

Period 4 (1800-1848)

Key Concept 4.1

The United States began to develop a modern democracy and celebrated a new national culture, while Americans sought to define the nation's democratic ideals and change their society and institutions to match them.

A) The nation made a transition to a more participatory democracy.

- Political debates continued – tariffs, fed. vs. state government, relations with Europe
- Supreme court asserted that they would determine the meaning of the Constitution and that federal laws took precedence.
- 2nd Party System Emerged – Democrats vs. Whigs (National Bank, internal improvements)

B) While Americans embraced a new national culture, various groups developed distinctive cultures of their own.

- Market revolution led to significant changes
- Second Great Awakening
- Romantic beliefs in human perfectibility
- Enslaved and free African Americans tried to change their status

C) Many Americans worked outside of government institutions to advance their ideals

- Abolition/Anti-Slavery Societies in the North
- Unsuccessful slave rebellions in the South
- Women's rights convention at Seneca Falls

Key Concept 4.2

Innovations in technology, agriculture, and commerce powerfully accelerated the American economy, bringing profound changes to the U.S. society and to national and regional identities.

A) New transportation systems and technologies dramatically expanded manufacturing and agricultural production

- Impact of market revolution
- Innovations in textile, steam and interchangeable parts
- Roads, canals, RRs expand and enlarged markets

B) Changes caused by the market revolution had significant effects on U.S. society, workers' lives, and gender and family relations

- separate spheres
- Move from semisubsistence agriculture to goods for distant markets
- Classes – larger middle class, small but powerful elite, rise in the laboring poor

C) Economic development shaped settlement and trade patterns, helping to unify the nation while also encouraging the growth of different regions

- Increased Southern dependence on cotton = slavery = Southern regional identity
- North = banking/shipping
- Should the economy be unified? (American System led to debates)

Key Concept 4.3

The U.S. interest in increasing foreign trade and expanding its national borders shaped the nation's foreign policy and spurred government and private initiatives.

A) Struggling to create an independent global presence, the U.S. sought to claim territory throughout the N. American continent and promote foreign trade.

- After the Louisiana Purchase, Americans sought to control N.A.'s and the Western Hemisphere
- Indian Removal, Monroe Doctrine
- Frontier settlers championed expansion
- Native Americans resisted (Tecumseh)

B) The United States' acquisition of lands in the West gave rise to contests over the extension of slavery into new territories.

- The SE got depleted, slavery moved West
- Anti-slavery efforts increased in the North
- Most Southerners owned no slaves (but wanted to)
- The Missouri Compromise was only a temporary solution