



# HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

STUDENT BOOK

▶ **11th Grade** | Unit 10

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# HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 1110

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

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# United States History

## Introduction

The history of the United States is a fascinating subject. Its roots go back to the Middle Ages when people first began to realize that life might extend beyond their immediate villages. In time, they ventured out and found prosperous cities and unusual items that would make their lives easier and more interesting.

American colonists were no different. They, too, desired the freedom to live and to worship without restrictions. Eventually, they came to a new land and established a government that would permit these freedoms and self-determination. The new country grew, attracted people from other lands and became prosperous. When outside forces threatened this country, the citizens came to its defense.

In this LIFEPAAC® you will study and review the facts about the founding of the United States, the industrial and technological changes that occurred during the 1800s, the wars that were fought, the depression that was survived, and the programs of the presidents.

## Objectives

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

1. Explain the changes in Europe that led to the exploration of America.
2. List the events in Europe that inspired the colonization of America.
3. List restrictions placed on the colonies by Britain.
4. Explain the causes and results of the French and Indian War.
5. Explain the causes and results of the Revolutionary War.
6. List major battles of the Revolutionary War.
7. Explain the formation of the Constitution and the colonial government.
8. Explain the administrations of Presidents Jefferson, Monroe, Jackson, and Lincoln.
9. List the causes and the results of the War of 1812, the Civil War, and the Spanish-American War.
10. Explain the causes of slavery.
11. Describe the Reconstruction period in the South.
12. Explain the effect of the Industrial Revolution on lifestyles in the United States.
13. List the causes and the results of World War I.
14. Explain the causes and the results of the Great Depression.
15. List the provisions of Roosevelt's New Deal.
16. Identify the causes and the results of World War II.
17. Identify the causes and the results of wars in Korea and Vietnam.
18. List the major contributions of the administrations of Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, and Ford.



# 1. FOUNDATIONS OF DEMOCRACY

In this section you will briefly review life in medieval times in order to better understand American history. You will trace the changes that occurred because of the Crusades and because of the adventurers who were sparked by curiosity to see what lay

outside their own villages. You will review the colonization of America and the reasons that motivated people to leave their homes in Europe and travel to the New World.

## Section Objectives

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

1. Explain the changes in Europe that led to the exploration of America.
2. List the events in Europe that inspired the colonization of America.

## Vocabulary

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

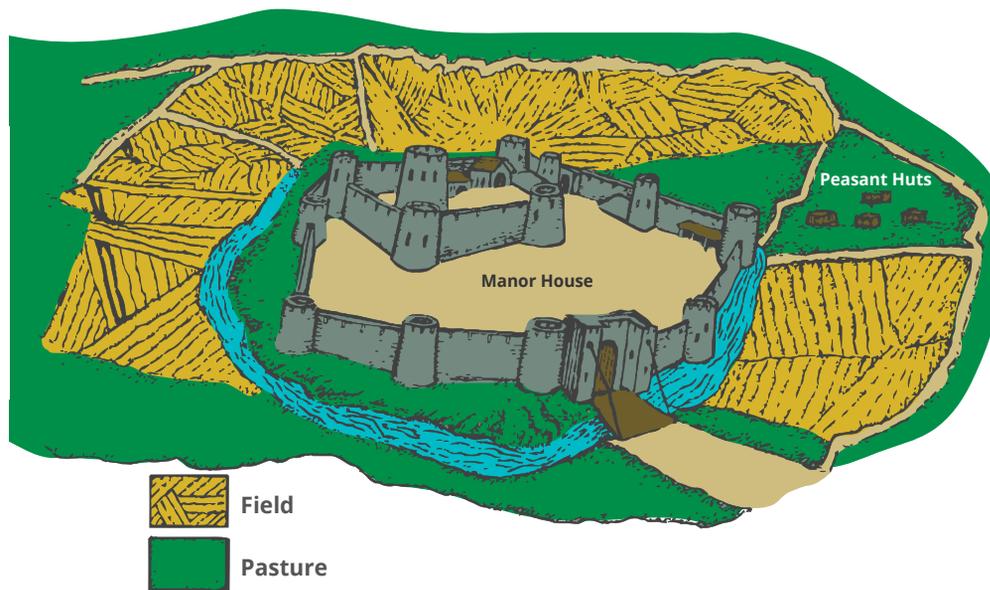
<b>astrolabe</b> . . . . .	An instrument used to observe the sun, moon, and stars.
<b>advocate</b> . . . . .	To favor or support.
<b>capital</b> . . . . .	Money or property.
<b>colonize</b> . . . . .	To found or settle a territory.
<b>diagnose</b> . . . . .	To recognize or identify by examination.
<b>erect</b> . . . . .	To construct.
<b>haven</b> . . . . .	A safe place.
<b>infest</b> . . . . .	To overrun or inhabit.
<b>ingenuity</b> . . . . .	Cleverness; originality.
<b>inhabitant</b> . . . . .	Permanent resident.
<b>maneuver</b> . . . . .	To make a series of changes in direction.
<b>mercantilism</b> . . . . .	An economic theory that increased the power and wealth of nations.
<b>perish</b> . . . . .	To be destroyed or to die.
<b>persecute</b> . . . . .	To harass, annoy, or oppress those who differ in origin or beliefs.
<b>unearth</b> . . . . .	To discover or disclose.

**Note:** All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAK 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.

## MEDIEVAL SOCIETY

Life during the Middle Ages was uncomplicated but difficult in terms of personal freedoms. People were members of one of three classes: noblemen, serfs, and clergy. They and other members of their particular family remained rigidly locked in the same class. Most houses were small cottages with dirt floors and simple furniture that was fashioned of available materials, such as straw and wood. Food primarily consisted of bread and vegetables with little meat and no herbs or spices to prevent spoilage or to enhance flavor. Opportunities to alter the course of one's life were available to only those few born into wealth. Even they had limited options in education and travel.

The noblemen owned all the land and the houses as well. The serfs worked the land for the noblemen and had few, if any, freedoms. Serfs could not own land, find another job in another place, nor even leave the village without the nobleman's permission. The villages in which the people lived provided for their needs. A mill for grinding grain, a blacksmith shop, and a tannery for making leather goods were typical of most villages. Only a few products were brought into the village from outside. Mistrust and petty jealousies constantly arose among the landlords, or noblemen, who frequently feuded and fought for power.



The clergy was not involved in these jealousies about lifestyles; they attended to preaching, teaching, and caring for the sick. The clergy upheld the doctrines of the Catholic Church and gave stability to the society. A new development was about to occur, however, that would change the lives of all the people of this age. These remarkable changes came out of the quest of the Christians to recapture the Holy Land—they called themselves Crusaders.

In 1095 the Pope urged the Christian people of Europe to attempt to recover the Holy Land from Muslims. The Muslims were intent upon forcing people everywhere to accept the teachings of the Islamic religion. Although the Crusaders were successful in recapturing the Holy Land, they were unable to hold it. The struggle to regain it continued

for the next two hundred years. In this endeavor the Crusades failed; but they did revive trade, which led to the growth and development of cities.

The Crusades also caused the people of Europe to come into contact with a more advanced culture. For example, they learned that other people had spices to season food and sugar to sweeten it. They discovered beautiful gems, fabrics, and perfumes. They found new drugs with which to heal the sick. They also learned about luxuries for their homes and new foods to make life easier and more interesting.

To obtain these items, trade between the East and West began. The usual exchange for goods, gold and silver, was not plentiful in Europe; therefore, such goods as wine, furs, and grain were traded in exchange for the desired goods from the East. As

trade increased, merchants became more prosperous and began to move into the cities and the towns. With the increase in the size of towns and cities, the need arose for peace and order to be maintained through a form of government.

The new middle class merchants, made wealthy by trade, now questioned the authority of the landholders. The freed serfs also moved to large cities to work or to become involved in trade. Medieval life and the feudal system it had fostered began to break down.

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**Match these items.**

- |     |       |              |    |   |
|-----|-------|--------------|----|---|
| 1.1 | _____ | mercantilism | a. | to discover or disclose   |
| 1.2 | _____ | astrolabe    | b. | to make a series of changes in direction                          |
| 1.3 | _____ | maneuver     | c. | an economic theory that increased the power and wealth of nations |
| 1.4 | _____ | capital      | d. | an instrument used to observe the sun, moon, and stars            |
| 1.5 | _____ | unearth      | e. | money or property   |

**Complete these answers.**

- 1.6 People in the Middle Ages were members of these three classes:

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- 1.7 During the Middle Ages land was owned by \_\_\_\_\_ .

- 1.8 Medieval society suffered from constant conflict because

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- 1.9 The group that was unconcerned about different lifestyles because their duty was to care for the souls of the people was the \_\_\_\_\_ .

- 1.10 In 1095, a pope persuaded the people to recapture the Holy Land from the \_\_\_\_\_ .

- 1.11 What were the causes of the breakdown of medieval society?

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## NEW IDEAS

New thinking and new ideas were important also in changing people's lives. In addition to the trading of goods, the Crusades were responsible for the trading of ideas among people. The explorations of Marco Polo, for example, were significant because they unearthed new products for trade and new ideas for the people to ponder. Marco Polo also returned with tales of ports at which hundreds of boats were docked waiting to be loaded with silk, fine woods, gold, and precious stones. Marco Polo spoke of cities with beautiful buildings, apartments, and houses with places for travelers to rest comfortably.

The people of Western Europe had little education and most had never been outside their own villages; therefore, they were fascinated by Marco Polo's stories. They, too, wanted to be able to read, to write, and to travel. This thirst for knowledge signaled the beginning of the Renaissance period in Europe.

The Renaissance opened new worlds for the people. Young men began to study art and literature and to learn to write in their own language instead of in Latin. Science also made progress during the Renaissance. People invented instruments such as the **astrolabe** and the compass to help sailors **maneuver** their ships with greater accuracy. Maps and charts were also improved to enable sailors to maintain a more accurate course in every voyage across the sea.

As people became more interested in reading and writing, a way to quickly reproduce printed material was needed. The solution came when Johann Gutenberg invented a printing press with movable type in the mid 1400s. Gutenberg's invention did more to spread the words of learned people than anything else of the times. As ideas were spread by the printed word, the effects of the Renaissance were firmly established throughout Europe and Asia.

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### Complete these items.

**1.12** The significance of Marco Polo's trip to the Far East was that he returned with stories of:

\_\_\_\_\_ .

**1.13** What three events led to the Renaissance?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**1.14** The immediate result of the Renaissance was the expansion of \_\_\_\_\_ .

**1.15** The results of the invention of the \_\_\_\_\_ was the quick production of writings.

## POLITICAL STRUCTURE

With the accumulation of **capital** and the policy of **mercantilism** came a new political structure of national states or countries. The kings built these states with the support of the townspeople who were wealthy and could finance the kings. The kings, in turn, hired soldiers to fight for the townspeople and to insure peace in the villages. Spain, Portugal, France, and England had kings who brought separate states together into one nation.

Increased trade brought in more capital. With sturdy vessels and improved methods of navigation, merchants were able to ship goods safely by way of the Atlantic Ocean. Trade centers flourished and the increased capital allowed countries to finance voyages of discovery.

Mercantilism became the economic policy of the new nations. Wealth was measured by the amount

of gold and silver in each country's treasury. Each nation tried to be the leader in sales of goods abroad and each one set up trading posts and colonies in many parts of the world. These trading centers helped the nation gather enough raw materials and food to assure self-sufficiency. The colonies needed finished goods from the mother country and traded raw materials for those goods. That process of trading assured the mother country of surplus gold and silver in the treasury.

The theory of mercantilism meant that the government encouraged trade, commerce, and explorations. Such explorations led to the establishment of new colonies in Africa, India, and the Far East. Governments eventually supported the colonization of the New World.

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### Complete these statements.

- 1.16** Trading centers in other countries helped the mother country gather sufficient \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for her own use.
- 1.17** The economic policy of the new nations was the theory of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.18** In addition to voyages for trade, countries financed voyages of \_\_\_\_\_ to find new lands.
- 1.19** Kings supported the concept of national states because the townspeople could \_\_\_\_\_ the king.
- 1.20** Exploration led to the establishment of new colonies in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.



**Alpha Omega**  
PUBLICATIONS

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

800-622-3070  
[www.aop.com](http://www.aop.com)

HIS1110 – Sept '17 Printing

ISBN 978-1-58095-230-9



9 781580 952309