

9th Grade | Unit 1



### **HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 901**

The Heritage Of The United States

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#### **Author:**

M. June Johnson, M.A. Martin E. Johnson, M.A.

#### **Editor:**

Richard W. Wheeler, M.A.Ed.

#### **Consulting Editor:**

Howard Stitt, Th.M., Ed.D.

#### **Revision Editor:**

Alan Christopherson, M.S.

### **Westover Studios Design Team:**

Phillip Pettet, Creative Lead Teresa Davis, DTP Lead Nick Castro Andi Graham Jerry Wingo



804 N. 2nd Ave. E. Rock Rapids, IA 51246-1759

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# The Heritage Of The United States

# Introduction

Without realizing it, many of the things we say and do often relate to our heritage; for example our thoughts, words, habits, occupations, and foods. Many of our basic freedoms are so often taken for granted that we assume these freedoms will always be with us. For many of us, our lifestyles are the results of things passed down to us by our forefathers.

Symbols help remind us of our heritage and the dedication of our forefathers. One of the outstanding symbols of our heritage is the Declaration of Independence. It represents our concern for the equality, the unalienable rights of men, and for government by their consent. The United States Constitution entrenches our heritage by giving us freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and several other basic freedoms that we value highly. Another symbol of our heritage is the Statue of Liberty. This emblem of liberty has been a guiding light for many different people. It has been an inspiration for thousands of immigrants from many countries around the world. Other gifts from our forefathers include the White House, the Supreme Court Building, Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, the Washington Monument, Arlington Cemetery, and the capitol of the United States, which houses the Congress, the voice and will of the people of the United States. Our nation's capitol is a majestic symbol of the power of self-government. Another common symbol of our heritage is the national anthem, *The Star-Spangled Banner*. The history and message of this song is often taken for granted by many Americans.

As each generation passes, changes occur that affect our heritage. Perhaps the one change that has not come about through our heritage is our social permissiveness. Many historical accounts parallel our present society. The Biblical reference to the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah closely reflects our present-day society. This permissive behavior could have been brought about by the breaking down of family ties. Our culture has many good aspects as well as many bad ones. Much of the good comes from our heritage. As good citizens, we should support the good and remove the bad. In this LIFEPAC®, you will study the historical and political backgrounds, the freedom backgrounds, and the society backgrounds of our national heritage.

### Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAC. When you have finished this LIFEPAC, you should be able to:

- Tell what life in the early colonies was like and what made it so difficult.
- Explain why conflicts developed and caused changes in our country.
- Describe the expansion of the United States.
- Trace the development of the United States government and political parties.
- Name the freedoms to be found in the early colonies.
- Describe the people and their contributions that shaped our country.
- Name some reasons for immigration to America.
- Describe some changes in American ideals and lifestyles over the years.

## 1. HISTORICAL AND POLITICAL BACKGROUNDS

Are you willing to pay the price for freedom? Many Europeans had to answer this question before they left their countries for new frontiers. They had to give up friends and neighbors to seek religious and political freedom in the new land. The early pioneers found travel from Europe to America difficult. They came in ships that lacked medical, food, and clothing supplies. When immigrants arrived, they found a hostile land. The new arrivals often lacked the

skills they needed to survive. They did not know how to grow crops or find food in the new land. Many of the first settlers owed their survival to friendly natives. Many settlers did not survive the early years because of their inability to cope with the problems that existed in the new world. However, colonies were established, conflicts were resolved, lands were acquired, and independence was established in a new nation.

### **SECTION OBJECTIVES**

**Review these objectives**. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

- 1. Tell what life in the early colonies was like and what made it so difficult.
- 2. Explain why conflicts developed and caused changes in our country.
- 3. Describe the expansion of the United States.
- 4. Trace the development of the United States government and political parties.

#### **VOCABULARY**

Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.

**absolute monarch** (ab´ su lüt mon urk). Ruler who rules with no limits or restrictions.

**acquisition** (ak´ wu zish´ un). Something acquired or gained.

**annexation** (an 'ek sā 'shun). To add to one's property

**charter** (chär tur). A grant from a state or country.

**coercive** (kō ėr´ siv). Intending to dominate the individual will.

**despot** (des 'put). A ruler with absolute power and authority.

**dissension** (di sen´ shun). Strong disagreement often accompanied by hard feelings.

era (ir´u). A memorable or important date or event that begins a new period in history.

**fortitude** (fôr´ tu tüd). Strength of mind that enables a person to face danger or trouble.

**monarchy** A government ruled by a King or Queen.

**proprietary** (pru prī ´ u ter ´ ē) Owner or group of owners of a grant from the king of England. **stability** (stu bil ´ u tē ). Steadfastness of character or purpose.

tactics (tak´ tiks). Procedure to gain advantage or success; methods.

whim (whim). A sudden fancy or notion.

**Note:** All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are not sure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

**Pronunciation Key:** hat, **ā**ge, c**a**re, f**ä**r; l**e**t, **e**qual, t**e**rm; **i**t, **r**ce; hot, **o**pen, **o**rder; **o**il; **o**ut; cup, p**u**t, r**u**le; **c**hild; long; **t**hin; /#// for **th**en; /zh/ for mea**s**ure; /u/ represents /a/ in **a**bout, /e/ in tak**e**n, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lem**o**n, and /u/ in circus.

#### **AMERICAN COLONIES**

The first Americans were the Indians or Native Americans. The hundreds of tribes in existence had many different languages and ways of life. Their lives consisted of hunting game and raising crops such as maize (corn), beans, or squash. Some tribes constantly traveled in search of food, never establishing permanent homes. Some Native American tribes helped the early settlers when they came. As the number of pioneers increased, more land was needed. The resulting westward movement caused the white man to become a threat to the Native Americans' way of life. Many Native Americans and white men became bitter enemies because of this movement.

The discovery of the New World created excitement in Europe. The New World offered many Europeans the opportunity for wealth, power, and adventure. The rulers and merchants of Europe wanted to gain control of the resources in the new world. The leaders of the country also wanted new territories. These territories and resources would increase their importance as well as their power. Many Christian people had a great desire to spread their religion to the Native Americans. For many explorers, the new world was a place to seek adventure, personal fame, and fortune. In the process of this quest, many European countries set up trading posts and colonies in the new world.

Many of the explorers did not find what they were seeking. They did not find the gold or other riches in the north that had been found in the south. Neither did they find civilizations to help supply their needs. However, they did find a wilderness sparsely inhabited by Native Americans.

These first settlers encountered many hardships in their attempt to establish colonies. They were unaware of what lay beyond the eastern settlements. The fertile soil, abundant water supply, and bountiful minerals that existed in this new land would later help the United States to become one of the world's largest and most prosperous nations.

Although most of the colonists coming to this land brought many skills with them, they soon realized that they had to learn many more in order to survive in this country. Many housewives had to learn to help build houses. Many doctors had to learn how to cut down trees and to clear the land, and many farmers had to learn new types of farming in order to survive and enjoy their new-found freedom.

Our society has changed, but we still must be able to adapt in order to survive in our modern world. You may become a specialist in a single area and yet you may have to perform many different tasks to function successfully in today's complicated society.



# Answer these questions.

Why were the Europeans interested in the New World?
In what ways did the colonists have to adjust to their new life?
What natural resources have made America a prosperous nation?

### MAJOR CONFLICTS

You may ask the question, "Is war really a necessity?" Throughout history growth has come about through conflicts. The growth of Christianity came about through conflict during persecution of the Christians in the colosseums of Rome. The martyrdoms of John and Betty Stamm in China during the rise of communism in that country, as well as those of Nate Saint, Jim Elliott, Ed McCully, Peter Fleming, and Roger Youderian by Auca Indians in Ecuador aroused many Christians throughout the world. Wars or conflicts are often unavoidable. The wars of Israel against the Canaanites were necessary (Joshua 11:16-23). Many wars are fought to gain independence. Others are waged to overthrow the dictatorial rule or reign of undesirable rulers such as the Pharaohs in Egypt, the Canaanites, Chaldeans, Romans, or Hitler, who is perhaps the **despot** most infamous to you.

In the study of the growth of the United States, it is important to remember conflicts helped this country receive independence and aided it to be the strong nation it is today. If the colonists had possessed no desire to break away from this rule and control of England, we could still be dominated by the monarchy. Perhaps we would not have made such advances in the fields of science, medicine, and industry. Our free economic system has brought about individual initiative and progress on the part of many people. This system came about because some people in the early growth of this country had enough fortitude to rebel against the British crown.

The apostle Paul wrote about our warfare as Christians. In 2 Corinthians 10:4, Paul stated. "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds." Just as it was important for the colonial army to capture the key strongholds of Crown Point, Fort Ticonderoga, Trenton, Saratoga, and Yorktown during the American Revolution, it is more important to let Jesus Christ pull down the strongholds that we encounter

in our daily lives. Paul fought the good fight (1 Timothy 1:18); he exhorted Timothy to become a good soldier of Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 2:4). The Christian life is a military enterprise, demanding—just as does the service of the ordinary soldier—an unconditional commitment to Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 2:4). Our battle is not with flesh and blood (Ephesians 6:12); therefore, to avoid defeat, we must receive provision and protection from God Himself. God's Word is a two-edged sword as Paul stated in Hebrews 4:12; it is both our offensive weapon and our defensive weapon; it will give us the victory. As soldiers have uniforms to wear into battle, we too have a uniform that God has provided us to wear (Ephesians 6:13-17).

With prayers, patience, and perseverance the colonists worked and prospered. They knew what they wanted and were willing to die to keep their freedoms. The Pilgrims wanted religious freedom. The Puritans, who believed the government should be the church, wanted unified religious communities. William Penn began a colony for poor Quakers, and Maryland was established primarily for Catholics.

Although the majority of immigrants came from England, many settlers came from the European countries of Ireland, Holland, France, Spain, and Germany. With so much diversity in the backgrounds, economics, and reasons for starting a new life in a new world, settlers in the new world were certain to see conflicts arise.

The French controlled much of Eastern Canada and points on the Mississippi River. As the British settlers moved westward, they began to undermine France's control of the valuable Ohio River valley. Frenchmen had always been able to get along well with the Native Americans and had easily learned survival in the backwoods wilderness. Because British colonists made little effort to get along with the French, fighting broke out.

During this stage of our country's history, England as well as other European countries, allowed the colonists to exist with very little

interference. When the colonies needed assistance, the "mother country" was there to give a helping hand. During the French and Indian War, Britain came to the aid of the colonies and many French lands passed to English control.

Driving the French out of the New World meant more freedom for colonists to move westward into the Ohio valley. It also allowed the English-speaking peoples to dominate the Canadian area as well as the area later known as the United States.

With an end to the French and Indian War, England began to impose more strict supervision on the colonists. Taxes were levied and acts were passed as the mother country tried to recoup some of the costs of the war. Extra taxes were imposed on products of all kinds that came from England. Acts were passed whereby the colonists were forced to house soldiers. The colonists began to unite and organize in opposition to these moves.

A tax on cheap tea proved to be a major breaking point between the colonists and England. At the Boston Tea Party, the colonists threw the tea into the water to protest taxation without representation. This taxation and many similar events led to the American Revolution. Numerous people from both sides lost their lives. but from this conflict a new nation, the United States of America, was born.

Minor conflicts continued between the colonists and Britain for many years as England still refused to accept the idea that the colonists were ready to be independent. The War of 1812 finally ended England's designs on the new nation.

With the freedom the colonists gained came many added responsibilities. Every time the new country gained more land, they faced more problems and challenges. Systems of communication among the areas became more difficult. Issues of slavery and statehood had to be addressed. Some were resolved successfully, others were not.



Boston Tea Party



### Complete each statement.

1.4	The Pilgrims sought				
1.5	A colony which attracted many Quakers was started by				
1.6	A colony for Catholics was started in				
1.7	The settlers who wished to establish unified religious communities were the				
1.8	Most original colonists were from				
Ansv	Answer these questions.				
1.9	What are two reasons given for the occurrence of war?				
	a				
	b				
1.10	What were two reasons given for dissatisfaction with British rule?				
	a				
	b				
1.11	Why was war with Britain necessary?				

**Number these events in the proper order.** Write 1 in front of what happened first, 2 in front of what happened second, and so on.

1.12	_ the American Revolution
1.13	_ the French and Indian Wa
1.14	_ the War of 1812
1.15	the Boston Tea Party

### **ACQUISITIONS AND ANNEXATIONS**

As this nation grew, the leaders of our country realized that expansion was necessary. There were many ways to expand, but outright purchases and wars added to our territory. In the eighteenth century the original thirteen states began an expansion movement to the land from Canada to Florida, and from the original thirteen colonies to the Mississippi River. Even these first movements were not made without problems. The greatest problem was conflict with the Native Americans.

Many of the colonists were not being intentionally cruel to the Native Americans; however, if they were to settle new territory beyond the Allegheny Mountains, they had to settle on Native American lands. The colonists believed they had a right to the land occupied by the Native Americans. However, the Native Americans also believed they had the right to the land they had lived on for centuries. Stories of horror, viciousness, and murder put fear and distrust into the hearts and minds of both the colonists and the Native Americans. Moreover. the Native American way of life required large stretches of sparsely inhabited land available for hunting and subsistence farming. The European lifestyle was based upon intensive farming of the land that allowed for a dense population. Thus, many settlers would occupy land that previously supported a much smaller number of Native Americans.

The Native Americans soon realized they would be pushed out of their territory and

overwhelmed by the newcomers. Therefore, the Native Americans began to fight for their land and their lifestyle. However, the increasing **acquisition** of land by the settlers continued. The Native Americans were repeatedly driven out of the better land and left to survive on land the settlers did not yet want.

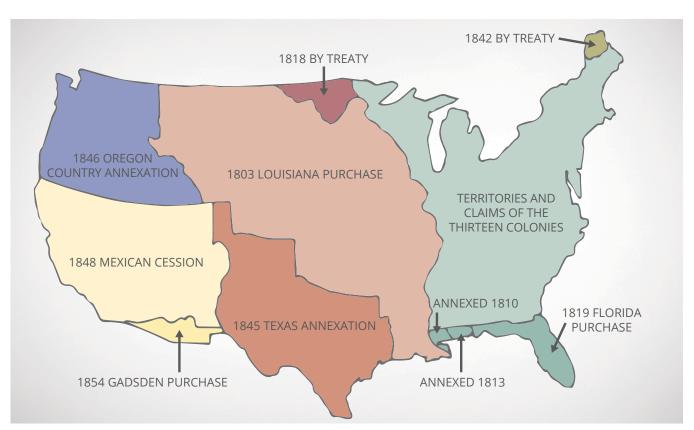
The first president to purchase land for the United States was Jefferson. He purchased Louisiana from France at the beginning of the nineteenth century. Many countries had laid claim to the new world. Spain at one time had claimed the area that Jefferson bought from France, but Spain had failed to make France a powerful landholder in the New World and because he was afraid he would eventually lose the land anyway, Napoleon was willing to sell the Louisiana area to the United States. The cost for the Louisiana Purchase was \$15,000,000. The area of land acquired was approximately eight hundred twenty-eight thousand square miles.

The Red River basin north of the Louisiana Territory was ceded by Great Britain to the United States. The last large territory east of the Mississippi to be added to the United States was Florida. It was purchased from Spain in 1819 for only \$5,000,000. By purchasing Florida, the government was then able to send troops to deal with the Seminole Indians who were attacking American settlements in southern Georgia.

A new **era** began under President John Tyler. The **annexation** of Texas, the Mexican War, and the acquisition of the whole Southwest had their roots in Tyler's administration. Most of the settlers moving into Texas were southerners. They had pushed into Texas for many years and wanted their independence from Mexico. They fought many Mexican armies, seceded from Mexico, and created the Republic of Texas. Their desire to join the United States became an issue during the campaign of 1844. After the election, Texas was admitted to the Union. However, the new state boundaries

were badly defined. The United States and Mexico both claimed large areas on the Rio Grande. War broke out between Mexico and the United States. As a result of the Mexican War, Texas, California, and the great Southwest became part of the United States.

While all this conflict with Mexico was transpiring, President Polk peacefully settled the question of the Northwest with Great Britain. The United States gained present-day Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and parts of Montana and Wyoming; but British Columbia went to Great Britain.



Growth of the U.S. to 1860

The last annexation on the mainland of the United States was from Mexico. The United States purchased parts of the states of Arizona and New Mexico in what was called the Gadsden Purchase. However, this did not complete the acquisition of territory by the United States. Two later acquisitions, Alaska and Hawaii, eventually became our forty-ninth and fiftieth states, respectively.

The greatest bargain since the buying of Manhattan from the Native Americans was Secretary of State William Seward's acquisition of

Alaska from Russia. The Russians had no more use for the Alaskan Territory after they drained it of its fur-bearing animals. Many Americans opposed the purchase of Alaska. They used the terms *Seward's Folly* or *Seward's Icebox* to express their dissatisfaction with the purchase of Alaska. However, at the cost of only \$7,200,000 or approximately two cents an acre, Alaska has more than paid for itself.

At the close of the nineteenth century, a number of other annexations and acquisitions of land were made. Hawaii was one area that was



Alaska

annexed. As a result of the Spanish-American War, the United States won Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines, and gained control of Cuba. However, America was willing to let the Cubans have their independence.

After the Spanish-American War, the United States was recognized as a world power. The Philippines became independent in 1946, but Guam and Puerto Rico are still under the control of the United States.

One of the important pieces of property that the United States was able to control was the Panama Canal. This canal was built by the United States to link the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The United States gave the Panama Canal back to Panama in the year 2000. The islands of Samoa and the Virgin Islands, along with the Canal Zone, were the last territories to be annexed to

**1.16** Louisiana Purchase

**1.18** \_\_\_\_\_ the Southwest

**1.19** \_\_\_\_\_ the Northwest

**1.17** \_\_\_\_\_ Florida

**1.20** Alaska

the United States. All of these territories were acquired early in the twentieth century.

Throughout the entire history of our country, much controversy has arisen over the way we have acquired lands. Just pause a minute to think about what would have happened had our forefathers not had the fortitude to stand by their convictions and to gain these territories. Our nation possibly would not exist. We would probably be under the control of other countries; and instead of being a "United States," we would likely be a land divided among many countries. The problems we have now could be even greater. King Solomon wrote these words to us in Proverbs 29:18, "Where there is no vision, the people perish...." As Americans we should be very thankful that our forefathers had this vision.



# Match the area with the country from which it was acquired.

Com	Complete each statement.				
1.21	The Louisiana Purchase was acquired by President				
1.22	2 President favored the annexation of Texas				
1.23	The problem in the Northwest was settled by President				
1.24	4 Secretary of State purchased Alaska	١.			
1.25	The United States acquired the Philippines as a result of the				
	War.				
1.26	<b>6</b> The links both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.				

a. Mexico

b. Britain

c. France

d. Russia

e. Spain

f. Germany

	<b>Number these events in the proper order.</b> Write 1 in front of the event that happened 2 in front of the second event, and so on.
1.27	the purchase of Alaska
1.28	the Louisiana Purchase
1.29	the Spanish-American War
1.30	the Gadsden Purchase
1.31	the purchase of Florida
1.32	the annexation of Samoa
	ver these questions.
1.33	When did the United States actually become recognized as a world power?
1.34	Why was the purchase of Alaska referred to as "Seward's Folly"?
Com	plete this research activity.
1.35	Complete research on one of the following topics. Write a two-page report on the topic you chose.
	a. The History of the Panama Canal b. The Acquisition of Hawaii c. The Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo d. The Gadsden Purchase
	TEACHER CHECK initials date

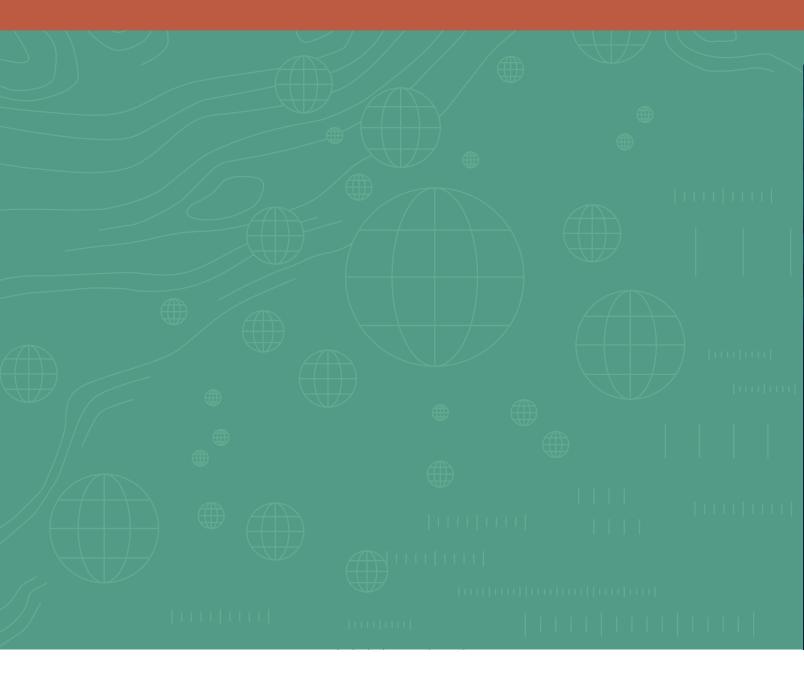
## **SELF TEST 1**

**Match these items** (each answer, 3 points). 1.01 Puritans a. Eastern Canada 1.02 \_\_\_\_\_ Second Continental Congress b. Philadelphia \_\_\_\_\_ Pilgrims 1.03 c. Washington made Commander-in-Chief French 1.04 d. Louisiana Purchase \_\_\_\_\_ Jefferson 1.05 e. forced religion \_\_\_\_\_ Seward f. religious freedom 1.06 \_\_\_\_\_ First Continental Congress 1.07 g. Alaska h. Hawaii **Complete these statements** (each blank, 4 points). **1.08** Many factors affecting our lives relate to our \_\_\_\_\_\_. **1.09** The Biblical references to the cities of a. \_\_\_\_\_ and b. \_\_\_\_\_ relate to our present-day society. **1.010** The new world offered to many Europeans the opportunity to gain a. \_\_\_\_\_\_, b. \_\_\_\_\_, and c. \_\_\_\_\_. **1.011** One of the modern-day dictators was/is **1.012** Whichever way they turned, a. \_\_\_\_\_ were levied and b. \_\_\_\_\_ were passed restricting colonists. **1.013** Three types of colonies were a. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, b \_\_\_\_\_\_, and **1.014** The first two political parties in the United States were the a. **1.015** The wanted unified religious communities.

### **Answer true or false** (each answer, 2 points)

1.016		There is little change in each generation in the development of our heritage.					
1.017		Some Nativ	Some Native Americans were friendly toward the early pioneers.				
1.018		Conflicts ar	nd wars are the sam	ie.			
1.019		The Native	Americans felt their	wa	y of life was threatened by the settlers.		
1.020		The Whig P	arty replaced the Fe	eder	alist Party.		
1.021		Today the	Jnited States has or	nly t	wo political parties.		
				blar	nks (each answer, 3 points).		
1.022	a. geograph		· manufacturing	c.	new skills		
1.023			peen able to get alor British	_	rith Native Americans. colonists		
1.024			n the Spanish	C.	French		
1.025			e a world power aft the Civil War		 the Spanish-American War		
1.026	•		operty that the Unite Cuba		tates had controlled is Canada		

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HIS0901 - May '14 Printing

ISBN 978-0-86717-581-3



804 N. 2nd Ave. E. Rock Rapids, IA 51246-1759

800-622-3070 www.aop.com