

tion Crisis, Jackson defended the power of the federal government. In the Cherokee case, he backed states' rights. He said that the federal government could not stop Georgia from extending its authority over Cherokee lands. "John Marshall has made his decision," Jackson reportedly said. "Now let him enforce it."

## Forced to Leave

In 1830, Jackson supporters in Congress pushed through the **Indian Removal Act**. It forced many Native Americans to move west of the Mississippi. Whites did not mind turning this land over to Indians because they thought the region was a vast desert. During the 1830s, thousands of southeastern Indians were driven from their homes and forced to march to Indian Territory, west of the Mississippi.

### A tragic march

In 1838, the United States Army drove more than 15,000 Cherokees westward to a land they had never seen. The Cherokees trekked hundreds of miles over a period of several months. They had little food or shelter. Thousands perished during the march,

mostly children and the elderly. In all, about one fourth of the Indians died.

The Cherokees' long, sorrowful journey west became known as the **Trail of Tears**. An eyewitness described the suffering:

“The Cherokees are nearly all prisoners. They had been dragged from their homes and encamped at the forts and military places, all over the nation. In Georgia especially, multitudes were allowed no time to take anything with them except the clothes they had on.”

### The Seminoles resist

In Florida, the Seminole Indians resisted removal. Led by Chief **Osceola** (ahs ee OH luh), they fought the United States Army. The **Seminole War** lasted from 1835 to 1842. It was the costliest war waged by the government to gain Indian lands. More than 1,500 soldiers died in the war and about 20 million dollars were spent in the war effort.

In the end, the Seminoles were defeated. The government forced the Seminole leaders and most of their people to leave Florida. By 1844, only a few thousand Native Americans remained east of the Mississippi River.

## ★ Section 3 Review ★

### Recall

1. **Locate** (a) South Carolina, (b) Georgia, (c) Cherokee homeland, (d) Indian Territory, (e) Seminole homeland.
2. **Identify** (a) Tariff of Abominations, (b) Nullification Crisis, (c) Sequoyah, (d) Indian Removal Act, (e) Trail of Tears, (f) Osceola, (g) Seminole War.
3. **Define** (a) nullification, (b) states' rights, (c) secede.

### Comprehension

4. Why did northerners and southerners disagree on the tariff issue?

5. How did Andrew Jackson respond to South Carolina's Nullification Act?
6. Why did Jackson support the policy of using force to move Native Americans beyond the Mississippi River?

### Critical Thinking and Writing

7. **Forecasting** What do you think might have happened if other southern states supported South Carolina in the Nullification Crisis?
8. **Drawing Conclusions** Why do you think Andrew Jackson supported states' rights in the Cherokee case but not in the Nullification Crisis?



**Activity Writing a Protest Letter** You are a Cherokee on the Trail of Tears. Write a protest letter to President Jackson explaining why you consider his policy of Indian removal to be unjust.



# The Presidency After Jackson



## Explore These Questions

- What economic problems did Martin Van Buren face?
- How did Whigs and Democrats compete for the Presidency in 1840?
- Why did John Tyler have little success as President?

## Define

- speculator
- depression
- laissez faire
- mudslinging

## Identify

- Martin Van Buren
- Panic of 1837
- William Henry Harrison
- John Tyler

## SETTING the Scene

Andrew Jackson retired from office after two terms. Americans then elected **Martin Van Buren** to the Presidency. Van Buren had served as Vice President during Jackson's second term.

As Van Buren took the oath of office in March 1837, Jackson stood at his side. Onlookers watched the outgoing President, not Van Buren. As Old Hickory left the platform, a rousing cheer rose from the crowd. In that moment, the people expressed their loyalty and respect for Andrew Jackson, the "Hero of New Orleans."

## Van Buren and Hard Times

Martin Van Buren was very different from Andrew Jackson. He was a politician, not a war hero. Davy Crockett, a Congressman from Tennessee, once described Van Buren as "an artful, cunning, intriguing, selfish, speculating lawyer." As President, however, Van Buren needed more than sharp political instincts.

### The Panic of 1837

Two months after taking office, Van Buren faced the worst economic crisis the nation had known. It was called the **Panic of 1837**. The panic had several causes. During the 1830s, the government sold millions of acres of public land in the West. Farmers

bought some land, but **speculators** bought even more, hoping that their risky investment would earn them huge profits. To pay for the land, speculators borrowed money from state banks. After the Bank of the United States closed, the state banks could lend money without limit.

To meet the demand for loans, state banks printed more and more paper money. Often, the paper money was not backed by gold or silver. Paper money had value only if people trusted the banks that issued it.

Before leaving office, Jackson had grown alarmed at the wild speculation in land. To slow it down, he ordered that anyone buying public land had to pay for it with gold or silver. Speculators and others rushed to state banks to exchange their paper money for gold and silver. Many banks did not have enough gold and silver and had to close.

### Economic depression

The panic worsened when cotton prices went down because of an oversupply. Cotton planters often borrowed money, which they repaid when they sold their crop. Low cotton prices meant that planters could not repay their loans. As a result, more banks failed.

The nation plunged into a deep economic **depression**, a period when business declines and many people lose their jobs. The depression lasted three years. In the worst days, 90 percent of the nation's factories were

closed. Thousands of people were out of work. In some cities, hungry crowds broke into warehouses and stole food.

### Van Buren's response

It was easy for people to blame President Van Buren for the country's economic depression. Van Buren took little action because he believed in **laissez faire**—the idea that government should play as small a role as possible in the nation's economic affairs. "The less the government interferes with private pursuits," he said, "the better for the general prosperity."

Van Buren's limited actions did little to help the economy. He tried to set up a more stable banking system. He also cut back on government expenses. For example, when he entertained visitors at the White House, they were served simple dinners. Still, the depression wore on. As a result, criticism of Van Buren increased.

## Campaigns of 1840

Even though Van Buren had lost support, the Democrats chose him to run for reelection in 1840. The Whigs, learning from the Democrats, chose a candidate who would appeal to the common people. He was **William Henry Harrison** of Ohio. Harrison was known as the hero of the Battle of Tippecanoe. (See page 281.) To run for Vice President, the Whigs chose John Tyler.

### Log cabin campaign

Most Americans knew very little about Harrison's stand on the issues. To appeal to voters, the Whigs focused on his war record. "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" became their campaign slogan.

The Whigs created an image for Harrison as a "man of the people." They presented him

as a humble farmer who had been born in a log cabin. Harrison was actually a wealthy, educated man who lived in a large mansion. Still, the Whigs made the log cabin their campaign symbol. In a typical Whig cartoon, Harrison stands outside a log cabin, greeting Van Buren and his aides:

“Gentlemen, . . . If you will accept the [simple food] of a log cabin, with a western farmer's cheer, you are welcome. I have no champagne but can give you a mug of good cider, with some ham and eggs, and good clean beds. I am a plain backwoodsman. I have cleared some land, killed some Indians, and made the Red Coats fly in my time.”

### A new sort of politics

The campaigns of 1840 reflected a new sort of politics. Harrison traveled across the land, making speeches and greeting voters. Both parties competed for votes with rallies, banquets, and entertainment. Ordinary citizens participated by giving speeches and singing campaign songs like this one:

“The times are bad, and want curing;  
They are getting past all enduring:  
So let's turn out Martin Van Buren  
And put in old Tippecanoe!”



### Log Cabin Campaign

Harrison's log cabin symbol swept the nation in 1840. Marchers in parades often carried miniature cabins such as the one shown here. The cabin was attached to a pole and raised aloft for all to see. ★ Why was the log cabin image appealing to many voters?

# Why Study *History?*

**Because You Will Choose Our Nation's Leaders**

\*\*\*\*\*

## Historical Background

In the political campaigns of 1840, Democrats and Whigs showed little concern for the key issues of the day. Instead, they organized parades, chanted slogans, offered free cider, and participated in name-calling. Candidates also used newspapers, posters, and even whisky jugs to carry their political messages. In 1840, the Whigs' log cabin campaign was a success and William Henry Harrison was elected President. (See page 339.)

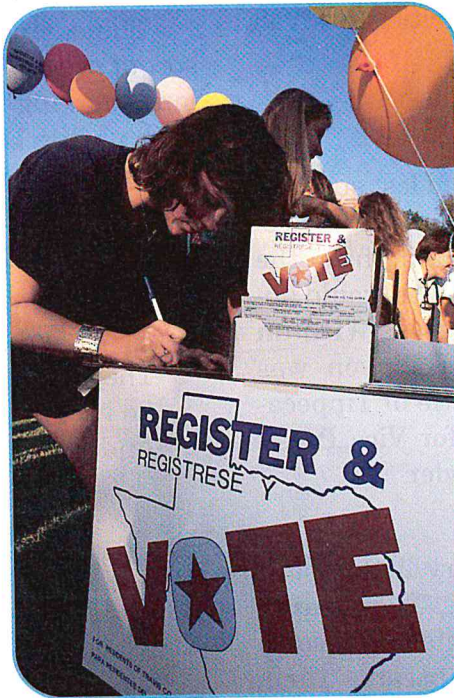
## Connections to Today

When election day draws near today, politicians flood the radio, television, Internet, and various other media with campaign sound bites. Like politicians of the 1840s, some candidates try to avoid the issues. Some candidates may even use questionable or inappropriate campaign tactics to win votes.

Responsible voters are familiar with the workings of political campaigns. They make their voting decisions based on a clear understanding of the candidates' past performance and stand on the issues. They want to vote for the most qualified candidate. Other voters, however, may be swayed more by clever campaign tactics and political advertisements.

## Connections to You

Right now, you may participate in school elections. In a few years, you will have the right and responsibility of voting for our nation's leaders. You will help to choose leaders of your nation, state, and community. Politicians of today, like those of the 1840s, will sometimes use aggressive campaign tactics to try to win your vote. Learning about politics during the Age of Jackson and during other eras of American history can help you to become a knowledgeable and responsible voter.



## 1. Comprehension

(a) What campaign tactics did the Whigs use in the election of 1840?

(b) What role does advertising play in political campaigns today?

## 2. Critical Thinking

How can you learn more about a candidate's past performance and stand on major issues?

## *Activity*

**Interviewing** Write several questions to help you learn how people make their voting decisions. Then, use your questions to interview people you know who voted in a recent election. Keep a written or taped record of their responses. What conclusions can you draw from your interviews?

Along the campaign trail, Whigs organized colorful parades in both small towns and big cities. At every stop, they served plenty of free cider. The log cabin symbol appeared on banners, quilts, and even packages of shaving soap.

### Name-calling, half-truths, and lies

In their campaigns, both Whigs and Democrats engaged in **mudslinging**, or the use of insults to attack an opponent's reputation. They used name-calling, half-truths, and lies to win votes.

The Whigs attacked the President. One newspaper falsely reported that Van Buren spent thousands of dollars to install a bathtub in the White House. They blamed "Martin Van Ruin" for the depression. Daniel Webster charged that the Democrats had replaced "Old Hickory" Jackson with "Slippery Elm" Van Buren.

The Democrats responded with their own attacks and name-calling. They revealed that "Granny Harrison, the Petticoat General," had resigned from the army before the War of 1812 ended. They accused "General Mum" of not speaking on the issues. "Should Harrison be elected?" they asked voters. "Read his name spelled backwards," they advised. "No sirrah."

## Whigs in the White House

Harrison won the election of 1840 easily. As a result, a Whig was in the White House for the first time in 12 years. "We have taught them how to conquer us!" complained one Democrat.

The Whigs had a clear-cut program. They wanted to create a new Bank of the United States and improve roads and canals. Also, they wanted a high tariff.

However, Whig hopes soon crashed. Just weeks after taking office, President Harrison died of pneumonia. **John Tyler** became the first Vice President to succeed a President who died in office.

President Tyler failed to live up to Whig expectations. A former Democrat, he opposed some Whig plans for developing the economy. When the Whigs in Congress passed a bill to recharter the Bank of the United States, Tyler vetoed it.

In response, most of Tyler's Cabinet resigned and the Whigs threw Tyler out of their party. Democrats welcomed the squabbling. "Tyler is heartily despised by everyone," reported an observer. "He has no influence at all." With few friends in either the Whig or Democratic party, Tyler could do little during his term in office.

## ★ Section 4 Review ★

### Recall

1. **Identify** (a) Martin Van Buren, (b) Panic of 1837, (c) William Henry Harrison, (d) John Tyler.
2. **Define** (a) speculator, (b) depression, (c) laissez faire, (d) mudslinging.

### Comprehension

3. Describe the economic depression that occurred after the Panic of 1837.
4. Describe some of the campaign tactics Democrats and Whigs used in the election of 1840.

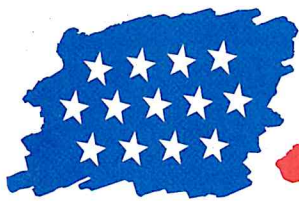
5. Why did the Whigs throw President Tyler out of their party?

### Critical Thinking and Writing

6. **Solving Problems** What do you think President Van Buren could have done to ease the economic crisis of the 1830s?
7. **Comparing** How do campaign tactics of today compare with those of 1840?



**Activity Researching** If you had money in a bank that failed today, would you lose your money just as people did in the 1830s? To find the answer, conduct research on the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, also known as the FDIC.



# Chapter 12

# Review and Activities

## ★ Sum It Up ★

### Section 1 A New Era in Politics

- ▶ The 1828 election of Andrew Jackson for President was seen as a victory for the common people.
- ▶ In the 1820s, democracy expanded as more and more white males gained the right to vote.
- ▶ Women and African Americans did not share in the growth of democracy.

### Section 2 Jackson in the White House

- ▶ Jackson rewarded his supporters with government jobs and relied on the advice of his unofficial kitchen cabinet.
- ▶ Jackson fought against the national bank, which he saw as a tool of the wealthy.

### Section 3 Struggles Over States' Rights

- ▶ In his second term, Jackson used compromise and strong leadership to end a crisis over tariffs and states' rights.
- ▶ Jackson's Indian removal policy forced thousands of Native Americans to leave their homelands and move west.

### Section 4 The Presidency After Jackson

- ▶ The Panic of 1837 brought an economic depression that caused President Van Buren to lose popular support.
- ▶ In 1840, Whigs used new political campaign tactics to get William Henry Harrison elected President.



For additional review of the major ideas of Chapter 12, see *Guide to the Essentials of American History* or *Interactive Student Tutorial CD-ROM*, which contains interactive review activities, graphic organizers, and practice tests.

*Guide to the Essentials of American History* or *Interactive Student Tutorial CD-ROM*, which contains interactive review activities, graphic organizers, and practice tests.

## Reviewing the Chapter

### Define These Terms

Match each term with the correct definition.

#### Column 1

1. suffrage
2. caucus
3. nominating convention
4. spoils system
5. kitchen cabinet

#### Column 2

- a. private meeting to choose candidates
- b. right to vote
- c. practice of rewarding supporters with government jobs
- d. meeting where state delegates choose candidates
- e. Jackson's group of unofficial advisers

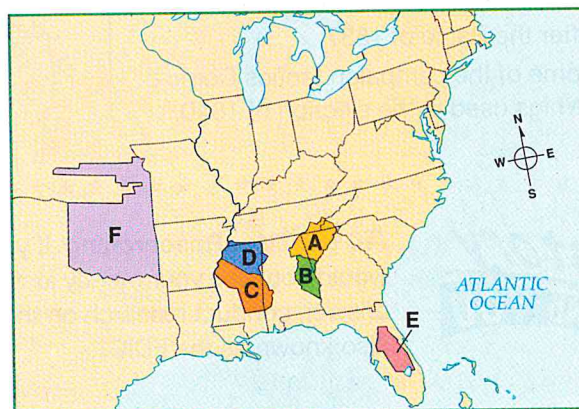
### Explore the Main Ideas

1. Why were there more voters in 1828 than in 1824?
2. What role did each of the following play in the struggle over the Bank: (a) Nicholas Biddle, (b) Henry Clay, (c) Andrew Jackson.
3. Why did South Carolina want to nullify the tariffs of 1828 and 1832?
4. Describe President Jackson's Indian removal policy.
5. What were the causes of the Panic of 1837?

## Geography Activity

Match the letters on the map with the following places:

1. Indian Territory, 2. Chickasaw, 3. Choctaw, 4. Creek, 5. Cherokee, 6. Seminole. **Place** Why did settlers want Cherokee lands in the Southeast?



## Critical Thinking and Writing

- 1. Defending a Position** Do you think more Americans should have supported John Quincy Adams's plans to promote economic growth? Why or why not?
- 2. Understanding Chronology** Place these events in chronological order: **(a)** Jackson becomes President, **(b)** the Cherokees are ordered off their land, **(c)** the Seminole War begins.
- 3. Linking Past and Present** How are today's political tactics similar to those of the Jackson era? How are the tactics different?
- 4. Exploring Unit Themes Expansion** We often think of the Age of Jackson as a time of expanding democracy. In what ways did American democracy expand during the Age of Jackson?

## Using Primary Sources

President Jackson wanted to move all Native Americans west of the Mississippi River. In 1835, when it seemed that the Seminoles would resist, Jackson wrote a forceful letter to them.

“My Children—

I am sorry to have heard that you have been listening to bad counsel. . . . I have ordered a large military force to be sent among you. . . . If you listen to the voice of friendship and truth, you will go quietly and voluntarily. But should you listen to the bad birds that are always flying about you and refuse to move, I have then directed the commanding officer to remove you by force. This will be done. I pray the Great Spirit, therefore, to incline you to do what is right.

Your friend,  
A. Jackson”

Source: “President Andrew Jackson’s Letter to the Seminoles” in *History of the Indian Wars*, ed. Henry Trumbull, 1841.

**Recognizing Points of View (a)** How did President Jackson suggest that he was a friend of the Seminoles? **(b)** How do you think the Seminoles felt about Jackson after reading this letter?

## ACTIVITY BANK

### Interdisciplinary Activity

**Exploring Economics** Review the Tariff of Abominations. Then do research to learn about the North American Free Trade Agreement of the 1990s. In an oral report, explain the differences between these two national economic policies.

### Career Skills Activity

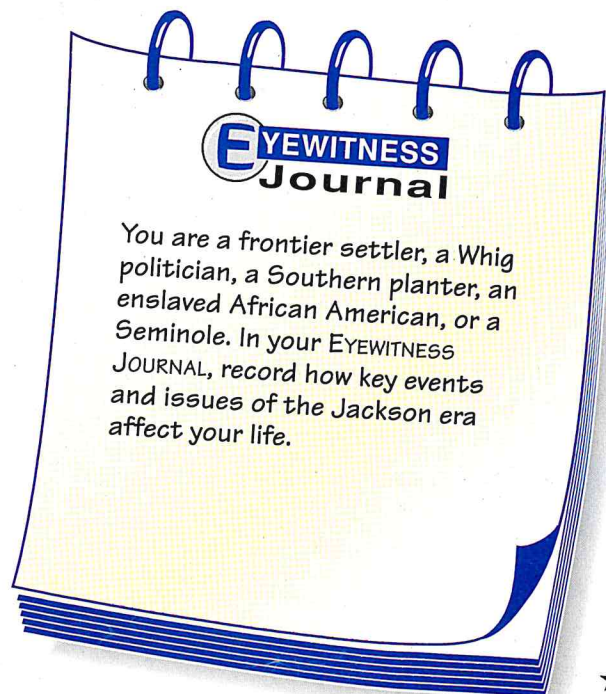
**Artists** Select an issue or incident related to Andrew Jackson’s presidency. Then create a political cartoon based on your selection. Remember that political cartoonists represent a point of view by using various symbols. Be prepared to explain your cartoon and its symbolism.

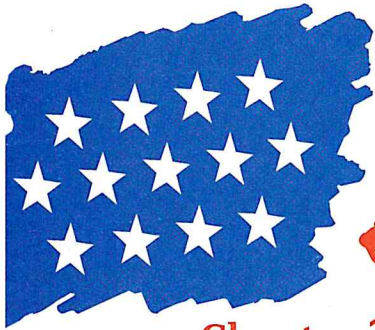
### Citizenship Activity

**Running a Food Drive** Thousands of Cherokees died of starvation on the Trail of Tears. Today, in many communities, some people do not have enough food to eat. Form a student group to plan and run a food drive. Work with a charitable organization to deliver food to those in need.

### Internet Activity

Search the Internet to find sites dealing with Cherokee culture and history. Continue exploring until you find Cherokee viewpoints on the Indian Removal and the Trail of Tears. Use the Cherokee viewpoints to write a poem about how people suffered on the Trail of Tears.





## Chapter 13

# Westward Expansion

1820–1860

### What's Ahead

**Section 1**  
Oregon Country

**Section 2**  
Texas Wins Independence

**Section 3**  
California and the Southwest

**Section 4**  
War With Mexico

**Section 5**  
A Rush to the West

**B**y the mid-1800s, Americans began to dream of extending their territory to the Pacific Ocean. In this chapter, you will see how that dream came true.

First, the United States secured the Pacific Northwest by signing a treaty with Britain. Next, after American settlers declared independence from Mexico, the United States brought Texas into the Union. Americans then won California and the Southwest by fighting a war with Mexico. As settlers poured into the Southwest, a new culture developed that blended American, Mexican, and Indian cultures.

### Why Study History?

Every year, millions of Americans visit historic memorials, from battlefields to the homes of famous people. To many Texans, for example, the best-loved historic site is a San Antonio mission called the Alamo. Why do so many Americans work to preserve the places where history happened? To explore this question, see this chapter's *Why Study History?* feature, "History Is All Around You."



### American Events

● **1821**  
First white American traders arrive in Santa Fe, New Mexico

● **1836**  
Republic of Texas is formed

1820

1825

1830

1835

1840

### World Events



### 1833 World Event

Santa Anna comes to power in Mexico