Please write the following answers in complete sentences.

1) What occurred in Jackson’s life that led people to call him “Old Hickory”?

2) He was the first president to be born where?

3) Jackson’s election occurred at the same time that ____________ was spread to more people.

4) When people refer to Jackson as the Common Man, what do they mean?

5) Explain how MORE people participated in government in the 1830’s with Jackson as president.

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Spoils System:

Bank War:

Under Jackson we had...
Native American Lives Changed Forever!

1830 Indian Removal Act: ______________________

_________________________________________

______________________________

Cherokee Indians in Georgia: ______________________

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

Trail of Tears: ______________________

_________________________________________

_________________________________________
democracy—rule by the people
"Let the people rule."—Andrew Jackson
Andrew Jackson, a tall man of action, earned the name "Old Hickory" for his toughness as a heroic general during the War of 1812. He was born in 1767 in Waxhaw, South Carolina. His parents, poor Scotch-Irish immigrants, hoped he would become a Presbyterian minister. In 1776, nine-year-old, sandy-haired, freckled Andrew was selected by Waxhaw as public reader of the new Declaration of Independence. At age 11 he went to boarding school, but the quick-witted, quick-tempered boy found school too slow. He preferred sports and fighting to studying. A schoolmate recalled that in playground fights Andrew never gave up.

At age 13 (1780) he joined the South Carolina militia and fought in the Revolutionary War. Captured in 1781, he refused to clean the boots of a British officer, claiming his rights as a prisoner of war. The angry officer struck Andrew’s head with his sword, but Andrew never did give in.

At age 14, Andrew returned from the war, now an orphan. "I felt utterly alone," he said.

Uninterested in returning to school, the teen-age Jackson gambled away an inheritance from his grandfather and then briefly taught school. At age 17 (1784) he began studying law, and four years later he moved to Nashville, Tennessee, to start a law practice. Accumulating land and slaves, he became a wealthy, self-made man. He served Tennessee as U.S. congressman (1796), state Supreme Court justice (1796-1804), and U.S. senator (1797-98, 1823-25). Following military service (1812-21), he was provisional governor of Florida (1821). After helping found the Democratic party in 1828, he served two terms as U.S. president (1829-1837). His wife Rachel died in 1828; Jackson died in 1845.

DEMOCRACY AND THE COMMON MAN

Andrew Jackson was the first U.S. president born in a log cabin, of the common people rather than the aristocratic class.

His election coincided with the extension of democracy to more people, a situation largely caused by expansion of the western frontier in the 1820s and 1830s.

By the 1830s, here’s how more people participated in government:

1. More white males could vote. In 1600, nine of sixteen states had property qualifications for voting. In 1830 only six of twenty-four did. (Women, African-Americans, and Native Americans could not yet vote.)
2. More officials, such as judges, were elected rather than appointed.
3. In all states except two, presidential electors were chosen by the people rather than state legislatures.
4. Presidential candidates were selected by national nominating conventions rather than congressional caucuses.
As U.S. president, Jackson exerted strong leadership. He believed the executive alone represented all the people. He emphasized 1) political democracy, 2) economic democracy (in terms of opportunity), and 3) national rather than state sovereignty.

**SPOILS SYSTEM**

Jackson believed the common man could hold office without experience, so he advocated 1) rotation in office, and 2) the spoils system—rewarding political supporters with public office.

"It means that even we might get a government job, Luke!"

"What's this 'spoils system'?

**1832—BANK WAR**

Jackson vetoed (rejected) a bill to re-charter the Second Bank of the U.S., arguing that the bank favored the rich and denied common people equal economic opportunity. (Would Jefferson have approved?)

Jackson transferred government deposits to selected state banks (called "pet banks" by Jackson's opponents).

**1828–32—TARIFF PROBLEMS**

Could South Carolina nullify (declare invalid) a federal law it considered unconstitutional?

"Absolutely!" said John C. Calhoun of South Carolina in his 1828 "South Carolina Exposition and Protest." This document protested the high 1828 Tariff of Abominations on the basis of states' rights—meaning that a state has a right to judge whether a law passed by Congress is constitutional.

Calhoun (vice president 1825–32) thus challenged the Union with a doctrine of states' rights, that is, state sovereignty. Trouble lies ahead!

**January, 1830—WEBSTER-HAYNE DEBATE**

In Congress Senators Daniel Webster of Massachusetts and Robert Hayne of South Carolina debated whether sovereignty (supreme power) belonged to the Federal Union or the states. Jackson agreed with Webster's strong defense of national sovereignty.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable!"

**April, 1830—A CLASH OF TOASTS**

At a Jefferson Day Dinner tempers flared as Jackson gave a toast to national sovereignty and a veiled warning to Calhoun.

Eyes flashing, Calhoun toasted state sovereignty in return.

With South Carolina claiming the rights of nullification and secession, might there be a civil war in the 1830s? It seemed possible.

**1832–33—NULLIFICATION CRISIS**

South Carolina nullified the Tariffs of 1828 and 1832 and threatened to secede (officially withdraw) from the Union if challenged.

Quickly passed the Force Bill, authorizing military action to enforce the tariff. Jackson threatened to lead the army against South Carolina and hang John C. Calhoun.

South Carolina avoided civil war by accepting the 1833 Compromise Tariff but turned right around and nullified the Force Bill!
"If suddenly we tear our hearts from the homes around which they are twined, our heart-strings will snap." — a Seminole Indian

1830: INDIAN REMOVAL ACT—In response to land-hungry white settlers, beginning in 1817 Presidents Monroe, Adams, and Jackson had advocated the removal of Indians to public lands west of the Mississippi River—land perceived as "The Great American Desert." In 1830, upon Jackson's urging, Congress passed the Indian Removal Act, allowing the federal government to do so if the Indians were given compensation.

GEORGIA AND THE CHEROKEE INDIANS—Meanwhile, in 1828 gold was discovered on Cherokee land in Georgia, land guaranteed the Cherokees by federal treaty in 1791. In 1830 Georgia tried to force Cherokee removal by claiming ownership of this land. The Cherokees sued, and Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall ruled in the Cherokees' favor.

PRESIDENTIAL DEFYANCE—It's the president's duty to enforce the laws. But Jackson refused to enforce Marshall's ruling, and Georgia took over the Cherokee land. The Cherokees ceded their land rights to the United States for five million dollars and, in 1835, moved to Indian Territory.

1830s-40s—INDIAN REMOVAL AND THE TRAIL OF TEARS

Under the Indian Removal Act most of the 125,000 Indians east of the Mississippi River were pressured to cede their lands to the United States and move to Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma and Kansas). The Black Hawk War in Illinois and the Seminole War in Florida were futile resistance attempts.

Jackson's Indian removal policy culminated in 1835 when federal troops marched 15,000 Cherokee Indians to Indian Territory; about 4,000 Cherokees died on this sorrowful trail, called the Trail of Tears.

1838—Congressman John Quincy Adams (former president) expressed outrage:

1838

These are crying sins, for which we are answerable before a higher jurisdiction.

Jackson and Congress justified removal by saying the Indians were illiterate, uncivilized savages. You can judge for yourself as we explore the life of Sequoyah, a Cherokee hero.