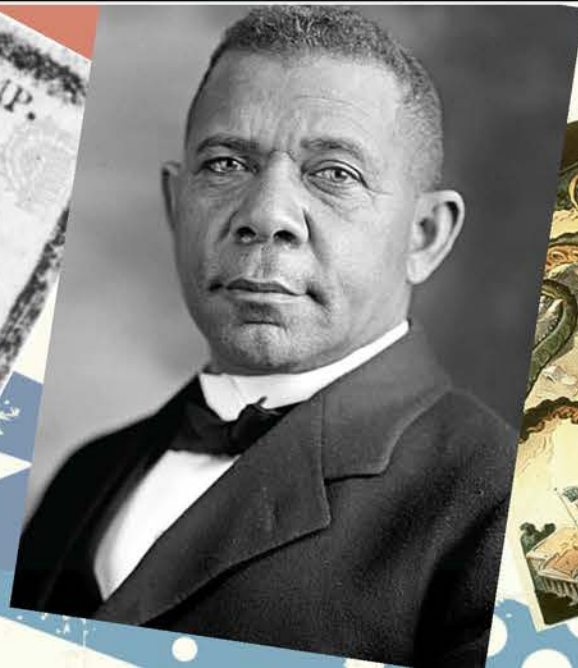


180 Bell Ringers and Warm-ups for US History



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Columbian Exchange

Can you guess which items below came from the New World?

- Tomatoes
- Chocolate
- Onions
- Sugar cane
- Cattle
- Wheat
- Peanuts
- Corn
- Horses
- Potatoes
- Rice
- Pineapples
- Small pox
- Influenza



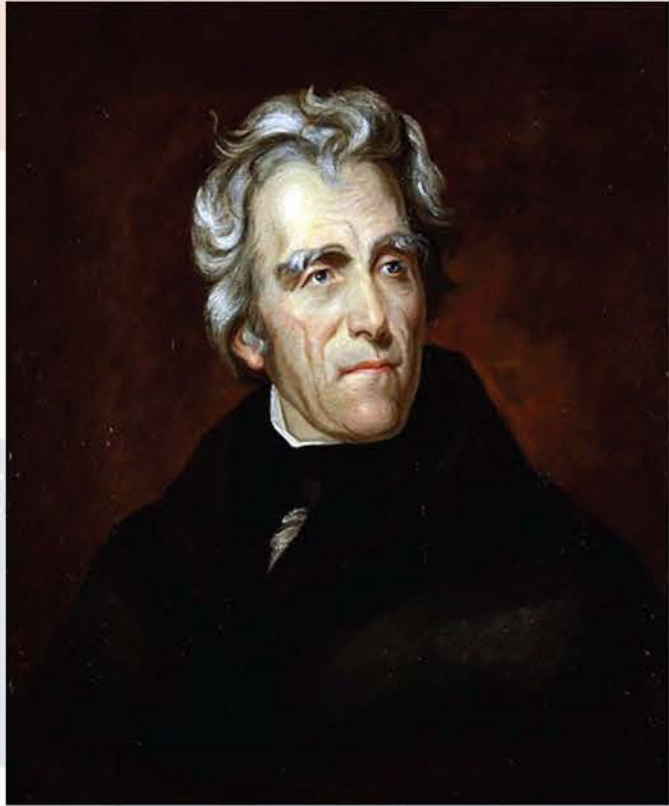
American Revolution: Causes

Imagine that you had to pay a tax every time you used Wi-Fi. Think about how often you use Wi-Fi for streaming music, videos, websites, etc.

How would this tax make you feel? Would you feel this tax is fair or justified? Why or why not?



Andrew Jackson



President Andrew Jackson practiced the “spoils system” while in office. In the spoils system, the person who is elected to office rewards his friends with government jobs and positions.

Why is the spoils system harmful to our government?

Why do you think leaders practice the spoils system?



What's Your Utopia?

During the 1800s, some reformers called for the creation of utopian communities. A “utopia” is a perfect society.

Describe what your utopia would be like. Consider government, business, family life, and lifestyle.



Erie Canal

Built from 1817-1825, the Erie Canal is a 363-mile man-made waterway that connects the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes. It stretches across most of New York State.

How would the canal affect the economy of this region? What would it do to towns along the canal? The canal cost the equivalent of \$120 million to construct. The state of New York paid to have the canal built. Why would New York be willing to spend so much money on building the canal?



Harriet Tubman



Underground railroad conductor Harriet Tubman supposedly carried a gun with her when rescuing slaves. “She used to threaten the fugitives if they became too tired or decided to turn back, telling them, ‘You’ll be free or die.’”*

Why might this use of force be necessary?

What might happen if a fleeing slave turned back? How might that affect the underground railroad?



Civil War: Resources

At the beginning of the Civil War, the Union had approximately 22,000 miles of railroad track, while the Confederacy had only 9,500 miles.

What kind of military advantages come with more miles of railroads?

What could railroads be used for?



Buffalo

Native American tribes that lived on the plains used the buffalo in many different ways. Match the buffalo part with its use.

- | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. _____ | Cups, spoons, ladles, and decorations | A. Bladders |
| 2. _____ | Tools, decorations, filling in ceremonial rattles | B. Bones |
| 3. _____ | Used to process leather | C. Brains |
| 4. _____ | Knives, arrowheads, shovels, sleds, clubs, and dice | D. Dung |
| 5. _____ | Teepee covers, clothes, shoes, belts, bags, arrow quivers, and dolls | E. Fat |
| 6. _____ | Head-dresses, pillow stuffing, saddle padding, ropes | F. Hair |
| 7. _____ | Eaten right away after a kill | G. Hides |
| 8. _____ | Preserved as jerky | H. Hooves |
| 9. _____ | Buckets, cups, and pots | I. Horn |
| 10. _____ | Canteens | J. Muscles |
| 11. _____ | Whips and brushes | K. Stomach |
| 12. _____ | Soap, cooking oil, and candles | L. Tails |
| 13. _____ | Glue | M. Teeth |
| 14. _____ | Burned as fuel | N. Tongue, heart, and liver |



Booker T. Washington

“No race can prosper till it learns that there is as much dignity in tilling a field as in writing a poem.” - Booker T. Washington

What do you think this quote means?
How do you view manual labor versus intellectual labor?



Monopolies

Many monopolies developed during the Industrial Age. A monopoly is created when one company has complete control over an industry or market.

Can you think of any companies today that are in danger of becoming a monopoly? Which companies do you think have too much control over their industry or too much influence in American life? Explain your answer.

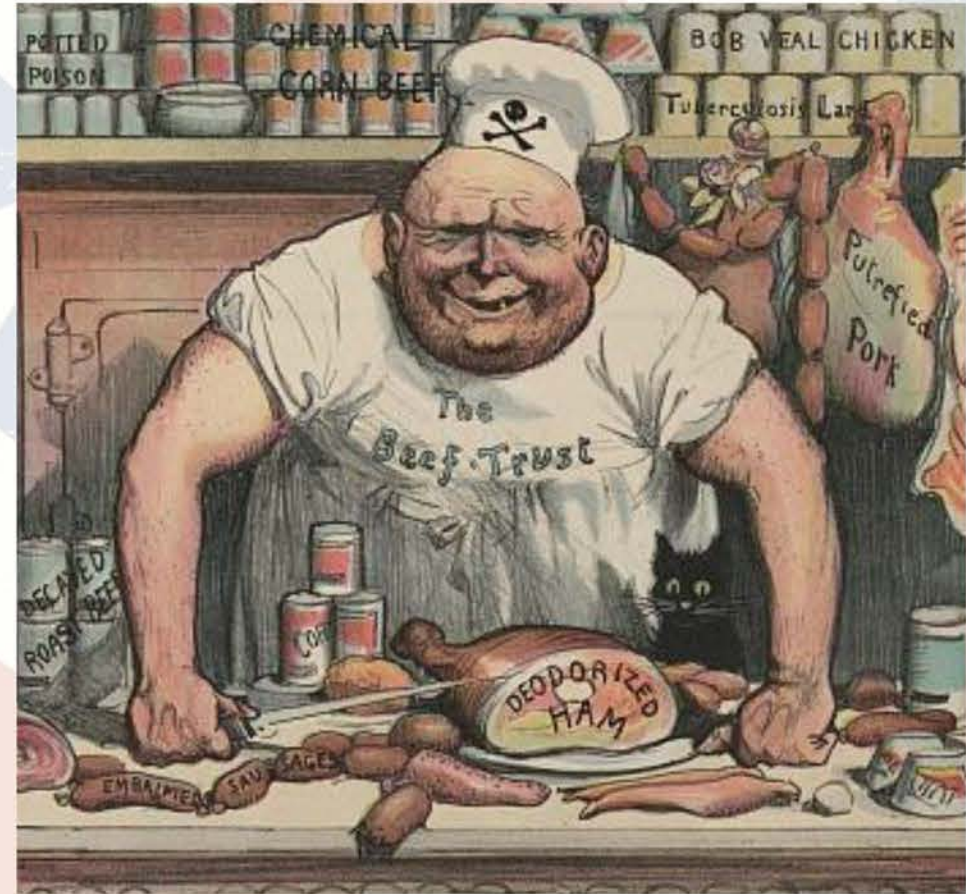


The Jungle

The Jungle by Upton Sinclair describes how meat was processed and packaged before the Meat Inspection Act of 1906 was passed:

“There would be meat that had tumbled out on the floor, in the dirt and sawdust, where the workers had tramped and spit uncounted billions of consumption (tuberculosis) germs. There would be meat stored in great piles in rooms; and the water from leaky roofs would drip over it, and thousands of rats would race about on it. It was too dark in these storage places to see well, but a man could run his hand over these piles of meat and sweep off handfuls of the dried dung of rats. These rats were nuisances, and the packers would put poisoned bread out for them; they would die, and then rats, bread, and meat would go into the hoppers together.”

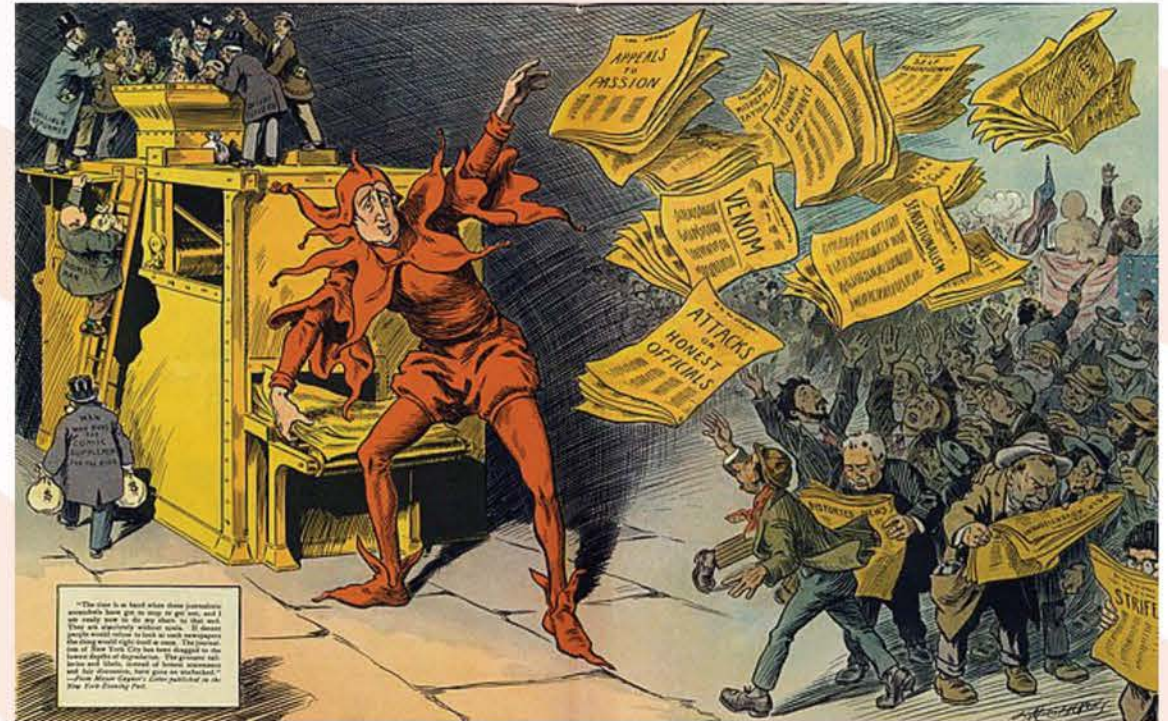
How does this passage make you feel? Would you want to eat meat processed in such a way? How do you think this meat affected the population?



Yellow Journalism

Many historians believe that yellow journalism was a contributing cause of the Spanish-American War. Yellow journalism is when news sources report news that is exaggerated to gain readers.

Do you think yellow journalism exists today? Why or why not? Can you give examples?



Assembly Line

Henry Ford's Model T was the first car to be mass-produced using a moving assembly line. In an assembly line, workers are assigned a task that they repeat every time a new unit is sent to them. Then the unit moves on to another worker who performs a different repeatable task. The units are moved from worker to worker until the products are completed.

What are the benefits of using an assembly line? How would an assembly line affect the price of a product?



Harlem Renaissance

The Harlem Renaissance was an artistic and literary movement celebrating African-American culture that took place between World War I and World War II. Can you match each figure from the Harlem Renaissance with what they were famous for?

1. _____ Louis Armstrong
2. _____ Bessie Smith
3. _____ Langston Hughes
4. _____ Duke Ellington
5. _____ Zora Hurston



- A. Famous female novelist and playwright
- B. Famous composer, musician, and bandleader
- C. Famous trumpet player
- D. Famous poet, novelist, and playwright
- E. Famous female jazz singer



Shantytowns

During the Great Depression, many people lost their jobs and then their homes. Shantytowns sprang up outside of cities. A shantytown is a town consisting of shacks made by people who didn't have a home. As one Great Depression observer noted,



“Here were people living in old, rusted-out car bodies. I mean that was their home. There were people living in shacks made of orange crates. One family with a whole lot of kids were living in a piano box. This wasn't just a little section, this was maybe ten-miles wide and ten-miles long. People living in whatever they could junk together.”

What do you think life was like in a shantytown? What would be the hardest aspect of life in a shantytown for you?



Nuremberg Trials

After World War II, the Allies formed the International Military Tribunal and conducted the Nuremberg Trials. During the Nuremberg Trials, almost 200 Nazi leaders were put on trial for crimes against humanity and war crimes.



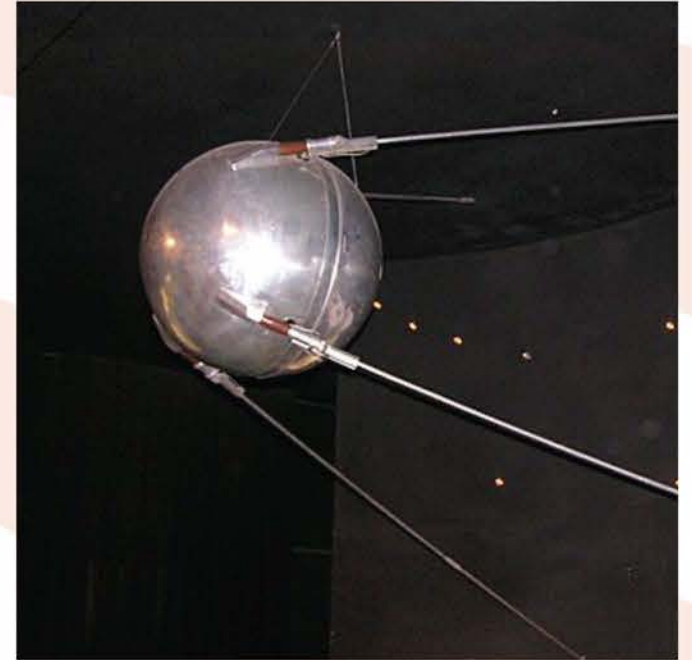
Why was it important to hold the Nuremberg Trials even though the war was over? What psychological effect might the Nuremberg Trials have had on Holocaust victims and others who suffered under Nazi rule? What message do you think the Allies were sending to the rest of the world?



The Space Race Begins!

On October 4, 1957, the Soviet Union launched the first artificial satellite, Sputnik, into space. The US tried to launch a satellite the following December, which exploded on the launch pad. The US was not able to launch a successful satellite until four months after Sputnik.

How do you think Americans felt knowing that a satellite from their communist enemy was orbiting above them? What might Sputnik symbolize? What do you think the US did in response to the launch of Sputnik?



Jackie Robinson

In 1947, Jackie Robinson became the first African-American to play on a major league baseball team. This was long before the Civil Rights Movement.

How do you think Jackie Robinson was treated by the crowds and players? How long do you think Jackie Robinson played major league baseball?



The Draft

A military draft forced soldiers to enlist in the military during various armed conflicts. Approximately 1.8 million men were drafted for the Vietnam War.

Why do you think more people protested the draft during the Vietnam War than during World War II?



Nixon in China

Richard Nixon resumed US relations with Communist China by becoming the first US President to visit mainland China during his presidency. Nixon said, "We want to have the Chinese with us when we sit down and negotiate with the Russians."

Why should the US keep healthy diplomatic relations with its enemies?



Dare Mighty Things

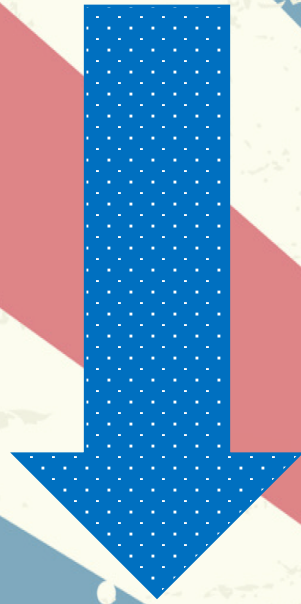
“Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows neither victory nor defeat.” Teddy Roosevelt

What do you think this quote means?

Can you think of any historical figures who have dared mighty things and known both victory and defeat?



Sample of Teacher Tips/Answer Key



180 Bell Ringers and Warm-Ups for US History

- These bell ringers are organized in the following order:
 - Colonial America
 - American Revolution
 - Post-Revolution/New Government
 - Jefferson to Pre-Civil War
 - Civil War
 - Reconstruction
 - Great Plains & Life Out West
 - Industrial Age and Immigration
 - Progressive Era and Imperialism
 - World War I
 - Roaring Twenties & Great Depression
 - World War II
 - Cold War
 - Civil Rights Movement
 - Korean and Vietnam War
 - Post-Vietnam
 - General
- For an alphabetical and searchable listing of bell ringers by topic, see the index file included in this product.

Number	Topic	Bell Ringer	Answers/Teacher Notes
1.	History	Philosopher George Santayana once said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." How does this apply to studying history? Why is studying history important?	We study the past so we can hopefully learn from others' mistakes and not repeat them. History also helps us recognize harmful cycles and understand why things are the way they are now.
2.	History	Why should we study <i>American</i> history and not just world history? What are the advantages of studying the history of a certain country or region? What are some disadvantages? Which	As citizens of this country, we need to understand the people, ideas, and events that shaped this country. We will likely better understand our customs, traditions, laws, and problems if we know the history of our country

		do you prefer to study: US history or world history?	and how we arrived at the state we are in today. Studying <i>only</i> the history of one region can lead to an ethnocentric view of history. It also prevents us from seeing the full impact of other countries and cultures on our society. The actions and wars of other countries affect our country, so we need to be knowledgeable about world affairs and what shaped them.
3.	New World, Columbian Exchange, Christopher Columbus	Can you guess which items below came from the New World? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tomatoes • Chocolate • Onions • Sugar cane • Cattle • Wheat • Peanuts • Corn • Horses • Potatoes • Rice • Pineapples • Small pox • Influenza 	If students have no idea, ask them this question: Do you think this item was around during the Middle Ages? If it was, then it has to be from the Old World. <u>New World</u> Tomatoes Chocolate (Cacao beans) Peanuts Corn Potatoes Pineapples <u>Old World</u> Onions Sugar Cane Cattle Wheat Horses Rice Small pox Influenza
4.	New World, Columbian	The items below came from the New World. Which do you think is the most important to our	Answer will vary based on student.

		freedoms for everyone even if we don't agree with their opinions?	
27.	New Nation, George Washington	Why do you think George Washington was chosen to be the first president under the new Constitution? What leadership experience did he have? How was he viewed by others?	You can mention his leadership in the American Revolution as head of the Continental Army and as President of the Constitutional Convention. George Washington's willingness to support the Constitution and the presidency gave legitimacy people were looking for to the new government. Washington was a trusted figure, so if he approved, others would trust his judgement.
28.	George Washington, John Adams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would you want to be president immediately after George Washington? • Why or why not? • What would be the advantages of following Washington as president? • What would be the disadvantages? 	Discuss the hardships of living up to such an accomplished and almost mythical person. You can use this to discuss the differences in George Washington's and John Adam's personalities and political styles.
29.	John Adams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atlas of Independence • Old Sink or Swim • His Rotundity <p>Each of the phrases above was a nickname for John Adams. How do you think he got each nickname? What do you think each means?</p>	Atlas of Independence - Adams was a strong supporter of the Declaration of Independence. Old Sink or Swim - Adams made a speech regarding fighting for independence in which he said, "Sink or swim, survive or perish with my country, is my unalterable determination." His Rotundity - His critics called him this to make fun of his large size.
30.	Louisiana Purchase	What would the US look like today if the US had not bought the Louisiana Territory? How would your life be different? What historical events might not have taken place?	The US would be much smaller. Some states wouldn't exist. The War with Mexico might not have happened, and the US may not have been strong enough to survive World War I and II.

		Turner's rebellion as justification to continue slavery?	Turner's raid. (He killed 10 children under the age of five.)
53.	Slavery, <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> , Harriet Beecher Stowe, Abraham Lincoln	When Abraham Lincoln met Harriet Beecher Stowe, the author of <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> , he supposedly said, "so you are the little woman who wrote the book that started this great war." Why would Lincoln say this? What effect did <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> have on the anti-slavery movement? Why?	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> showed the human side of slavery and made it more personal by illustrating slavery's effect on individuals in the story. The characters in the book gave people an emotional connection to slaves and put a "face" on slavery.
54.	Slavery, Emancipation Proclamation	Some people opposed slavery but were not abolitionists. Some viewed abolitionists as radical. Abolitionists fought for an immediate end to slavery, not a gradual reduction. Why might some people be opposed to slavery but not want it to end abruptly and immediately? What regulations could have been included in the Emancipation Proclamation to protect the rights of newly freed slaves?	Some argued that an abrupt end to slavery would lead to economic and social chaos in the South, in which both white and black families would suffer.
55.	Civil War, Railroads	At the beginning of the Civil War, the Union had approximately 22,000 miles of railroad track, while the Confederacy had only 9,500 miles. What kind of military advantages come with more miles of railroads? What could railroads be used for?	Railroads could be used for transportation of people and supplies for military purposes. Armies transported by railroad could move faster and arrive better rested than those on foot. Supplies could be delivered faster using railroads.
56.	Civil War, Disease	The most common cause of death during the Civil War was not the battlefield but disease.	Two-thirds of deaths during the Civil War were caused by disease. Dysentery and diarrhea were the most common killers.

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