

### Andrew Jackson Assignment

Read about Andrew Jackson in Chapter 11 of your textbook. Write a detailed definition next to each event. Chart whether the events in the life of Andrew Jackson are considered positive or negative and from whose point of view. Record why it would be positive or negative for each side. Some of the major events from the life and presidency of Andrew Jackson are listed below. After completion, what is your opinion of Andrew Jackson?

Event	Definition	Positive for whom and why?	Negative for whom and why?
Battle of New Orleans			
Term "Old Hickory"			
Spoils System			
Tariff Debate			
Nullification Crisis			
Indian Removal Act			
Trail of Tears			
War Against the Bank			



# The Spoils System

Democrats carried the spirit of democracy into government. They wanted to open up government jobs to people from all walks of life. They were disturbed that the federal government had become a bureaucracy, a system in which nonelected officials carry out laws. Democrats argued that ordinary citizens could handle any government jobs.

President Jackson fired many federal workers and replaced them with his supporters. The discharged employees protested vehemently (strongly). They charged that Jackson was acting like a tyrant, hiring and firing people at will. Jackson responded that a new set of federal employees would be good for democracy.

One Jackson supporter explained it another way: "To the victors belong the spoils." In other words, because the Jacksonians had won the election, they had the right to the spoils – benefits of victory – such as handing out government jobs to their supporters. The practice of replacing government employees with the winning candidate's supporters became known as the spoils system.



# The Indian Removal Act

Because the area west of the Mississippi was dry and seemed unsuitable for farming, few white Americans lived there. Many settlers wanted the federal government to **relocate** Native Americans living in the southeast. This meant forcing them to leave their land and move west of the Mississippi River. President Andrew Jackson, a man of the frontier himself, supported the settlers' demand for moving Native Americans west. In his presidential campaign he had promised to support white settlers who wanted Native American lands.

Congress responded by passing the **Indian Removal Act** in 1830. The act allowed the federal government to pay Native Americans to move west. Jackson then sent federal officials to negotiate (make a deal with) **treaties** with Native Americans of the southeast. Most accepted payment for their land and agreed to move. In 1834 Congress created the **Indian Territory**, an area in present-day Oklahoma, for Native Americans from the southeast. Many did not agree and rebelled against this taking of their land.



# War Against the Bank

For years, Jackson had attacked the **Bank of the United States** as being an organization of wealthy Easterners over which ordinary citizens had no control. The Bank of the United States was a powerful institution. It held the federal government's money supply. Although the Bank had been chartered by Congress, it was run by private bankers rather than elected officials. The Bank's president, **Nicholas Biddle**, represented everything Jackson disliked.

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In 1832 Jackson's opponents gave him the chance to take action against the Bank. Senators **Henry Clay** and **Daniel Webster** planned to use the Bank to defeat Jackson in the 1832 presidential election. They persuaded Biddle to apply early for a new **charter** – a government permit – to operate the bank.

Clay and Webster believed the Bank had popular support. They thought that an attempt by Jackson to veto its charter would lead to his defeat and allow Henry Clay to be elected president. When the bill to renew the Bank came to Jackson, he **vetoed**, or rejected, the bill. In a message to Congress, Jackson angrily stated that the Bank favored the rich and hurt the poor.

BORN TO COMMAND.

OF VETO MEMORY.



HAD I BEEN CONSULTED.

**KING ANDREW THE FIRST.**



# POLITICAL CARTOONS!

SOURCE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE PRINTED: \_\_\_\_\_

TOPIC: What issue or event is the artist commenting on? \_\_\_\_\_

<b>1. List all the objects or people you see in the cartoon.</b>	<b>1. List all the words that you see, include captions and/or title</b>
Visuals	Words (not all cartoons include words)
<b>2. What background knowledge do you need to access in order to understand this cartoon?</b>	
Visuals	Words
<b>3. What symbols does the artist use to convey meaning?</b>	
Visuals	Words

**MESSAGE:** What viewpoint is the artist expressing? Is it negative or positive? What point is he trying to make? \_\_\_\_\_

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MESSAGE: What viewpoint is the artist expressing? Is it negative or positive?  
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