**Chapter 13 Discussion Questions**

1. How dramatically did voter turnout rise during the Jacksonian Age?
2. Who had by far the most popular votes in the 1824 election?
   1. Why didn’t he win?
3. Why did Jackson’s accusation of a “corrupt bargain” resonate with Americans?
4. What unattractive distinction did John Quincy Adams have for the first time as president?
5. As an ardent nationalist, what were the policies that Adams supported as President?
6. What was the sectional reaction to Adams’ policies in the a) South? b) West?
7. When did Jackson’s campaign for the 1828 election for president begin?
8. By the 1828 election, how did the Republican party divide?
9. How bad did the mudslinging get in the 1828 presidential campaign?
10. What did the spoils system lead to?
11. How did the Jacksonites play politics with the 1828 tariff?
12. How did the New Englanders spoil the Jacksonites’ plan?
13. How did the South react to the Tariff of Abominations?
14. What was the South Carolina Exposition?
15. What was Calhoun’s motive for writing the Exposition?
16. During the controversy over the 1828 Tariff of Abomination, who were the “submission men?”
17. What were the nullies able to accomplish in 1832 that they weren’t in 1828?
18. What was President Jackson’s response to South Carolina’s nullification vote?
19. How did Henry Clay come forward and save the day?
20. How did Congress save face after passing the compromise Tariff of 1833?
21. Approximately how many Native Americans lived east of the Mississippi River in the 1820s?
22. A. How were the Native Americans dealt with?

B. How were the Cherokee’s atypical in their response to white encroachment?

1. What was the Indian Removal Act of 1830?
2. What was the “Trail of Tears?”
3. How did Henry Clay plan to use the re-chartering of the Bank of the United States (BUS) as a tool to defeat Jackson in his reelection bid in 1832?
4. What were Jackson’s reasons for killing the BUS?
5. How was Jackson’s veto of the BUS re-charter bill different than vetos by previous presidents?
6. How was Nicholas Biddle and the way he handled and used the BUS counterproductive to the bank’s survival?
7. Who were the major candidates in the 1832 presidential race and what was their party affiliation?
8. What was notable about the 1832 election?
9. What was the Independent Treasury Bill, sometimes called the “Divorce Bill?”
10. How and why was the Mexican territory of Texas populated by former American citizens?
11. Where had most of the original settlers to Texas come from and what was their ethnic background?
12. What complaint did Mexico and Santa Ana have against the U.S. concerning the successful Texas revolt?
13. Why did Van Buren formally recognize Texas independence on his last day in office?
14. Why was the Republic of Texas rebuffed when it formally applied for annexation to the U.S. in 1837?
15. What was the Whig strategy in the 1836 elections?
16. Sensing the possibility of winning the Election of 1840, why didn’t the Whigs select one of their ablest statesmen such as Webster or Clay, but instead select William Henry Harrison?
17. Characterize the Democratic Party in the 1840s.
18. Characterize the Whig Party in the 1840s.

**Chapter 14 Discussion Questions**

1. What was the “demographic center” of the nation? a) in 1840: b) in 1860:
2. What were the “opportunities” that greeted the early pioneers that carved civilization out of the wilderness?
3. What historically was ecological imperialism?
4. What did the pristine natural American wilderness inspire?
5. The great American painter George Catlin’s love and advocacy of the American wilderness led to the creation of what?
6. What were the undesirable by-products of immigrants in the 1840s and then the 1850s?
7. Why did nearly two and one half million Irish and Germans come to America in the 1840s and 1850s?
8. Where did the Irish end up settling? Why in this area?
9. What did NINA mean? What prompted this sentiment?
10. How did the Irish gradually improve their lot?
11. In order to attract Irish votes, politicians began a policy of “twisting the British lion’s tail.” What does this mean and why was it effective?
12. What specifically drove the German Forty-Eighters to come to America?
13. What German cultural habits rubbed “old stock” Americans the wrong way?
14. How did the Catholic Irish and Germans counter the abuse and public school attempts at indoctrinating their young?
15. What were the fears that alarmed the “old stock” Americans concerning the rise in Catholic population?
16. What did the Know-Nothing party promote?
17. What happened in Philadelphia in 1844?
18. Why was immigrant labor really the “Midas Touch” in the U.S.?
19. Why did it take the U.S. longer to embrace the industrial revolution than its counterparts in Europe?
20. Why was Samuel Slater the Father of the American Factory System?
21. What contribution did Eli Whitney make to America’s industrial growth?
22. How did Whitney’s “gin” symbolically link the North to the South and the South to the North?
23. How did Congress respond to the plight of American manufacturers who found it difficult to compete in the world market?
24. How did Isaac Singer and Samuel Morse impact the age they lived in?
25. What was meant by the term “wage slave?”
26. What group of workers was especially vulnerable? What 1820 statistic is frightening?
27. Why was the plight of adult workers markedly improved in the 1830s and 1840s?
28. What did the Massachusetts Supreme Court rule in *Commonwealth v. Hunt*?
29. What was the “cult of domesticity?”
30. Why was the steamboat a revolution in travel and commerce up and down the nation’s river system?
31. Why was the Erie Canal of such great importance?