

SSUSH6 The student will analyze the impact of territorial expansion and population growth and the impact of this growth in the early decades of the new nation.

Overview: The United States underwent significant social, economic, and territorial changes during the first third of the 1800s while experiencing the growth of sectional differences that led to the Civil War. As the population of the United States grew both naturally and as the result of immigration, the demand for additional land grew. Expanding into the lands west of the Appalachians and east of the Mississippi River, settlers demanded connections between west agricultural and eastern markets. An on-going war between Great Britain and France lead America into a second war with the British but also to acquisition of additional lands for settlement.

a. Explain the Northwest Ordinance’s importance in the westward migration of Americans, and on slavery, public education, and the addition of new states.

Northwest Ordinance

The region west of the Appalachians had been settled by the French and English traders and was one of the strategic objectives of both the French and Indian War and the American Revolution. Several states claimed portions of it and they reluctantly gave up claim to their lands to the national government in exchange for their state Revolutionary War debts. Congress hoped to sell the public lands in the region to settle outstanding debt and to finance the operation of the new government. To rectify competing land claims, Confederation Congress passed the Land Ordinance, 1785. The law was significant in providing a mechanism for division of the land into rectangular sections. This methodology would be used each time the U.S. acquired new lands. The Land Ordinance was also significant because it provided a way for free public education to be financed through the sale of the Sixteenth section in each township.

The land north and west of the Ohio River became the Northwest Territory. It was the first territory created outside the original states. In 1787 Congress passed the Northwest Land Ordinance. The law provided for the method by which new territories would be admitted to the United States. The ordinance banned slavery in the Northwest Territory effectively making the Ohio River the boundary between free and slave regions. The Northwest region was a lawless region prior to the passage of the 1787 act. This law demonstrated to Americans that their national government intended to encourage westward expansion. The laws of the nation would follow its citizens across the continent. New states would be admitted to the nation as equal members of the Union.

b. Describe Jefferson’s diplomacy in obtaining the Louisiana Purchase from France and the territory’s exploration by Lewis and Clark.

Louisiana Purchase

Louisiana was made up the Mississippi River Valley. Originally a part of New France, the region had exchanged hands several times. In 1800 the region was ruled by Spain but was the home of many American merchants and farmers. New Orleans was the key port in the region and was an important outlet of American

	<p>farm goods produced in the Ohio River Valley. The Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte had planned on strengthening French holdings in the Caribbean. He had hoped to re-acquire Louisiana from Spain. Napoleon had hoped to use Louisiana as source to supply the French Caribbean colonies. Napoleon’s ministers were successful in persuading Spain to turn over Louisiana in 1800 but shortly after the agreement was made a rebellion on Haiti drove the French out. President Jefferson had heard of Napoleon’s plans for Louisiana. He sent Robert Livingston to France to inquire about the purchase of New Orleans for the United States. Napoleon, seeing an opportunity to finance his on-going conflicts in Europe and a way to keep the British from expanding in North America, agreed to sell the United States the entire region for \$15 million. The deal was sealed before the arrival of Secretary of State James Monroe arrived to begin the negotiations. The purchase doubled the size of the United States. Lands critical for future expansion were secured and the United States had a secure port at New Orleans to export American goods abroad. Jefferson entered the office a strict Constitutional constructionist, but ironically his purchase of Louisiana expanded the power of Presidency because the Constitution made no provision for this type of Presidential action.</p> <p>Lewis and Clark Expedition</p> <p>Jefferson had sensed that the destiny of the nation was tied to the Mississippi Valley. The Ohio Valley was being settled quickly. Jefferson worried that the regional difficulty of communicating and trading with east coast could precipitate secession from the United States. When Jefferson purchased Louisiana these fear were eased. No one was exactly sure what lay between St. Louis and the Pacific. Jefferson sent Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to explore Louisiana and the western lands all the way to the Pacific Ocean. On their 16-month expedition, Lewis and Clark charted the trails west, mapped rivers and mountain ranges, wrote descriptions and collected samples of unfamiliar animals and plants, and recorded facts and figures about the various Native American tribes and customs west of the Mississippi River. Most significantly Lewis and Clark reached the Pacific Ocean and established a legal claim to region along the Columbia River. This claim would allow for the future expansion of the United States to the Pacific Ocean.</p>
<p>c. Explain major reasons for the War of 1812 and the war’s significance on the development of a national identity.</p>	<p>War of 1812: Causes</p> <p>Britain and France had been at war since 1789. Americans were often caught in the middle as British and French naval forces seized American ships and crews. America’s first Presidents were able to steer a middle course and avoided a declared war in Europe. However, renewed warfare in 1809 intensified tensions</p>

	<p>between the British and the United States. On June 12, 1812 President James Madison asked for a declaration of war from Congress. Madison cited four reasons for America’s first war. First, Americans objected to restrictions Britain was enforcing to prevent neutral American merchants from trading with the French.</p> <p>Second, Americans were outraged by the British policy of impressment. Under this policy, thousands of American sailors were forced against their will to serve in the British navy after their merchant ships were captured at sea.</p> <p>Third, The British had refused to turn over the Great Lake ports as required by the Treaty of Paris, 1783. Americans suspected the British were using giving military support from these British-held sites to Native Americans so they would fight to keep Americans from settling lands west of the Appalachian Mountains.</p> <p>Fourth, Americans wished to drive the British out of North America altogether by conquering Canada while the British army was fighting the French in Europe.</p> <p>War of 1812: Results</p> <p>Although the war was a military disaster for the United States, the United States lost no territory to the British. The War of 1812 was the end of all U.S. military hostility with Great Britain. Never again would Britain and the United States wage war over diplomacy, trade, territory, or any other kind of dispute. America’s army and navy gained respect because they had stood up to Europe’s most powerful nation. The war ended all hopes of Native Americans of driving the Americans out of the Ohio Valley. Politically, the war marked the end of the Federalist Party because they had failed to support the call to war. The War of 1812 also served to stimulate America’s economic growth. Additional results/ effects of the War of 1812 are discussed in SSUSH7.</p>
<p>d. Describe the construction of the Erie Canal, the rise of New York City, and the development of the nation’s infrastructure.</p>	<p>National Infrastructure</p> <p>In this period, many families moved west of the Appalachian Mountains to claim land in the new American territories stretching to the Mississippi River. Their travel was difficult, taking a week to cross the distance a car might drive today in a few hours. In response, private companies built the young nation’s roads and waterways. These roads were often turnpikes, or toll roads, which travelers paid a fee to use. In turn, these fees were used to pay for upkeep of the new roads. Where roads could not be built, barges were used on rivers to carry people and goods—as long as the rivers flowed in the same direction that the settlers and merchants wanted to travel. Soon a new invention, the steamboat, enabled people to buy a ticket from</p>

	<p>private companies that operated the boats and to travel upstream as easily as downstream. Lastly, in the wilderness where rivers did not run and roads could not be built, government leaders joined businesspeople to build canals—artificial rivers. These shallow waterways were for barges, not steamboats, and had pathways alongside on which horses or mules pulled the barges.</p> <p>Erie Canal</p> <p>The most famous canal built in this era was the Erie Canal, which connected the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean. It was opened in 1825 after eight years of digging by thousands of laborers, mostly immigrants. It stretches 363 miles from Lake Erie to the Hudson River, which flows into the Atlantic Ocean at New York City. The Erie Canal served as a turnpike for barges where a road could not easily be built, and greatly lowered transportation costs. This not only opened up western New York and regions further west to increased settlement, but also helped unite new regions with the Atlantic states. The effect of the Erie canal on this country was stunning. Cargo that cost \$100 a ton and took two weeks to carry by road could now be moved at \$10 a ton in 3½ days.</p> <p>Rise of New York City</p> <p>Until 1790, New York City was the capital of the United States. In the early 1800s, civic development turned this colonial town into a great economic center established on a grid of city blocks. By 1835, the population had grown so large that New York City outpaced Philadelphia as the largest U.S. city. Trade grew when the Erie Canal made the city’s harbors the link between European merchants and the great agricultural markets across the Appalachians from New York City. The city was home to the biggest gathering of artisans and crafts workers in the United States, and its banking and commercial activities would soon make it the leading city in all of North America.</p>
<p>e. Describe the reasons for and importance of the Monroe Doctrine.</p>	<p>Monroe Doctrine</p> <p>Following the end of the Napoleonic Wars, Spain’s colonial holdings gained their independence. When a possible Franco-Spanish alliance appeared imminent in 1823, President James Monroe warned the nations of Europe not to meddle in the politics of North and South America. When a group of European countries planned to help one another recapture American colonies that had gained independence, Monroe announced that the United States would prevent European nations from interfering with independent American countries. Further, Monroe said the United States would remain neutral in wars between European nations and would not interfere with their American colonies. In summary, the Monroe Doctrine defined a</p>

Teacher Notes

	key aspect of U.S. foreign policy to which America still holds today.
Key Terms	Erie Canal Lewis and Clark Louisiana Purchase Monroe Doctrine New York City Northwest Ordinance War of 1812
Suggested Resources	Lewis and Clark Expedition http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark/ http://www.nationalgeographic.com/lewisandclark/ http://lewis-clark.org/ War of 1812 http://www.mrnussbaum.com/war1812.htm The Erie Canal http://www.eriecanal.org/ The Monroe Doctrine http://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=true&doc=23 http://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h255.html

Sample Questions

From President James Monroe's 1823 address to Congress (the Monroe Doctrine):

. . . The American continents . . . are not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers. . . . We should consider any attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety.

From President Theodore Roosevelt's addition to the Monroe Doctrine in 1904:

Chronic wrongdoing. . . may . . . require intervention by some civilized nation, and in the Western Hemisphere the adherence of the United States to the Monroe Doctrine may force the United States. . . to the exercise of an international police power.

From the words above, it is clear that President Monroe's primary intention was to

- A. encourage U.S. territorial expansion.
- B. maintain the security of the United States.
- C. form alliances with European colonial powers.
- D. help Latin American nations achieve independence

Teacher Notes

Use the quote below to answer the question.

"You have secured to us the free navigation of the Mississippi. You have procured an immense and fertile country; and all these great blessings are obtained without bloodshed."

This quotation refers to

- A. the Louisiana Purchase.
- B. gains from the Black Hawk War.
- C. the loss of British forts in the West.
- D. the annexation of Texas.

The completion of the Erie Canal in 1825 allowed cheaper freight travel by water between Buffalo and

- A. Boston.
- B. Baltimore.
- C. New York City.
- D. Washington, D.C.

Writing Prompt:

"The War of 1812 was a conflict that neither side desired; it was an historical accident" (Mahon). Discuss the causes of the War of 1812.