

## American Geography

- 1 **Importance of Geography** → Geography influences **economic development**, contributes to **regional differences**
- 2 **Southern Geography** → Fertile soil and long growing seasons lead to **plantations** (and **slave labor**) in the South
- 3 **New England Geography** → Harbors promote **trade**, rivers with water-power for factories promote **manufacturing**
- 4 **Mississippi River** → US controls after **Louisiana Purchase**. Ohio Valley and Great Plains gain access to Gulf of Mexico
- 5 **Great Plains** → Acquired with the **Louisiana Purchase**, fertile farmland, center of Dust Bowls during Great Depression

## Colonial Life and the Revolutionary War

- 6 **Mayflower Compact / Virginia House of Burgesses** → Early examples of **democracy** and **self-government** in US
- 7 **Mercantilism / Triangle Trade** → **Raw materials** shipped to England for manufacturing, slaves shipped to colonies
- 8 **French and Indian War** → War between British and French for control of **Ohio Valley**, leads to taxation in colonies
- 9 **No Taxation Without Representation** → Colonists protest taxes through **Boston Tea Party**, protests, boycotts
- 10 **Thomas Paine's Common Sense** → Pamphlet arguing that America should **separate from England**
- 11 **Declaration of Independence** → Uses **John Locke's** enlightenment ideas: **natural rights**, **consent of the governed**
- 12 **Articles of Confederation** → America's first government, **weak**, **cannot tax**, **Shays' Rebellion** exposes weaknesses
- 13 **Constitutional Convention** → US Constitution created to **fix weaknesses of Articles of Confederation**
- 14 **Great Compromise** → Virginia Plan (population) & NJ plan (equal rep) create **bicameral congress** (House, Senate)
- 15 **Three-Fifths Compromise** → North/South compromise, **slaves count as 3/5 person** for population and **representation**
- 16 **Federalists / Anti-Federalists** → **Federalists** want Constitution **ratified**, **Anti-Federalists** want **Bill of Rights** added

## Principles of the U.S. Constitution

- 17 **Federalism** → Government is divided between **Federal**, **state**, and **local** government. President → Governor → Mayor
- 18 **Checks and Balances** → **Separation of power** between **3 branches**. Each branch has power over other branches
- 19 **Legislative Branch** → **House of Representatives** and **Senate** **make the laws**, use **Elastic Clause** to stretch power
- 20 **Executive Branch** → **President** carries out (enforces) the laws, elected indirectly by **Electoral College**
- 21 **Judicial Branch** → **Supreme Court** interprets the laws, can use **judicial review** to **declare laws unconstitutional**
- 22 **Amending Process** → Constitution can be amended (**changed**) if approved by **2/3 of congress** and **3/4 of the states**
- 23 **Bill of Rights** → **First 10 amendments**. Freedom of speech, religion. Right to bear arms. Protection for the accused
- 24 **Unwritten Constitution** → **Traditions** not in Constitution: **president's cabinet**, **political parties**, **judicial review**
- 25 **Lobbying** → **Citizens** or **special interest groups** can "lobby" government to **ask for specific laws or actions**

## Young America

- 26 **Hamilton / National Bank** → **Hamilton/Jefferson** debate over **National Bank**. Jefferson has "strict" view of Const.
- 27 **Washington's Farewell Address / Neutrality** → Washington advises the US to **avoid foreign wars/entanglements**
- 28 **Marshall Court / Marbury v. Madison** → Supreme Court under Marshall **expands federal power** with **judicial review**
- 29 **Louisiana Purchase** → Jefferson loosely interprets power in Constitution, purchases **Great Plains**, **Mississippi River**
- 30 **Monroe Doctrine** → Policy declaring that US has **influence over the Western Hemisphere**, Europe must stay out
- 31 **Jackson / Spoils System** → President Andrew Jackson **rewards supporters with government jobs (spoils)**
- 32 **Indian Removal Act** → **Forced removal of Native Americans** from eastern lands to "Indian Territory" in the West
- 33 **Manifest Destiny** → US belief in God-given right to **expand to the Pacific**, adds land through purchase, war w/ **Mexico**

## The Civil War

- 34 **Abolitionists** → Harriet Beecher Stowe, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, John Brown all work to **end slavery**
- 35 **Missouri Compromise / Compromise of 1850** → Compromises over which areas will be **free states** or **slave states**
- 36 **Kansas-Nebraska Act** → **Popular Sovereignty** (people's choice) over **slavery issue** in new states, violence erupts
- 37 **Dred Scott v. Sandford** → Supreme Court says **slaves are not citizens, just property**. Now no such thing as "free state"
- 38 **Lincoln's Main Goal** → After election and the South's secession, **Lincoln's main goal is to preserve the Union**
- 39 **Emancipation Proclamation** → Outlaws slavery in the South, **turns Civil War into moral battle over slavery**

## The Reconstruction Era

- 40 **Reconstruction Amendments** → **13<sup>th</sup>** outlaws slavery, **14<sup>th</sup>** citizenship, equal protection of the law, **15<sup>th</sup>** voting rights
- 41 **Presidential Reconstruction / Radical Republicans** → Presidents go easy on South, **Congress (Rad Rs) more harsh**
- 42 **End of Reconstruction** → **Northern troops removed** from South after compromise over presidential **election of 1876**
- 43 **Poll Taxes, Literacy Tests, Grandfather Clause** → Methods to **stop former slaves from voting**, bypass 15<sup>th</sup> Amend.
- 44 **Black Codes / Jim Crow Laws** → Southern laws to **keep former slaves unequal, segregated, unable to vote**
- 45 **Plessy v. Ferguson** → Supreme Court decision saying **segregation is ok**. Reversed by **Brown v. Board of Education**
- 46 **Booker T. Washington vs. W.E.B. DuBois** → **Debate** over what **education/future** is best for African-Americans

## The Rise of Industry

- 47 **Industrialization** → **New technologies** (Bessemer Steel Process, electricity) **cause US industry to expand**
- 48 **Robber Barons** → **Carnegie** (steel) and **Rockefeller** (oil) symbolize **ruthless capitalists** who monopolize industry
- 49 **Social Darwinism** → Belief that **competition reveals who is best suited to lead**, both in business and society
- 50 **Monopolies / Trusts** → Big companies work to **eliminate competition** and gain **power/control over industries**
- 51 **Antitrust Acts** → Government tries to **stop abuses by monopolies** with antitrust laws that **regulate big businesses**
- 52 **Unions / American Federation of Labor** → Unions try to **protect rights of workers**. AFL unites **skilled laborers**
- 53 **Urbanization** → Industrialization, immigration lead to greater **population density (crowding) and ghettos in cities**
- 54 **Immigrants** → **Old:** pre-1880, West Europe, speak English. **New:** post-1880, South/East Europe, speak other languages
- 55 **Nativism** → Anti-immigrant policies: **Chinese Exclusion Act**, Gentlemen's Agreement, Quotas **limit immigration**

## The End of the Frontier

- 56 **Homestead Act** → Law giving **free farm and ranch land** to anyone who would move **West** and develop the territory
- 57 **Transcontinental Railroad** → **Railroad** running through the West, **connects Eastern US to the West Coast**
- 58 **Reservations / Dawes Act** → Native Americans forced onto shrinking **reservations**. Dawes Act **divides tribal land**

## The Progressive Era

- 59 **Grange Movement** → **Farmers** face **overproduction**, high costs, indebtedness. Want regulation of **railroad** companies
- 60 **Populist Movement** → **Farmers, laborers** want govt policies benefiting **common people**, not banks & big businesses
- 61 **Muckrakers** → **Jacob Riis, Upton Sinclair, Ida Tarbell** write about poverty, factories, corruption, **get laws changed**
- 62 **Theodore Roosevelt** → **Progressive president**, fights monopolies (**trust-buster**), gets **Meat Inspection Act** passed
- 63 **Woodrow Wilson** → Oversees **16<sup>th</sup> Amendment** (Income taxes), **Federal Reserve Act** (regulates the economy)
- 64 **Women's Suffrage Movement** → Women protest for **suffrage** (right to vote), finally win with **19<sup>th</sup> Amendment** (1920)

## American Imperialism

- 65 Spanish American War → **Yellow Journalism**, USS Maine push US into war with Spain over Cuba/Philippines
- 66 China / Open Door Policy → Hawaii, Philippines help US control Pacific. US promotes “open door” trade with China
- 67 Roosevelt Corollary → Expands **Monroe Doctrine**, US intervenes in Latin America, builds **Panama Canal** to Pacific
- 68 “Big Stick” Diplomacy → Roosevelt’s foreign policy (**speak softly, carry a big stick**) US expands **military strength**

## World War I

- 69 Zimmerman Note → Telegram from Germany to Mexico about alliance against US. US finds out, moves closer to war
- 70 Freedom of the Seas / Lusitania → German submarines sink ships, hurt US trade. Helps push US into WWI
- 71 Schenck v. US → Schenck protests draft, gets arrested. Supreme Court says **freedom of speech limited** during war
- 72 Treaty of Versailles / 14 Points → Treaty ends WWI, 14 Points are **Wilson’s plan for peace**, including **L of Nations**
- 73 League of Nations → US doesn’t ratify treaty, won’t join L of N because it **limits US sovereignty** (freedom)

## Roaring Twenties

- 74 Red Scare / Palmer Raids → Communists arrested and deported. Immigrants **Sacco and Vanzetti** are executed
- 75 Ford Assembly Line → Assembly line allows **mass production** of cars, symbol of “booming” economy and industry
- 76 Prohibition → 18<sup>th</sup> Amend outlaws alcohol. Organized crime, speakeasies (bars) develop. 21<sup>st</sup> Amend ends prohibition
- 77 Scopes “Monkey” Trial → Trial over **teaching of evolution** in schools. Symbolizes change, **clash of science/religion**
- 78 Harlem Renaissance → Langston Hughes and other artists help **African-American art, music, and culture** flourish

## The Great Depression and the New Deal

- 79 Causes of the Great Depression → **Buying stocks on margin/credit** (loans), **overproduction**, **income inequality**
- 80 Dust Bowl → **Drought** and **overproduction** ruin soil and farmland on Great Plains. Many farmers move to California
- 81 Hoover’s Response → Believes economy will recover on its own, does little. **Hooverilles** – slums named for Hoover
- 82 FDR’s New Deal → Gets **government involved** in economy. Welfare, jobs programs, laws = **relief, recovery, reform**
- 83 Court Packing → Supreme Court stops part of New Deal. FDR tries to “pack” court with friends. Congress refuses

## World War II

- 84 Neutrality Acts → Upset at WWI, US passes laws to stay **neutral** and **isolated**. **Won’t sell weapons** to countries at war
- 85 Lend-Lease Act → Germany, Japan gain power. US starts **giving weapons to Allied Powers**, enters war after Pearl H.
- 86 Women During WWII → As men go to war, **women** (nicknamed **Rosie the Riveter**) take **jobs in defense industries**
- 87 Rationing → To **conserve materials for war**, US begins **rationing (limiting) consumer goods** (gasoline, rubber, food)
- 88 Internment / Korematsu v. US → Seen as spy threat, **Japanese-Americans** imprisoned. S. Court: **rights can be limited**
- 89 Atomic Bomb → To avoid invasion and **save US lives**, Truman drops atomic bombs on Hiroshima, Nagasaki. **Ends war**
- 90 Nuremberg Trails → Trials of **Nazi Holocaust criminals**. Individuals can be **held accountable for war crimes**
- 91 United Nations → Post-WWII organization for **world peace**. US joins because League of Nations had failed without US

## The Cold War

- 92 Containment / Truman Doctrine / Marshall Plan → US goal to **contain communism**. Gives \$, **military aid** to Europe
- 93 NATO → US no longer isolationist, forms **North Atlantic Treaty Organization** to **contain communism/Soviet Union**
- 94 Korean War → Communist **North Korea attacks South Korea**, US fights war to **contain communism in Asia**
- 95 McCarthyism → US **scared of communism** at home. **McCarthy accuses, investigates people**. **Civil liberties abused**

## Civil Rights Movement

- 96 *Brown v. Board of Education* → Supreme Courts says separate never equal, **ends segregation**. Ends *Plessy v. Ferguson*
- 97 *Martin Luther King, Jr.* → Led **nonviolent protests** (marches, boycotts) to **end segregation** and **gain voting rights**
- 98 *Montgomery Bus Boycott / March on Washington* → Nonviolent protests. Goals: **end segregation, gain voting rights**
- 99 *Civil Rights Act / Voting Rights Act* → CRA **outlaws racial discrimination**. VRA **ends poll taxes, literacy tests**
- 100 *Affirmative Action* → Gives **preference to minorities/women** in education and employment to **correct past injustices**

## Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Johnson / Era of Social Change

- 101 *Baby Boom* → **Increase in births** after soldiers return from WWII and start families. **Housing boom** / suburbs built
- 102 *G.I. Bill* → Benefits for “GI’s” (soldiers). **Money for education**, loans (mortgages) to **buy homes**
- 103 *Cuban Missile Crisis* → Communist Cuba builds **nuclear missile bases** for **Soviets**. US orders **quarantine** (blockade)
- 104 *Peace Corps* → Kennedy creates PC to **help countries develop**, promote US interests. **Kennedy asks citizens to serve**
- 105 *Great Society* → Pres Johnson creates **government programs** to address **poverty, healthcare, racism, poor cities**
- 106 *Feminist Movement* → *The Feminine Mystique*, Equal Rights Amendment, and *Roe v. Wade* focus on **women’s rights**
- 107 *Cesar Chavez* → Organizes **farm workers**, fights for **workers rights**, protests against abuses by big farm companies
- 108 *Warren Court* → Supreme Court expands **rights of the accused**: *Miranda v. Arizona*, *Mapp v. Ohio*, *Gideon v. W.*

## Vietnam War

- 109 *Domino Theory / Containment* → US fears countries will fall like “dominos” if **Vietnam** falls to **communism**
- 110 *Gulf of Tonkin / Tet Offensive* → US escalates war after **ship attacked**. Tet Offensive shows public **US not winning**
- 111 *Vietnam Protests* → People **protest war and draft** at **Kent State**, other colleges, and 1968 Democratic Convention
- 112 *War Powers Act* → **Congress** takes **more control** over military. President must **inform congress if troops overseas**

## Contemporary America

- 113 *Détente* → **Easing of Cold War tension** between US and Soviet Union. **SALT treaties**, Nixon visits Russia, China
- 114 *Watergate* → Nixon involved in **cover-up of break-in** at Watergate building. Nixon lies are caught on tape, he **resigns**
- 115 *Camp David Accords* → President Carter successfully **negotiates peace deal between Israel and Egypt**
- 116 *Reagan’s Supply-Side Economics* → Conservative Reagan **cuts taxes** to stimulate economy, also cuts welfare \$
- 117 *Iran-Contra Affair* → Reagan Administration **illegally sells weapons** to Iran. Use \$ to **finance anti-communist forces**
- 118 *End of the Cold War* → **Fall of Berlin Wall** in 1989, **collapse of Soviet Union** in 1991 signals end of the Cold War
- 119 *Gulf War* → Iraq’s **Saddam Hussein invades Kuwait**. US fights back to help Kuwait and **secure world’s oil supply**
- 120 *NAFTA* → North American Free Trade Agreement opens **trade with Canada and Mexico**. US manufacturing declines
- 121 *Election of 2000* → **Gore wins popular vote**, but Bush wins **Electoral College**. Supreme C. stops recount, **Bush wins**
- 122 *September 11, 2001* → Al Qaeda **terrorists** destroy World Trade Center. US develops **Dept. of Homeland Security**
- 123 *Iraq War* → Bush claims Hussein has **weapons of mass destruction**. **US invades** and occupies Iraq, removes Hussein

## Amendments to Remember

### Bill of Rights

1<sup>st</sup> Amendment → Freedom of religion, speech, press, right to peacefully assemble, petition (lobby) govt.

2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment → Right to keep and bear arms (own guns)

3<sup>rd</sup> Amendment → Prohibits quartering (housing) of soldiers in citizens homes

4<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Prohibits “unreasonable” search and seizures

5<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Guarantees due process of law, grand jury, no double jeopardy, right to remain silent

6<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Right to lawyer, speedy trial by jury, can confront accusers

7<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Trial by jury for civil cases (if sued by someone)

8<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Prohibits excessive bail and cruel and unusual punishment

9<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Protection of non-enumerated rights (just because right isn’t listed, doesn’t mean it isn’t protected)

10<sup>th</sup> Amendment → All powers and rights not given to federal government are reserved for the states

### Civil War Amendments

13<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Outlaws slavery, ratified in 1865 at the end of the Civil War

14<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Gives former slaves citizenship, guarantees all citizens have “equal protection of the laws”

15<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Voting can’t be denied based on race, color, or former status as slave

16<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Progressive Era amendment enabling government to collect income tax.

17<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Direct election of Senators by the people. Used to be elected by state legislatures (Progressive Era)

18<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Prohibition. Alcohol outlawed, hard to enforce. Repealed (overturned) by 21<sup>st</sup> Amendment

19<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Gives women the right to vote

26<sup>th</sup> Amendment → Gives 18-year-olds right to vote (used to be 21)

## Supreme Court Cases to Remember

Marbury v. Madison → Establishes practice of judicial review by the Supreme Court. Decided under Chief Justice Marshall

Dred Scott v. Sandford → Supreme Court says slaves are not citizens, just property. Now no such thing as “free state”

Plessy v. Ferguson → Supreme Court rules that segregation is fine as long as things are “separate but equal”

Brown v. Board of Education → Overturns *Plessy v. Ferguson*, says separate is never equal. Forbids segregation in schools

Schenck v. US → Schenck protests WWI draft, gets arrested. Freedom of speech, civil liberties limited for national security

Korematsu v. US → Japanese-American interned during WWII. Civil liberties limited during wartime for national security

Miranda v. Arizona → “Miranda” rights (right to remain silent) must be read to arrested person (Decided by Warren Court)

Mapp v. Ohio → Evidence obtained through illegal search cannot be used in court (Warren Court)

Gideon v. Wainwright → Government must provide free lawyer if defendant cannot afford one (Warren Court)

Roe v. Wade → Supreme Court rules that a woman’s constitutional right to privacy gives right to abortion in early pregnancy

McCulloch v. Maryland → In dispute over National Bank, Supreme Court says federal law is supreme over state law

Gibbons v. Ogden → Supreme Court says Constitution gives Congress power to regulate interstate commerce (trade)

Schechter Poultry Corp. v. US → Business says New Deal violates Constitution. S Court agrees, FDR tries to “pack” court

Tinker v. Des Moines → Student suspended for protesting Vietnam, but SC says students still have 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment rights

New Jersey v. T.L.O. → Student says bag search in school violated 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment, but SC says search was “reasonable”

## **US History → Regents Essay Topics**

### **Year → Thematic Essay → DBQ Essay**

- January 2013 → Federal Laws → Events of the 1950s
- June 2012 → Foreign Policy Decisions → Abolition, Labor, and Women's Suffrage Movements
- January 2012 → Supreme Court Cases → Economic, political, and social differences before the Civil War
- August 2011 → Geography → Democracy for different groups
- June 2011 → Amendments → 1920s and 1930s
- January 2011 → Supreme Court Cases → JFK, Nixon, Reagan, Cold War
- August 2010 → Presidential Actions → Geography
- June 2010 → Technology → Women's Rights, Temperance, Child Labor
- January 2010 → Writing and Reform → Water and the US
- August 2009 → Supreme Court Cases → Washington, Lincoln, Roosevelt Challenges
- June 2009 → Discrimination → Industrialization
- January 2009 → Migration → Warren Court
- August 2008 → Government role in the economy → Automobile
- June 2008 → Individual Actions → Civil War, Bonus March, Little Rock, Domestic Challenges
- January 2008 → Groups changed by War → Reformers
- August 2007 → Individual Actions → Government Policies, Technology, and the Economy
- June 2007 → Industrialization → Women's Suffrage and Civil Rights
- January 2007 → Geography and Government Action → Vietnam
- August 2006 → Migration → Cold War
- June 2006 → Turning Points in US History → Mass Media
- January 2006 → Divisive Domestic Issue → Geography, Expansion, Protection
- August 2005 → Cold war → Great Depression
- June 2005 → Reform Movements → Pre-WWII Isolationism
- January 2005 → National self-interest foreign policy → Progressive Era
- August 2004 → Reform Movements → Westward Expansion
- June 2004 → Geography and Government Action → Civil War and Reconstruction
- January 2004 → Amendments → Education