# Historical Thinking & Skills

**Credibility of primary and secondary sources**
- Credible = believable
- Qualifications/reputation of the author
- Agreement with other credible sources
- Perspective or bias and stereotypes
- Accuracy and internal consistency of circumstances of preparation

**Thesis and evidence to support or refute a position**
- Thesis - gives meaningful interpretation and significance of evidence
- Evidence - artifacts, documents, eyewitness accounts, historical sites, photographs
- Compare sources to refine explanations
- Cite sources and use research to support or refute a thesis

**Multiple causation, long and short-term causes; cause, effect, sequence, and correlation**
- Analysis of events - cause/effect, sequence and correlation of events
- E.G. Great Depression - monetary policies = short-term cause; decline in demand for American farm goods after WWI = long-term factor

# Foreign Affairs: Imperialism to Post-World War I

**US emergence as a world power in the early 1900s**
- Causes of American expansion/imperialism - closing of the western frontier, global competition for markets and prestige, expanded navy, belief in cultural superiority
- U.S. overseas actions fostered its move to global power status
- Annexation of Hawaii and victory in Spanish-American War - U.S. joined other nations in imperialist ventures

**Impact of World War I**
- U.S. mobilized a large army and navy to help Allies achieve victory
- After the war, European countries concentrate on rebuilding their countries
- U.S. enjoyed period of economic prosperity - able to exert authority as a world power

**Post-World War I isolationism**
- Desire to avoid foreign entanglements - Senate rejected joining League Nations
- Treaties addressing arms limitation and territorial expansion (Four-, Five- and Nine Power)
- U.S. Kellogg-Briand Pact to outlaw war
- U.S. sought to limit its involvement in international affairs

# HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

**Declaration of Independence and Enlightenment ideas**
- Natural rights - life, liberty, pursuit of happiness
- Social contract - connections between Britain and colonies dissolved
- Grievances against Great Britain - violations of natural rights breaks social contract

**Precedents established in the Northwest Ordinance**
- Precedents - guide for later action
- New states equal with original states - no colonization
- Schools encouraged - basis for national aid for education
- Rights of citizens - later in Bill of Rights
- Slavery prohibited in the Northwest Territory - later part of Amendment 13
- Republican state governments - repeated in U.S. Constitution

**Constitution addressing problems under the Articles in the 1780s**
- Problems of Articles of Confederation - no separate executive; no separate judicial branch; stiff requirements for passing legislation and amending
- Constitution - separate executive and judicial branches; practical means of passing legislation and amending
- New government - ability to address the issues - powers to levy taxes, raise armies and regulate commerce
- Federalism - distribution of powers between national and state

**Constitution and Enlightenment thinking**
- Preamble and representative government reflect social contract
- Articles I - III - separation of powers
- Article I - some limited rights' protection

**Federalists and Anti-Federalists**
- Federalist Papers supported ratification of Constitution - need for national taxation, strong national defense, safeguards in distribution of powers
- Anti-Federalist Papers opposed ratification - threats posed by national taxation, use of a standing army, amount of national power vs. state power, inadequate protection of rights

**Historical precedents for the Bill of Rights**
- Magna Carta - protection of rights and trial by jury
- English Bill of Rights - habeas corpus and protected against cruel punishment
- Enlightenment ideas of natural rights
- Virginia Declaration of Rights (1776) - protections for press, religious exercise, rights of the accused

# Industrialization and Progressivism (1877-1920)

**From agrarian to urban industrial society**
- Rise of corporations and heavy industry
- Shift from mostly agricultural workers to mostly factory workers
- Shift from rural to urban living - overcrowding and unsanitary conditions
- Mechanized farming-reduced labor need
- Mechanized assembly line - efficient production led to larger factories
- Innovations - telephone, phonograph, incandescent light bulb, washing machine, skyscraper, automobile, airplane

**Influence of organized labor**
- Workers formed labor organizations - address working conditions, wages
- Violence toward organized labor - Great Railroad Strike, Haymarket Riot, Homestead Strike, Pullman Strike

**Migration, immigration and urbanization**
- Immigration led to new traits into American culture and growth of cities
- Great Migration - African Americans fled north to escape segregation and secure better jobs
- Cities became centers of commerce, built taller buildings, acquired land
- Transportation - trolleys, automobiles led to development of suburbs

**Demand for western land and resources**
- American Indians displaced from lands

**Institutionalized racism in post-Reconstruction America**
- "Redemption" of South - reforms under Reconstruction governments repealed
- Jim Crow - state laws requiring segregation and limiting voting rights
- Plessy v. Ferguson - affirmed segregation
- Ku Klux Klan - violence against African Americans

**Progressive Reforms**
- Muckrakers exposed social injustices and political corruption
- Address problems industrial capitalism - antitrust laws, railroad regulation, consumer protection, conservation
- City reforms - public utilities, public transit, housing and sanitation standards
- Fought political corruption - make govt more democratic - secret ballot, initiative, referendum, recall, civil service reform, primary elections
- Federal Reserve - control money supply
- 16th Amendment - power of Congress to levy an income tax
- 17th Amendment - direct election of U.S. Senators
- 18th Amendment - prohibition of alcohol
- 19th Amendment - women’s suffrage
PROSPERITY, DEPRESSION AND
THE NEW DEAL (1919-1941)
Racial intolerance, anti-Immigration
and the Red Scare
● Great Migration to northern cities heightened racial tensions - race riots
● lynchings and Jim Crow continued
● revival of KKK - intolerance toward Jews, African Americans, Catholics, immigrants
● nativism - immigration quotas
● Bolshevik Revolution, post-war labor strikes, bombing of public offices - stirred fears of revolution in the U.S.
● Red Scare (1919-1920) - arrest and deportation of many aliens

Technological innovation and social change
● post-WW I economic boom - improved standards of living for many
● communication - radio, talking motion pictures, newspaper/magazine - popular culture and mass advertising
● transportation - Model A Ford, airplane
● mass production techniques
● changes challenged social mores
● automobiles - growth of suburbs, businesses - challenged traditional family values (freedom from parents), increased commuters - traffic congestion

Great Migration and Harlem Renaissance
● African Americans moving to northern cities - increased competition for jobs, housing, and public services
● celebration of African-American culture, art and literature - pride in African heritage, increased awareness of intolerance and problems of urban life
● Jazz - established American music genre

Women's Suffrage and Prohibition
● 19th Amendment - more women into the political process and public office
● 18th Amendment - prohibition - lacked support, led to speakeasies, organized crime, difficult to enforce - repealed with 21st Amendment

Great Depression and New Deal
● excessive lending by banks - fueled speculation and use of credit
● Federal Reserve tried to curb practices by constricting money supply - worsened conditions - harder to repay debts
● stock market speculation - buying on margin - collapse led to loss of fortunes
● closing of many factories - consumer debt as workers lost income
● New Deal - efforts to help economy recover - NRA - creating jobs; reforms for the protection of the elderly, farmers, investors, and laborers
● role of federal govt greatly expanded

FROM ISOLATION TO WORLD
WAR (1930-1945)
Isolationist sentiment in interwar period
● U.S. reluctant to get involved in overseas conflicts following WW I
● Good Neighbor Policy - retreat from Monroe Doctrine & Roosevelt Corollary
● Neutrality Acts - isolate U.S. from problems in Asia and Europe
● Aided countries fighting against fascist aggression - cash and carry, destroyers -for-bases, Lend-Lease, Atlantic Charter
● Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor ended U.S. isolationist policies

Mobilization for World War II
● factories reorganized for war goods
● peacetime draft instituted
● scrap drives, victory gardens, war bonds
● wage and prices regulations, rationing
● no strike pledges by some labor unions
● jobs for women and minorities
● Japanese Americans interned in relocation camps; many enlisted in army

SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS IN
THE UNITED STATES (1945-1994)
Struggle for racial equality and civil rights
● NAACP, SCLC, SNCC, Urban League - equal opportunities for African Americans and to end segregation
● UFW - Mexican Americans - improve conditions of migrant workers
● NCAI & AIM - improve American Indians’ reservations, protect land rights, improve education and jobs
● NOW - progress for women

Economic boom and Advances in science
● post-WW II prosperity - demand for housing and automobiles - suburbs grow
● epic changes - baby boom, pop culture, consumerism, increased mobility, franchising, longer life spans
● advances in science - medicine, communication, nuclear energy, transportation - impacted American life

Migrations and Immigration
● cities - predominantly black and poor, and strongly Democratic; suburbs mainly white and Republican
● jobs in high-tech - growth of Sunbelt - congressional reapportionment
● 1965 Immigration Act - allowed more individuals from Asia, Africa, Latin Am.
● increase in Spanish language media, funding for bilingual education

Debates about the role of government
● activist role in economy vs. free markets
● environmentalists’ demands led to EPA
● social welfare - unemployment help, national health care

THE COLD WAR (1945-1991)
Atomic weapons and the nuclear age
● U.S. only country with atomic weapons from 1945-49 - seen as deterrent to Soviet ambitions
● Soviet Union tests nuclear weapons in 1949 - becomes second superpower

Containment policy
● began in 1940s to stop spread of communism in Eastern Europe
● Marshall Plan and NATO - efforts to contain communism
● containment in Asia - U.S. involvement in Korean and Vietnam wars

Second Red Scare and McCarthyism
● spread of communism in Europe and Asia sparked fears in the U.S.
● Second Red Scare - media, labor unions, universities targets of communist subversion
● HUAC investigations challenged civil liberties
● Sen. McCarthy played on fears with charges of communist infiltration in govt

Korea, Vietnam and domestic policy
● space race-increased science spending
● rivalry between U.S. and Soviet Union - arms race, Cuban Missile Crisis
● Korean War - U.S. gained support from the UN for defense of South Korea
● Vietnam War - massive protests; decreased funding for domestic programs; dominant issue in presidential campaigns of ‘68 and ‘72

Communist collapse and end of Cold War
● mass demonstrations in E. Europe for democracy - several communist governments gave up power
● reduced tensions between U.S. and U.S.S.R.
● collapse of the Soviet Union - independent republics moved to democracies and free markets
● U.S. supported economic & education reforms in former communist countries

U.S. AND THE POST-COLD WAR
WORLD (1991 TO PRESENT)
Economic Influences
● increased global communication and international business
● trade deficit has increased - decrease in manufacturing jobs; shift toward service

Political Challenges
● control of nuclear weapons; broadening of terrorism; and balancing national security with civil liberties
● 9/11/01 attacks - wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and the USA Patriot Act