

Remini's *A Short History of the United States* Questions

Chapter 1

1. Create a list of the various explorers Remini mentions throughout chapter 1 along with their navigational contributions.
Click here to enter text.
2. What was the significance of the Treaty of Torsedillas?
Click here to enter text.
3. Why were the English more successful at promoting settlement of the New World than their Portuguese, Spanish, French, and Dutch counterparts?
Click here to enter text.
4. What was the impact of the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588?
Click here to enter text.
5. Why did the House of Burgesses form, and why is this significant?
Click here to enter text.
6. Why was the London Company's charter revoked?
Click here to enter text.
7. What are the differences among Anglicans, Puritans, and Separatists?
Click here to enter text.
8. Why was the creation of the Mayflower Compact significant?
Click here to enter text.
9. Why was the Massachusetts Bay Company's decision to move its operations to America significant?
Click here to enter text.
10. Why did Roger Williams found Providence?
Click here to enter text.
11. What were the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut?
Click here to enter text.
12. What was the Toleration Act?
Click here to enter text.
13. What were the three types of English colonies in America and how were they different?
Click here to enter text.
14. Describe the distinctive culture that developed in each of the geographic areas within the American colonies.
Click here to enter text.
15. Why was it that local elected assemblies were able to exert considerable authority in the colonies?
Click here to enter text.
16. What is "mercantilism" and why was the adoption of this policy significant?
Click here to enter text.
17. What was the most important factor in determining one's place in colonial society?
Click here to enter text.
18. What kind of changes were taking place in the colonies during the First Great Awakening?
Click here to enter text.
19. Who was Jonathan Edwards and why was he significant?
Click here to enter text.
20. What was salutary neglect?
Click here to enter text.
21. List the various Indian Wars that took place between 1675 and 1763.
Click here to enter text.

Chapter 2

22. What was the Proclamation of 1763 and why was it implemented in the colonies?
Click here to enter text.
23. Why did the British decide to abandon their policy of salutary neglect?
Click here to enter text.
24. List the acts that the British imposed on the colonists between 1763 and 1774 that led to protests by the colonists.
Click here to enter text.
25. What was Thomas Paine's purpose in writing *Common Sense*?
Click here to enter text.
26. Briefly describe the framework of government established by the Founders in the Articles of Confederation and list the problems with this new framework.
Click here to enter text.
27. What was the Northwest Ordinance?
Click here to enter text.
28. Describe the three major compromises of the Constitutional Convention: the Virginia (Large State) Plan, the New Jersey (Small State) Plan, and the Connecticut Plan.
Click here to enter text.
29. Why was the First Congress of the United States "so productive" according to Remini?
Click here to enter text.
30. What was the issue of "assumption" and how did the Compromise of 1790 solve this controversial issue?
Click here to enter text.
31. Explain the difference between "strict" and "loose" construction of the US Constitution.
Click here to enter text.
32. What was the final stimulus in the creation of a two-party system in America?
Click here to enter text.

Chapter 3

33. What was the Quasi-War?
Click here to enter text.
34. What were the Alien and Sedition Acts?
Click here to enter text.
35. What were the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions?
Click here to enter text.
36. Why should a student of history be somewhat surprised by two of America's founders creating such resolutions?
Click here to enter text.
37. Why was the election of 1800 a "revolutionary moment" according to Remini?
Click here to enter text.
38. Why was the constitutionality of the Louisiana Purchase challenged?
Click here to enter text.
39. What was decided in *Marbury v. Madison*?
Click here to enter text.

40. How did the War of 1812 end?
Click here to enter text.
41. What “nationalistic” changes occurred in America during the Era of Good Feelings?
Click here to enter text.
42. What was decided in *McCulloch v. Maryland*?
Click here to enter text.
43. What was decided in *Gibbons v. Ogden*?
Click here to enter text.
44. What did the Compromise of 1820 do?
Click here to enter text.
45. Why did John Quincy Adams want James Monroe to issue the Monroe Doctrine independent of Britain, or any other European power for that matter?
Click here to enter text.
46. What did the Monroe Doctrine state?
Click here to enter text.
47. What was the “Corrupt Bargain”?
Click here to enter text.
48. Why was the Tariff of 1828 called the “Tariff of Abominations”?
Click here to enter text.

Chapter 4

49. What was the spoils system?
Click here to enter text.
50. What was the purpose of the Indian Removal Act?
Click here to enter text.
51. What was “interposition”?
Click here to enter text.
52. Why were the Ordinances of Nullification passed in 1832 and what was President Andrew Jackson’s response to them?
Click here to enter text.
53. Why did Andrew Jackson remove government deposits from the Bank of the United States in 1833, and what was his decision to do with them?
Click here to enter text.
54. What was “Romanticism”?
Click here to enter text.
55. What was Transcendentalism?
Click here to enter text.
56. What was occurring in America during the Second Great Awakening?
Click here to enter text.
57. Create a list of American contributors to the arts during this nationalistic period in American history.
Click here to enter text.
58. Create a list of some of the important scientific advances during this same period.
Click here to enter text.
59. Why was a gag order imposed on slavery in 1836?
Click here to enter text.

Chapter 5

60. Why did the Wilmot Proviso cause controversy in Congress?
Click here to enter text.
61. What were the components of the Compromise of 1850?
Click here to enter text.
62. What were the five basic types of plantations that existed in the South during this time?
Click here to enter text.
63. What was the *Dred Scott* decision?
Click here to enter text.
64. Why do you think the Lincoln-Douglas debates caused Stephen Douglas to lose support for a run for president from both the North and the South?
Click here to enter text.
65. What was the purpose of the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War?
Click here to enter text.
66. What were the purposes of the Homestead Act and Morrill Land Grant Act?
Click here to enter text.
67. When did Lincoln issue his Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction? Why might this timing be significant?
Click here to enter text.
68. What did Lincoln's proclamation call for?
Click here to enter text.
69. Why was the Wade-Davis bill pocket-vetoed by Lincoln?
Click here to enter text.
70. What did the 13th Amendment do?
Click here to enter text.

Chapter 6

71. What was Andrew Johnson's Reconstruction plan?
Click here to enter text.
72. Why did the Joint Committee of 15 object to it, and what did they propose instead?
Click here to enter text.
73. Why was the Civil Rights Act of 1866 important?
Click here to enter text.
74. What was the Military Reconstruction Act of 1867 and what did it do?
Click here to enter text.
75. Why wasn't President Andrew Johnson removed from office after his impeachment?
Click here to enter text.
76. What was the purpose of the 15th Amendment?
Click here to enter text.
77. Who were the "Redeemers"?
Click here to enter text.
78. Who likely won the election of 1876 and why didn't he become president?
Click here to enter text.
79. What did this election have to say about presidential politics and North-South relations in 1876?
Click here to enter text.
80. What was "The Crime of '73"?

Click here to enter text.

81. What was decided in *Plessy v. Ferguson* in 1896?

Click here to enter text.

82. What were the planks (components) of the Populist Party platform?

Click here to enter text.

Chapter 7

83. What ended the 20-year struggle over a standard currency?

Click here to enter text.

84. What were the major components of Teddy Roosevelt's presidency from roughly 1900-1908?

Click here to enter text.

85. What two amendments came out of the Progressive era (prior to 1919)?

Click here to enter text.

86. What were Wilson's major progressive reforms as President?

Click here to enter text.

87. Why did Wilson ask Congress for a declaration of war in 1918?

Click here to enter text.

88. Why did the Treaty of Versailles fail to win Senate approval?

Click here to enter text.

89. What was the impact of the 18th Amendment on American society?

Click here to enter text.

90. What caused the first Red Scare in America, following WWI?

Click here to enter text.

91. What two immigration acts were passed in 1921 and 1924 and what did they do?

Click here to enter text.

Chapter 8

92. What did Hoover do to try to address the Great Depression?

Click here to enter text.

93. Why do you think the 20th Amendment was ratified in 1933?

Click here to enter text.

94. List the actions taken by FDR in addressing the Great Depression during his first term as President.

Click here to enter text.

95. Who were the main opponents to FDR's New Deal and what were their ideas?

Click here to enter text.

96. Why was the "court packing scheme" such a failure?

Click here to enter text.

97. Why did FDR renounce the Japanese-American Commercial Treaty of 1911 and what was the effect of this diplomatic maneuver?

Click here to enter text.

Chapter 9

98. How did Americans express their fears of communism in the Cold War era?
Click here to enter text.
99. How were the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan examples of this fear of communism?
Click here to enter text.
100. How was it possible that Truman defeated Dewey in 1948?
Click here to enter text.
101. What is McCarthyism?
Click here to enter text.
102. How did Truman's handling of the Korean War add to his unpopularity at home?
Click here to enter text.
103. Assess Dwight D. Eisenhower's presidency.
Click here to enter text.
104. Compare Truman's and Eisenhower's handling of civil rights. Who did a better job? Why?
Click here to enter text.
105. Create a chronological list of the major civil rights events from 1954-1965.
Click here to enter text.
106. What was the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution?
Click here to enter text.

Chapter 10

107. What was the Tet Offensive?
Click here to enter text.
108. Why was 1968 such a turbulent year?
Click here to enter text.
109. What did Nixon do in 1969 to expand the Vietnam War?
Click here to enter text.
110. What was the significance of the Pentagon Papers?
Click here to enter text.
111. How did the situation in Vietnam and Cambodia end up?
Click here to enter text.
112. Why do you think Nixon kept an "enemies list" and tried to cover up Watergate?
Click here to enter text.
113. Why do you think Nixon resigned the presidency on August 8, 1974?
Click here to enter text.
114. Assess Ford's record as President.
Click here to enter text.
115. Assess Carter's record as President.
Click here to enter text.
116. Who were the Boll Weevils?
Click here to enter text.
117. What is the purpose of "Special Orders"?
Click here to enter text.
118. How did Reagan and Gorbachev end the Cold War?
Click here to enter text.
119. Was Reagan a "Teflon President"? Explain.
Click here to enter text.

Chapter 11

120. Why is the last chapter of Remini's book called "The Conservative Revolution"?
Click here to enter text.
121. Why was George H. W. Bush's loss to Bill Clinton "a shock"?
Click here to enter text.
122. What early mistakes did Bill Clinton make as president?
Click here to enter text.
123. What was the "Contract with America"?
Click here to enter text.
124. How did 1995's government shutdown backfire on Republicans?
Click here to enter text.
125. List the major military actions that took place under Bill Clinton?
Click here to enter text.
126. What was the "Moral Majority"?
Click here to enter text.
127. Why was the census of 2000 significant?
Click here to enter text.
128. Why were articles of impeachment drawn up against Bill Clinton?
Click here to enter text.
129. What was the outcome of the impeachment proceedings?
Click here to enter text.
130. How did George W. Bush beat Al Gore in 2000?
Click here to enter text.
131. What did the two Patriot Acts do?
Click here to enter text.
132. How does Remini feel about the George W. Bush presidency?
Click here to enter text.