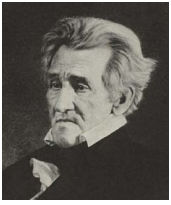


The Early Years



Andrew Jackson was born on March 15, 1767, in Waxhaw, South Carolina. His dad died before his birth and his mother and two

brothers died in the Revolution leaving Jackson utterly alone.

In 1788, Jackson moved west into Tennessee where he married, practiced law, and went into politics.

Jackson was brave, proud, and extremely ambitious. He was also violent and ill-tempered. Jackson fought several duels over insults and disagreements. In 1806, he killed Charles Dickinson, but not before Dickinson shot Jackson in the chest. The bullet rested so close to Jackson’s heart, doctors refused to remove it for fear it would kill him. It remained there the rest of Jackson’s life.

Andrew Jackson left politics when the War of 1812 broke out with Britain. He was made a major general and won a series of battles against the Creek American Indians that led to their eventual defeat at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend on March 27, 1814. At the Battle of New Orleans, Jackson inflicted severe casualties against the British while only taking a handful himself. This victory made Jackson a national hero. After the war, Jackson made plans to run for president.

1. What made Jackson popular? (circle one)

- e. fighting duels
- h. War of 1812
- s. being a lawyer
- y. having a bad temper

Running for President

The Election of 1824 ended on a bitter note for Jackson. There were four candidates: William Crawford, Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay, and John Quincy Adams. Although Jackson won the most popular votes and the Electoral College vote, it was not a majority. Since no candidate got over fifty percent of the vote, the House of Representatives got to choose the next president from the top three candidates. Clay, the Speaker of the House, received the fewest votes so he was not considered. A stroke prevented Crawford from participating. That left Jackson and Adams. Clay decided to give his support to Adams allowing Adams to win the election. Afterwards, Adams appointed Clay secretary of state. Jackson accused Adams and Clay of making a “corrupt bargain” for the presidency.

The 1824 election also saw the end of the one-party system in America. The Federalists had all but disappeared after the War of 1812, leaving only the Democratic-Republican Party. However, those people supporting Adams became the National Republicans and those supporting Jackson became the Democrats—the beginning of the modern Democratic Party. When opponents referred to Jackson as a “jackass,” he adopted the animal as the party’s symbol.

In the Election of 1828, Jackson’s 178 electoral votes easily surpassed Adams’ 83. It was one of the most brutal elections in American history. Jackson’s supporters unfairly called Adams a gambler because he had a pool table installed in the White House while Adams’ supporters called Jackson an adulterer because he married his wife before she was legally divorced. This mudslinging election resulted in one of the most controversial administrations in American history.

2. If no one wins a majority of the vote, who picks the next president? (circle one)

 - e. Senate
 - h. House of Representatives
 - s. president
 - y. Supreme Court
3. People who opposed Jackson created... (circle one)

 - e. the National Republican Party
 - h. the Democrat Party
 - s. the Whig Party
 - y. the Federalist Party

The Tariff and Nullification Crisis

Tariffs were a way to raise money for the federal government, but more frequently, they were used to protect American industries. By charging taxes on incoming foreign goods, it made American goods cheaper. Congress passed the Tariff of 1828 and Jackson supported it. It was meant to protect Northern industry, but it meant the South would pay higher prices for goods that it depended upon from Europe. The South called it the Tariff of Abominations. This led to the first serious threat of civil war.

John C. Calhoun, Jackson’s vice president, encouraged the South Carolina legislature to nullify the tariff based on states’ rights. South Carolina declared that if a state did not like a federal law, it had the right not to obey it; furthermore, a state also had the right to secede from the Union.

On December 10, 1832, Jackson responded by declaring a state could not nullify a federal law and secession was illegal. Congress passed the Force Bill allowing

Jackson to send the army into any state that refused to follow federal law. An angry President Jackson threatened to hang Calhoun and anyone who resisted. Henry Clay diffused the situation by passing the Compromise Tariff in 1833 that reduced the tax on imported goods. This helped avoid a civil war.

4. What was the purpose of the Tariff of 1828? (circle one)
-
- e. to help the South
 - h. to protect Northern industry
 - s. to improve foreign relations
 - y. to increase government power
5. Why did the South oppose the Tariff of 1828? (circle one)
-
- e. it would hurt industry
 - h. it might lower prices on domestic goods
 - s. it would raise prices on imported goods
 - y. Jackson hated it
6. The ability of a state to nullify a federal law it does not like is called (circle one)
-
- e. states' rights
 - h. federal doctrine
 - s. legislative veto
 - y. states' doctrine

American Indian Removal

The Indian Removal Act of 1830 caused much controversy. This federal law allowed the federal government to forcibly remove American Indians from their homeland to other areas west of the Mississippi River. The Southeast American Indians made up of Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks, and Seminoles—known as the Five Civilized Tribes—lived in the states of Georgia, Tennessee, and Alabama. However, when

settlers and farmers wanted their tribal land, the state of Georgia wasted no time in trying to remove them.

In *Worcester v. Georgia*, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, John Marshall, stated that Georgia could not force the Native Americans to leave; only the federal government had that power. President Jackson refused to enforce the Supreme Court ruling and stop Georgia from pushing the Cherokee off their land. In 1838, the U.S. army relocated the Cherokee and several other tribes to Indian Territory—present-day Oklahoma. Approximately 4,000 Cherokee and others died on the 800 mile march that became known as the Trail of Tears.

7. In *Worcester v. Georgia*, the Supreme Court ruled... (circle one)
-
- e. Georgia could remove the American Indians
 - h. the Cherokee needed to go
 - s. American Indians lacked political rights
 - y. the Cherokee could remain in Georgia
8. The march of American Indians to Indian Territory became known as... (circle one)
-
- e. the Great March
 - h. Treading the Path
 - s. the Bloody Journey
 - y. the Trail of Tears

The National Bank

Jackson's veto of the national bank became his most controversial decision. During the Washington Administration, Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton originally created the bank to collect taxes, pay government debts, and loan money to businesses. Jackson saw the bank as a tool for only the rich and wanted to do away with it.

By the Election of 1832, the National Republicans had disappeared. A new political party, the Whigs, formed to oppose Jackson. Henry Clay led the party and ran against Jackson for president. Clay criticized Jackson for opposing the national bank. However, Jackson's popularity as a man of the people allowed him to easily win the election.

The result of the destruction of the national bank and other bad economic policies supported by Jackson led to the Panic of 1837, a depression that began at the start of the term of the next president, Martin Van Buren. As a result of the bad economy, Van Buren's enemies nicknamed him "Martin Van Ruin." Thus, Van Buren received the blame for Jackson's economic policies and became a one-term president.

9. What happened during the Election of 1832? (circle two)
-
- e. the Whig Party formed to oppose Jackson
 - h. John Q. Adams won the election
 - s. the national bank became the main issue
 - y. Henry Clay was assassinated

Legacy

Jackson used the veto more than any previous president. When he made up his mind, he viciously removed any obstacles in his way and frequently fired members of his cabinet for disagreeing with him. Jackson had many enemies. Thomas Jefferson called Jackson "a dangerous man," but Jackson had many supporters. His time as president became known as the Age of Jackson. He would be the last strong president to serve in the White House until Abraham Lincoln took office in 1860. Jackson died at his home on June 8, 1845.