Chapter 8: “Securing the Republic, 1790-1815”

Identify and give the historical significance of each of the following terms, events, and people in a paragraph or two.

1. French Revolution
2. Lewis and Clark
3. War Hawks
4. Whiskey Rebellion
5. John Marshall
6. Democratic-Republican Societies
7. Alien and Sedition Acts
8. Gabriel’s Rebellion
9. Embargo Act
10. War of 1812
11. Alexander Hamilton
12. Virginia and Kentucky resolutions

Potential Essay Questions:

Alexander Hamilton’s plan called for commercial industrialization, which many Americans viewed positively. Explain why some Americans opposed Hamilton’s position. What were some of the alternative plans for development?


Describe the ironies of the Jefferson administration. Compare his views toward a strong central government and his actions as president.

What liberties and freedoms of Americans were being violated by European powers prior to the War of 1812? How did Jefferson and Madison view liberty in terms of British and French behavior on the seas? How did the War Hawks view liberty? Was war the only answer by 1812?

Did the United States really win the War of 1812? Examine the terms of the peace settlement. What was gained? What was the larger victory for America?

In roughly fifty years, there were three major power transitions in North America with which the Indians had to cope: the removal of the French after the French and Indian War (1763); the recognition by Great Britain of an independent United States after the American Revolution (1783); and the removal of the British from the United States after the War of 1812. Compare how Indian groups dealt with these three major transitions. What was positive and negative for the Indians about each transition?