)

* Polk challenged Mexican authorities on the border of Texas, provoking a Mexican attack on American troops; Mexico was already agitated over the annexation of Texas, which had gained independence from Mexico in 1836
* Northerners feared that new states in the West would become slave states, thus tipping the balance in Congress in favor of proslavery forces
* Rich Southerners who were “pulling the strings” were referred to as the Slave Power by suspicious Northerners
* US invaded Mexico City and the war ended
* Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo: Mexico handed over almost all of modern SW: Arizona, New Mexico, California, Nevada, and Utah (Mexican Cession)
* Major problems for slavery which led to sectionalism:

1. East of the Mississippi, territory of US was divided evenly between lands suited for plantation agriculture, where slavery flourished, and those that were not, and where slavery died out shortly after independence

2. Southerners saw a future in which slavery was confined, to the southeastern part of it and were therefore be greatly outvoted should free-soil advocates decide to ban slavery everywhere

3. Southerners introduced **popular sovereignty** so that the territories themselves would decide, by vote, whether to allow slavery within their borders

6. Wilmot Proviso:

* Defeated in Congress to prohibit the extension of slavery into any territory gained from Mexico
* Northern Whigs were in favor and Northern Democrats were in favor
* Southern Whigs were opposed and Southern Democrats opposed

Contextualization: The vote did not fall on party lines but **sectional** ones, which led to the Civil War when the South felt that they were being outvoted and wanted to create their own “nation”/Confederacy where slavery was legal and was not under control of the Northern Whigs/Democrats

* Free Soilers: created the Free Soil Party which was a regional, single issue party to stop the expansion of slavery and devoted to the goals of the Wilmot Proviso

7. Gold Rush:

* John Fremont acquired massive wealth from the California Gold Rush; lost the election of 1856 to Buchanan when Know-Nothings split the vote and Democrats warned his election would lead to civil war

8. Compromise of 1850:

* California wanted statehood and would be anti-slavery; proslavery forces argued that California should be forced to accept slavery to be in accordance with Missouri Compromise of 1820
* Douglas (democrat) and Clay (Whig) proposed compromise but was defeated b/c different groups supported different parts so they broke it into two:

1. bills admitted California as a free state, at the price of the enactment of a stronger fugitive slave law

2. created the terriotires of Utah and N. Mexico but left the status of slavery up to each territory (popular sovereignty)

3. Abolished the slave trade, not slavery itself

Problem with popular sovereignty: North and South could interpret it as entirely different to benefit what they wanted; slave law made it much easier to retrieve escaped slaves, but required citizens of free states to cooperate in their retrieval

9. Continuing Slavery:

* Uncle Tom’s Cabin by Stowe: attacked anti-slavery sentiment in millions who had never before given the issue much thought (Abolition Movement in Antebellum period)
* Underground railroad by Tubman: helped escaped slaves

10. Bleeding Kansas and Kansas-Nebraska Act:

* Act repealed Missouri Compromise; Northerners considered the law futher evidence of the Slave Power’s domination of gov’t
* In response, many Northern states passed laws weakening the fugitive slave act and personal liberty laws required a trial by jury for all fugitives
* Anti-slavery Whigs joined with Democrats on the issue of slavery and with Free Soilers to create Republican Party (not abolitions, but wanted to keep slavery out of territories)
* Know Nothings formed during the 1850’s to bring up nativism and rally against the immigrants for stealing jobs
* Both abolitionists and proslavery groups rushed into territories of Kansas and Nebraska; thousands of proslavery Border Ruffians relocated in Kansas and drew up Lecompton Constitition

-Pierce supported because he supported proslavery forces

* Sumner-Brooks: Brooks (pro slavery) beat Sumner (anti-slavery) for a speech in which Sumner attacked the South and Butler using lewd metaphors about slavery

11. Election of 1856:

* Buchanan won b/c of Pierce’s destroyed career and Democrats won
* Carried the South, while the North split between Buchanan and Republican John Fremont
* Millard Fillmore: won 20% of the vote and was the Know Nothings’ last hurrah
* Buchanan worked to enforce the slave act and opposed abolitionist activism in the South and the West; hoped to maintain the Union until solution presented itself

12. Dred Scott v. Sandford:

* Scott, former slave whose master took him to territories were slavery was illegal, declared himself a free man and sued for his freedom
* Taney Court: one sided, proslavery decision declared that slaves were property (chattel), not citizens, and no black person could ever be a citizen of the US so they cannot sue in federal courts
* Ruled that Congress could not regulate slavery as it had done in the Missouri Compromise and ruled out any hope of reviving the Wilmot Proviso, which was still championed by many Northerners
* Taney declared Missouri Compromise unconstitutional and said that slavery could go anywhere; Republican’s goal of preventing the spread of slavery into the new territories was destroyed by Court’s ruling
* Northerners included that Slave power would soon dominate the entire country, even forcing slavery to those that don’t want it

13. 1858 Lincoln-Douglas debates:

* Stephen Douglas faced stiff competition for his senate seat from Lincoln, rising star in Republican party
* Race for Illinois’s Senate seat gained national attention in part b/c of railroad and telegraph thanks to Samuel Morse
* Lincoln gained reputation as a Whig opposed to the Mexican War and Kansas-Nebraska Act
* Lincoln delivered House Divided Speech “nation cannot exist half slave and half free” while Douglas destroyed political career in his attempt to defend popular sovereignty in what became known as the Freeport Doctrine
* Douglas alienated both Northern and Southern voters by stance on popular sovereignty and destroyed any chance he had for winning presidency in 1860

14. Events in 1860:

* John Brown’s Raid 1859: radical abolitionist that gave the name “Bleeding Kansas” that took arsenal from Harper’s Ferry and took slaves to raid proslavery forces; received financial backing from Northern abolitionist organizations
* Election of 1860: northern democrats backed Douglas but southerners backed Breckenrigdge; Republicans nominated Lincoln and won election b/c he sweeped the North
* Crittenden Compromise: southern leaders wanted to maintain the Union and tried to negotiate and came up with Compromise; Lincoln refused to soften the Republican demand that slavery not be extended in territories