

Grade 8: United States History and Geography: Growth and Conflict

What did freedom mean to the nation's founders, and how did it change over time?

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How and why did the United States expand?

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Who is considered an American?

1 The Development of American Constitutional Democracy 1

- a Why was there an American Revolution? 1.A
 - b How did the American Revolution develop the concept of natural rights? 1.B
 - c What were the legacies of the American Revolution? 1.C
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2 Envisioning a New America 2

- a How much power should the federal government have, and what should the government do? 2.A
 - b How did the government change during the Early Republic? 2.B
 - c Was the Louisiana Purchase constitutional? 2.C
 - d What was life like in the Early Republic? 2.D
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3 The Divergent Paths of the American People: 1800–1850 3

- a How did individual regions of the United States become both more similar and more different? 3.A
- b What was family life like in each region? 3.B
- c How did work change between 1800 and 1850? 3.C
- d What was the impact of slavery on American politics, regional economies, family life, and culture? 3.D
- e What did the frontier mean to the nation in the first half of the nineteenth century? 3.E

4 The Causes, Course, and Consequences of the Civil War 4

- a Why was there a Civil War? 4.A
- b How was the United States transformed during the Civil War? 4.B
- c How was the Civil War conducted militarily, politically, economically, and culturally?
4.C
- d How was slavery abolished through the Civil War? 4.D

5 The Rise of Industrial America: 1877–1914 5

- a How did America's economy, industries, and population grow after the Civil War?
5.A
- b Who came to the United States at the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth century? Why did they come? What was their experience like when they arrived? 5.B
- c How did the federal government affect the country's growth in the years following the Civil War? 5.C