



## **AP<sup>®</sup> United States History 2002 Sample Student Responses Form B**

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PART A.

The ~~reversie~~ <sup>State making</sup> and triumph associated with "~~statemaking~~" the world's greatest power, England, in the war of 1812 quickly lead to a feeling of nationalism and tremendous accomplishment. Latent and implicit within this Era of Good Feelings was a lingering sectionalism, which would be manifested on the issues of the tariff, bank, slavery, <sup>national political parties,</sup> and foreign policy, which would foreshadow a greater national rift.

America was viewed after the war of 1812 <sup>and latter battle of New Orleans.</sup> with a new respect from abroad. Though the consequent Treaty of Ghent addressed very few of the causes of the war of 1812, it lead to the Rush-Bagot Treaty w/ England, which addressed forts on American soil, rights of a neutral power, and impressment on the high seas. The signing of the Rush-Bagot treaty in addition to the use of A. Jackson's <sup>military</sup> in the Spanish Florida military campaign (much to the benefit of Pres. J. Monroe) on the issue of Indian <sup>(on the South)</sup> raids and fugitive slave (to Florida) proved to accent the retreat of Spain from Florida. The consequent treaty was the Adams-Onis Treaty, which ended Spanish claims to Florida. At first blush, the repulsion of Spain from Florida and treaties w/ England were a cause of great national pride (C,) these events lead to a rift on the issues of slavery and Southern aggression. The superficial triumphs of America in foreign policy lead to the negotiation, which lead to the Monroe Doctrine (H.) First, an appeal by G. Canning of England to Rush of America for a joint Anglo-American alliance, the consequent opinions of T. Jefferson (in favour) and Sec. of State J. Q. Adams (non enthusiastic.) This lead to J. Monroe's proclamation that the Western Hemisphere was <sup>(much to the dismay of France, Russia, and Austria; and even England)</sup> no longer open for ~~other~~ imperializing, backing his bluff were the ships of

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the English may

With such intoxicating victories, America did not notice the death of the Federalist. Whose presence was felt last at the Hartford Convention and Blue Light Federalist. The death of the Federalist party assured Monroe the Elections of 1816 + 1820 (D) in grand fashion. But though Federalist were eliminated from the executive and legislative branch, John Marshall presided over victory-after-victory for Federalism; McCulloch v. Maryland (D), Dartmouth v. Woodward, and Gibbons v. Ogden.

The continuation of the Massachusetts-Virginia dynasty under Pres. Monroe and J. Q. Adams saw popular measures on the bank and tariff enacted, both victories for elitism. Though the five year hiatus between the rechartering of the Bank (1811-16) had caused the Panic of 1819, the Bank of the U.S. was functioning now w/ loans to the moneid<sup>industrialists</sup> and European investors. The bank would prove to be a lingering cancer in both American politics and economics. The tariff, first enacted under Hamilton's Six Point Plan<sup>and then</sup>, Jefferson's Embargo Act was raised in 1816 + 1824 (much to the dismay of the South [A.]) In addition to the tariff was H. Clay's proposed American Plan: a high tariff for the North, internal improvements for the West (canals, wilderness + Cumberland Road,) and market for Southern crops. The bank, tariff, and American Plan were a series of gov't policies which further antagonized the South, and sowed the seeds of sectionalism.

The advent of new political parties such as the Nationalist Republicans and eventually the Jacksonian

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Democrats proved muddy the optimism and nationalism of ex-War Hawks H. Clay, J. C. Calhoun (A), F. Grundy, and D. Webster ~~to~~ F. Pickens these men would all be bitter adversaries. The Election of 1824 (1) and consequent corrupt bargain btw H. Clay, J. Q. Adams, and A. Jackson showed the geographic political magnetism of the country (E). A plot was hatched to assure the Presidency of J. Q. Adams via the votes and appeal of Speaker of the House H. Clay in return for the post of Sec. of State (a stepping-stone to the Presidency). This election created a bitter sectional split that would manifest itself four years later.

The issue of slavery had not been addressed since the 315's Compromise and Atlantic Slave Trade tenets of the Constitution. It quickly came to a head in the proposed admission of Missouri to the union as a slave state upsetting the national balance. This controversy was further exacerbated by the Tallmadge Amendment which proposed an end to the extension of slavery, thus infuriating the South. The Compromise of 1820 written by Clay was viewed by some as a suspension of the inevitable (E); it set for a permanent balance between free and slave states and an extension of slavery ~~area~~ <sup>area</sup> of 36°30" parallel (Mason-Dixon line). Though temporarily the Missouri Compromise ~~ended~~ <sup>eased</sup> sectional tension, the explosive slavery question was far from over.

The emergence of nationalism during the administrations of J. Madison & J. Monroe was more than a "myth" for victories in the international field. But behind the ticker-tape parades and confidence was a latent sectionalism exposed by the tariff bank, political parties, and slavery which threatened to tear the country apart.

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The traditional label for the period after the War of 1812, the Era of Good Feelings, was true in regard to certain aspects of America. Underneath the facade of the Era of Good Feelings, however, there were some major problems beginning to form. These problems were primarily but not solely domestic. The term the Era of Good Feelings primarily applied to the strong sense of nationalism felt by the American people. Underlying this strong sense of nationalism, a major sectional controversy was beginning to form between the North and South as well as the division that was beginning to form in the Republican Party of Monroe.

When Monroe became president the nation's morale was very high. After having outlasted the British in two major wars, America was finally seen as a dominant power. Monroe undertook a tour of the US, and this merely boosted the morale of the people to form the term the Era of Good Feelings, because temporarily the people were happy and felt a strong sense of nationalism for their country. In addition artists like John Krimmel portrayed America, in his painting Fourth of July, Centre Square, Philadelphia, as a jovial place where everything was going well. Things were going well temporarily, but problems were forming.

~~From~~ <sup>domestic</sup> ~~the~~ ~~primary~~ ~~problems~~ forming were the sectional controversies, and ~~the way in which to interpret~~ The North and the South were growing very much apart and beginning to differ greatly. The major problem was slavery. The North disliked slavery and the abolitionist movement was beginning to take strength. The South on the other hand required slavery to run their plantations. As new states began to enter the ~~union~~ <sup>US</sup> the South wanted them to allow slavery and the North was against slavery. The first occurrence of this problem was in Missouri. This however

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was temporarily settled by Henry Clay's Missouri Compromise which made Missouri a slave state, but all future states above the 3630 line, free states.

Thomas Jefferson foresaw this <sup>would be a</sup> problem and named John Randolph by writing "A geographical line, coinciding with a marked principle, moral and political, once conceived ~~with~~ and held up to the angry passions of men will never be obliterated, and every new irritation will mark it deeper and deeper." The Missouri Compromise did however temporarily settle the dispute until Stephen Douglas resorted to his Kansas Nebraska Act which enraged Northerners, which in turn allowed him to build a railroad. Slavery however, was not the only problem. The industrial economy of the North was very different to that of the Southern agrarian economy. This helped differentiate the 2 sections and provoke more problems. The primary problem created by this tensions were the economic policies of the nation and as John Randolph pointed out to Congress in 1816, one economic policy would help one type of economy and alienate another, which occurred. The sectional tension also created difficulties. Thomas Jefferson's view of an agrarian nation greatly differed from the nation that had formed in the north. That is why difficulties occurred in when the National Bank was formed. McCulloch v. Maryland showed that although the bank helped states with big business up north it hindered smaller more southern states like Maryland. The North and the South were clearly having problems during the Era of Good Feeling, <sup>proved</sup> ~~shown~~ by Calhoun's speech of disunion to Congress in 1817, but for the time being it was overshadowed by the Era of Good Feelings.

International problems were forming as well. Primarily European intervention in the Western Hemisphere was the problem. This however was temporarily solved by the Monroe Doctrine, which is John Quincy Adams

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said in his diary, was a way to keep Europe out of the western hemisphere and take a stand against Great Britain. This doctrine would in the future cause much controversy and be used by future presidents to justify controversial actions in Latin and South America. Although not as significant as the sectional tensions, international problems such as this were forming.

The nation during the Era of Good Feelings was clearly in high spirits. The strong nationalism overshadowed some of the problems that were beginning to form. Even in Monroe's strong Republican party divisions were beginning to form, <sup>as shown in the Presidential Election of 1824.</sup> Although it may have been an Era of Good Feelings in terms of a strong sense of nationalism, major problems were forming that soon would not be able to be ignored.

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The "Era of good feelings," following the war of 1812, and lasting until the Jacksonian era, is labelled correctly. When one views the ~~social~~ flourishing social atmosphere, brotherly love and patriotism depicted in (Doc. C), the economic growth and diversity, as well as the political stability (Doc. I), it is clear that the era of good feeling was in fact a time of ~~the~~ greatness in American History.

During the Era of Good Feeling, ~~socially~~ America had reached a high point ~~and~~ socially. People had a strong desire to keep the Union, "We are under the most imperious obligations to counteract every tendency to disunion." (Doc. B) Because of this strong feeling and patriotism towards America, people began to spread and populate the entire region (Doc. E), ~~search~~ search for new land to harvest and produce, and try to obtain the American Dream of prosperity ~~and~~ happiness and freedom. Doc F suggests that there was a growing separation between the southern society, and the northern society, "A geographical line, coinciding with a marked principle, moral and political, once conceived and held up to the angry passions of men..." (Doc F.). But, in the election of 1820, between James Monroe, a man from Virginia, and John Q. Adams, a northerner;



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It is clear that there was no cut boundary between, the south and the north, because James Monroe won all the electoral votes, except for 1. It is clear, that in the Era of Good Feeling people were patriotic, and where proud to be American.

In the years after the war of 1812, the American economy began to diversify more, and spread throughout the country. The movement of people, from the heavily populated north, as well as an influx in the amount of immigrants from Europe, brought more people west, towards the mississippi. (Doc E) This movement of people west clearly points to the economic expansion, ~~of~~ ~~the~~ and search for prosperity of the American people. There were some hitches and problems with the American economic system, "The agriculturalists bear the whole brunt of the war and taxation, and remain poor." (Doc A) But, "this government created and gave power to Congress to regulate commerce and equalize duties on the whole of the United States." (Doc. A) ~~The~~ Congress which is appointed by the people for the people, carried out the wish of the majority, and after a war, ~~some~~ money is necessary. Overall, from the years 1815-1825, the economy was successful.

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Politics were also stable, and the primary fear of ~~the~~ disunion was not yet potent. This could be due to the gag rule, which did not allow the discussion of slavery in Congress. All branches of the government were working properly, the judicial branch was operating successfully (Doc G), and even the president began asserting his power towards the English (Holy Alliance "to take our stand against the Holy Alliance, and at the same time decline the overture of Great Britain." (Doc. H)

Overall, it is clear that because of the many economic, political and social advances, the years after the war of 1812 should be considered as an Era of Good Feeling.