

Study Guide

Chapter 11, Section 1



For use with textbook pages 334–339

JACKSONIAN DEMOCRACY

KEY TERMS

favorite son	Candidates backed by their home states instead of the national party (<i>page 335</i>)
majority	More than half the votes (<i>page 335</i>)
plurality	The largest single share of votes (<i>page 335</i>)
mudslinging	Attempts to ruin opponent's reputation with insults (<i>page 336</i>)
landslide	An overwhelming victory (<i>page 336</i>)
suffrage	The right to vote (<i>page 337</i>)
bureaucracy	A system in which nonelected officials carry out laws (<i>page 337</i>)
spoils system	The practice of replacing government employees with the winning candidate's supporters (<i>page 337</i>)
caucus	A system in which major political candidates were chosen by committees made up of members of Congress (<i>page 337</i>)
nominating convention	A system in which delegates from the states selected the party's presidential candidate (<i>page 337</i>)
tariff	A fee paid by the merchants who imported goods (<i>page 338</i>)
nullify	To cancel (<i>page 338</i>)
secede	To break away from the United States and form a separate government (<i>page 338</i>)

DRAWING FROM EXPERIENCE

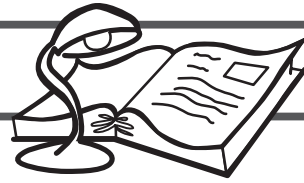
What presidential elections do you remember? Who were the candidates? Did the candidates insult each other during their campaign? Did the candidates accuse each other of things the voters would oppose?

This section focuses on two hotly contested elections that followed President Madison's decision not to seek a third term.

ORGANIZING YOUR THOUGHTS

Use the chart on the following page to help you take notes as you read the summaries that follow. Think about how the political system changed under Andrew Jackson.

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Changes in the Political System Under Jackson	
Before	After
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.
6.	6.

READ TO LEARN

- **The Election of 1824** (pages 334–335)

Four candidates competed for the presidency in the election of 1824. Each represented different groups within the Republican Party. Monroe decided not to seek a third term. The candidates represented different regions of the country. They had different opinions about the role of the federal government. William H. Crawford of Georgia was the Republican Party candidate. The other three candidates were *favorite son* candidates supported by their home states. Andrew Jackson and Henry Clay represented the West. John Quincy Adams of Massachusetts, son of former President John Adams, represented the Northeast.

Jackson won the vote of the people, or popular vote. He also won the largest single share, or *plurality*, of electoral votes. Under the terms of the Twelfth Amendment to the Constitution, the House of Representatives decided the election. The House decided since no candidate won the *majority*, or more than half, of electoral votes. Henry Clay, Speaker of the House, used his influence to help defeat Jackson, and John Quincy Adams was elected president. Adams then appointed Clay as secretary of state. Many people accused the men of making a corrupt or unfair bargain. Adams's policies that supported a strong federal government were opposed by Congress and the majority of Americans. The House and the Senate voted against many of his proposals.

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Chapter 11, Section 1 (continued)



1. How did John Quincy Adams win the election of 1824?

- **The Election of 1828** (pages 335–336)

The Republican Party was divided. The Democratic-Republicans supported Jackson. The National Republicans supported Adams. Democratic-Republicans, or Democrats, were working people from small farms or factories who supported states' rights. National Republicans were merchants or successful farmers who supported a strong central government and federal programs.

It was a hard-fought campaign. For the first time, negative campaigning or **mudslinging**, was used. Both candidates tried to ruin each other's reputation with insults and accusations. Jackson's supporters used buttons and slogans, and also organized rallies and barbecues to persuade people to vote for their candidate. Calhoun switched parties to run with Jackson. They won by a **landslide**, Jackson received most of the electoral votes and 56 percent of the popular vote.

2. Why did new political parties form after the election of 1824?

- **Jackson as President** (pages 336–337)

Jackson was very popular with common people. He himself was a self-made man, coming from a poor background in Tennessee. Ordinary citizens viewed Jackson as being one of them. Many changes took place under Jackson's presidency. During his first term, **suffrage**, or the right to vote, was expanded to include all white American men, not just property owners. The presidential electors in 22 out of 24 states were chosen by the people rather than the state legislatures. Jackson expanded the democracy to involve more Americans in their government. Jackson opposed **bureaucracy**, a form of government in which nonelected officials carried out the laws. Nonelected officials were replaced with ordinary citizens who supported him. This practice was called the **spoils system**. Jacksonians believed that whoever won the election had the right to the benefits of victory. **Nominating conventions** replaced the **caucus** system. Delegates from each state chose the party's presidential candidate instead of committees of Congress members. The first nominating convention was held by the Democrats in 1832 in Baltimore, Maryland. Jackson won the required two-thirds of the vote and the party's nomination.

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3. How did the political system change under Andrew Jackson?

- **The Tariff Debate** (pages 338–339)

In 1828 Congress passed a **tariff**, or fee paid by merchants, on goods imported from Europe. Manufacturers supported the tariff. People would buy American goods because European goods would cost more. Southerners opposed the tariff because they traded cotton for European goods. Vice President Calhoun wanted the states to cancel, or **nullify**, the tariff. He felt it was unconstitutional. Calhoun believed that Southerners had the right to break away, or **secede**, from the Union and form their own government. He believed in states' rights, the powers of the states independent of the federal government. Northerners did not agree with Calhoun. President Jackson believed in keeping the country together. Calhoun was elected to the Senate and resigned his vice presidency. He wanted to support the views of the South in the Senate.

Southerners were still angry, even after Congress passed a lower tariff. South Carolina refused to pay the tariffs. They passed the Nullification Act, declaring the tariffs to be illegal. They threatened to form their own government if the federal government interfered. Jackson and Clay planned a compromise bill that would gradually lower the tariff over several years. Congress then passed a Force Bill. It gave the President the power to enforce acts of Congress with military power. South Carolina agreed to the compromise and a crisis was avoided.

4. Why did South Carolina threaten to secede?
