

Period 4: 1800-1848

AP US History ■ Period 4

AP US History



What we will cover

- 1 Jefferson's Era and the Courts
- 2 Politics, Regions, and the World Stage
- 3 The Market Revolution
- 4 Society and Culture in the Market Revolution
- 5 Expanding Democracy and Jackson
- 6 Religion, Reform, and American Culture

Jefferson's Era and the Courts

Period 4 runs from 1800 to 1848. Three things happen at once: democracy widens, the economy transforms, and the country expands – and each one deepens the argument over slavery.

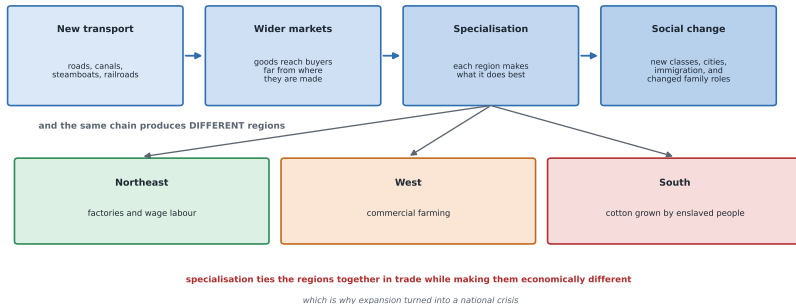
These were arguments about how much power the national government should have.

Politics, Regions, and the World Stage

As the country grew, **regional interests** 区域利益 diverged. The North favoured tariffs to protect manufacturing; the South opposed them as a tax on its exports; the West wanted internal improvements and cheap land. Nearly every political dispute of the period maps onto that triangle.

It fought the **War of 1812** 1812 年战争, expanded foreign trade, and in the **Monroe Doctrine** 门罗主义 declared the Western Hemisphere closed to further European colonisation – an assertion of influence well beyond the country's actual power at the time.

The Market Revolution



the distinction this unit turns on

The Market Revolution

New **transportation systems** 交通体系 – roads, **canals** 运河 such as the Erie, steamboats, and then **railroads** 铁路 – together with new technologies dramatically expanded manufacturing and agricultural output.

Cheaper transport widened **markets** 市场; wider markets let regions **specialise** 专业化 in what they did best; specialisation tied the regions together in trade while making them economically different from one another.

Society and Culture in the Market Revolution

The market revolution changed how people lived, not just what they produced.

- Work moved out of the household and into **factories** and offices, producing a growing **middle class** 中产阶级 and a new **wage-earning working class** 雇佣劳动者阶级.
- A **separation of home and workplace** 家庭与工作场所分离 encouraged an ideology assigning women a domestic role, even as many women worked for wages in mills.
- **Immigration** 移民 rose sharply, especially from Ireland and Germany, producing both a larger labour force and organised **nativist** 排外主义 hostility.
- **Urbanisation** 城市化 accelerated, with the social problems that followed.

Expanding Democracy and Jackson

The transition to a **more participatory democracy** 更具参与性的民主 came through expanding **suffrage** 选举权 – the removal of property qualifications for white men – along with new campaign styles and mass political parties.

The limits matter as much as the expansion: this widening applied to white men, while free African Americans in several states **lost** voting rights in the same decades, and women had none.

Religion, Reform, and American Culture

The rise of democratic and individualistic beliefs, a reaction against rationalism, and changes brought by the market revolution together produced the **Second Great Awakening** 第二次大觉醒, a wave of religious revival emphasising personal salvation and human perfectibility.

- **Temperance** 禁酒运动 and prison, asylum, and school reform.
- **Abolitionist and antislavery movements** 废奴与反奴隶制运动, which gradually achieved emancipation in the North and grew louder nationally.
- A **women's rights movement** 妇女权利运动, which sought greater equality and opportunity and expressed its ideals at the **Seneca Falls Convention** 塞内卡福尔斯会议.

Religion, Reform, and American Culture, continued

Ideas about national identity increasingly found expression in **art, literature, and architecture** 艺术、文学与建筑, while various groups maintained distinctive cultures of their own.

African Americans and the Society of the South

Antislavery effort in the South was largely limited to **unsuccessful rebellions** 未能成功的起义 by enslaved people, which were met with harsher laws and tighter control.

Enslaved and free African Americans created **communities and strategies** 社群与策略 to protect themselves: family and kinship networks, religious practice, music, and covert resistance – a continuation of the pattern from Period 2.

Causation in Period 4

The period's reasoning skill is **causation**.

The strongest chain to hold: the market revolution and westward expansion were engines of growth, and both drove the sectional conflict that Period 5 resolves by war.

Exam tips

- Learn the market revolution as a **chain**: transport → wider markets → specialisation → different regional economies → social change.
- Give the **regional triangle** (North, South, West) when explaining a political dispute; tariff, bank, and internal improvements all fit it.
- Democracy expanded **for white men** while free Black men lost rights in several states. Saying so is what turns a description into an evaluation.
- Connect the **Second Great Awakening** to reform: revival supplied the belief that people and society could be perfected.
- Southern westward migration matters because it **carried slavery west**, turning expansion into the central national conflict.
- On **Evaluate the extent** prompts, qualify your position. "To a great extent, although..." is the structure the rubric rewards.