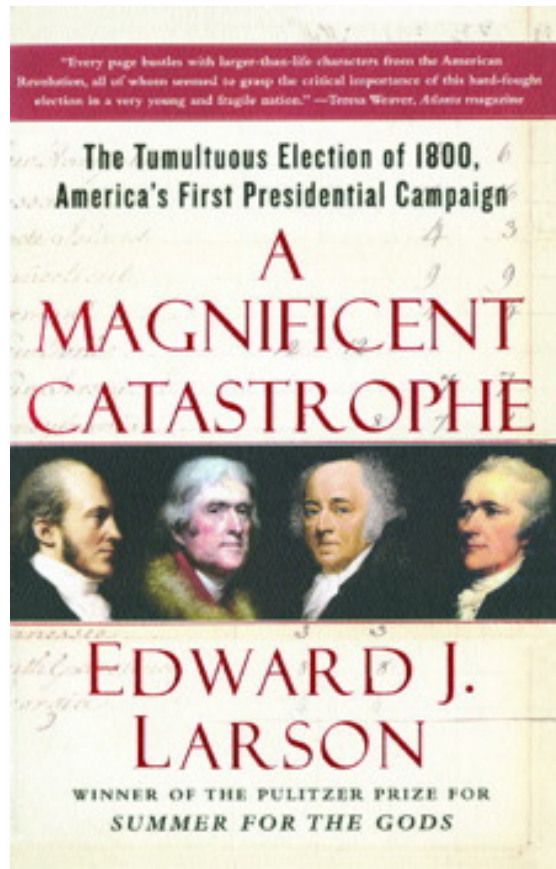




UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

Social Studies

District • 2025



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**UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
SOCIAL STUDIES CONTEST**

DISTRICT • SPRING 2025

Part I: General Knowledge

**The Rise of Factionalism, Partisanship, and the “Vices of Democracy” in the early United States
(1 point each)**

1. The name "_____" was a disparaging description used by Thurlow Weed to describe the Democratic political machine created in New York state by Martin Van Buren in the 1820s. The machine's name came from the fact that it continued to operate while Van Buren was out of the state serving in the Senate.

A. Albany Regency	C. Locofocos Party
B. Bucktail Republicans	D. Tammany Hall

2. _____ was dissatisfied with his second-class status as a freedman and wanted to relieve the oppressive conditions of the bondsmen he knew. He organized an uprising near Charleston, South Carolina, but the plan was discovered before starting what would have been the most extensive rebellion of enslaved people in U.S. history.

A. Nat Turner	C. Gabriel Prosser
B. Denmark Vesey	D. David Walker

3. The Anti-Masonic movement was ignited in 1826 by the disappearance and assumed murder of _____ in western New York. He supposedly had broken his vow of secrecy as a Freemason by preparing a book revealing the organization's secrets.

A. Ely Moore	C. William Morgan
B. Hugh Lawson White	D. John Floyd

4. _____ was known as an innate compromiser, but also as an inflexible dictator. His true legacy combines both aspects and much more. Contemporaries were in awe of his nearly half century-long career and Abraham Lincoln regarded him as his “beau ideal of a statesman.”

A. John Adams	C. Henry Clay
B. John Quincy Adams	D. Andrew Jackson

5. In 1850, _____ escaped enslavement in Virginia and adopted the name Frederick working in Boston as a waiter. After the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act, a slave catcher captured him in 1851. Antislavery activists rescued him from the courthouse where he was held and started him on his journey to Canada. His escape became a national cause célèbre.
- A. Shadrach Minkins
B. Frederick Douglass
C. John Henry Evans
D. Stephen Simpson
6. The New York Workingmen’s Party, under the leadership of the radical author of *The Rights of Man to Property!*, _____, demanded a 10-hour working day and the abolition of imprisonment for debt.
- A. Thomas Skidmore
B. William T. Barry
C. William Marcy
D. Gamaliel Bailey
7. Three “Alien Acts” were passed in 1798. The _____ passed on July 6, 1798, said that if war was declared, the president could detain and deport aliens from the belligerent country. This bill easily passed with bipartisan support and is still in effect today.
- A. War Powers Act
B. Alien Enemies Act
C. Espionage Act
D. Naturalization Act
8. The National Road was the first federal highway in the U.S. and for several years the main route to, what was then, the Northwest Territory. It was also known as the _____ named for its starting point in the East.
- A. Maysville Road
B. Cumberland Road
C. Vandalia Road
D. B&O Road
9. The _____, by seriously limiting the use of paper money, was highly deflationary and, at least in part, produced the ensuing credit crunch and economic crisis called the Panic of 1837. On May 21, 1838, a joint resolution of Congress repealed it.
- A. Assumption Plan
B. Specie Circular
C. Bank Veto
D. Independent Treasury Act

10. The editor of the *Boston Whig*, _____, was the son of a prominent National Republican who had been a Federalist. He served as a Whig in the Massachusetts legislature before becoming a member of the Free-Soil Party in 1848. Eventually, he would join the Republican party and be named ambassador to Great Britain.
- A. Charles Francis Adams
B. Daniel Webster
C. Fisher Ames
D. James G. Birney
11. Founded in 1816 by Robert Finley, the American Colonization Society acquired the Cape Mesurado area, subsequently the site of Monrovia, _____ in 1821. The country was virtually an overseas branch of the society until it declared independence in 1847.
- A. Algeria
B. Cuba
C. Brazil
D. Liberia
12. Prior to _____, states could choose to elect their entire delegations at large through statewide elections or to select representatives individually from single member districts. It went into effect over the bitter objections of those who complained that it was an intrusion on state sovereignty.
- A. the General Survey Act of 1837
B. the Apportionment Act of 1842
C. *Baker v. Carr*
D. *Hays v. Louisiana*
13. Before the U.S. could establish fixed boundaries to the Louisiana territory, there arose a question concerning the constitutionality of the purchase. Thomas Jefferson thought _____ might be required to legalize the transaction, but the Senate approved the treaty by a vote of 24 to 7.
- A. ratification by all states
B. a joint resolution
C. a constitutional amendment
D. an enabling act
14. Henry Clay felt charges that he was an abolitionist were detrimental to his chances for the upcoming presidential election in _____, and he needed to clarify his views. In his Senate speech, "Petitions for the Abolition of Slavery," He denounced "ultras" in favor of abolition and famously said, "I had rather be right than president."
- A. 1824
B. 1848
C. 1836
D. 1840

15. In 1836, _____ wrote the pamphlet, *An Appeal to the Christian Women of the South*, which urged women using their moral force against slavery. Her public identification with abolition made her despised in her native city of Charleston, South Carolina.
- A. Frances Wright
B. Sojourner Truth
C. Mary Prince
D. Angelina Grimké
16. The _____ was the first labor-oriented political organization in the United States. Established first in Philadelphia in 1828, the party emanated out of the concerns of craftsmen and skilled journeymen over their low social and economic status.
- A. Locofocos Party
B. Socialist Party
C. Grange Party
D. Workingmen’s Party
17. The most notable case of _____ tenure as Supreme Court Chief Justice was *Chisholm v. Georgia* in 1793. Unfavorable reaction to the decision led to adoption of the Eleventh Amendment, denying federal courts authority in suits by citizens against a state.
- A. John Jay’s
B. John Marshall’s
C. John Rutledge’s
D. John Roberts’
18. Perhaps the most dubious of Jackson’s cabinet choices was Secretary of War _____. He was Jackson’s first biographer, a member of the Nashville Junto, and served in the Senate from 1818-1829. A scandal, stemming from his marriage, led to the first reorganization of the cabinet in the spring of 1831.
- A. Amos Kendall
B. Andrew Jackson Donelson
C. John Eaton
D. Roger B. Taney
19. As editor of the *St. Louis Enquirer*, _____ supported Jackson for president. In 1826 he established the chief newspaper of the Jacksonian Democrats, the *United States Telegraph*, and was appointed printer to Congress after Jackson’s election. In 1831, he broke with Jackson to support John C. Calhoun.
- A. William Berkeley Lewis
B. Duff Green
C. Francis Preston Blair
D. William Duane

20. In the House, _____ helped introduce bills for the Second Bank of the U.S., a permanent road system, and also supported the protective tariff of 1816. In 1817, President Monroe appointed him Secretary of War, and John Quincy Adams declared that the Carolinian was “above all sectional and factious prejudices more than any other statesman of this Union.”
- A. Henry Clay
B. John Randolph
C. John C. Calhoun
D. Daniel Webster

Part II: Primary Source Material

A Magnificent Catastrophe: The Tumultuous Election of 1800, America's First Presidential Campaign

by Edward J. Larson

(2 points each)

21. Secretary of State _____ coordinated the legal assault to crush the Republican presses. He stated that the Sedition Act could not possibly violate the Constitution because it punished only “pests of society and disturbers of order.”
- A. Samuel Chase
B. Oliver Wolcott
C. Timothy Pickering
D. James McHenry
22. In the October 1800 elections, Republicans won 10 of 13 congressional races, 55 of 78 seats in the State Assembly, and all but 1 of the 7 Senate contests, but that still left Federalists in control of the State Senate by a single seat. This meant that both sides would have to compromise or _____ would not vote in the presidential election.
- A. New York
B. Connecticut
C. Rhode Island
D. Pennsylvania
23. On the night before George Washington died, he was upset by the news that Republicans in the Virginia legislature had selected _____ as the state’s next governor.
- A. James Madison
B. Thomas Jefferson
C. James Monroe
D. Patrick Henry
24. _____ stood as the Federalist candidate for president against Thomas Jefferson in 1804. He carried only two small states, Delaware and Connecticut, and two districts in Maryland.
- A. Rufus King
B. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney
C. Theodore Sedgwick
D. DeWitt Clinton

25. Alexander Hamilton set out in June 1800 to bolster Pinckney and undermine Adams amongst Federalist electors in New England during a four-state tour ostensibly designed to _____.
A. procure investments in the Manhattan Company C. inspect his land holdings
B. recruit candidates for Congressional races D. bid farewell to his troops
26. John Adams dismissed Federalist candidates for the _____ Assembly as “men of little weight, obscure in name, poor in purse, mean in talents, and meritorious only in [that] they were confidential friends of the great and good Hamilton.”
A. Maryland C. New York
B. Massachusetts D. Pennsylvania
27. _____, written by Thomas Jefferson nearly two decades before the election of 1800, provided most of the fodder for his opponents concerning his religious beliefs. In it, he defended his position by saying, “it does me no injury for my neighbor to say there are twenty gods or no god. It neither picks my pocket nor breaks my leg.”
A. *A Summary of the Rights of Americans* C. *The Age of Reason*
B. *Notes on the State of Virginia* D. *Discourses on Davila*
28. John Fries was a former Revolutionary War officer. In 1799, he led up to four hundred east-central _____ farmers and townspeople in armed, but largely nonviolent, resistance to the collection of federal property taxes.
A. Pennsylvania C. Virginia
B. Massachusetts D. South Carolina
29. Within days after he became President, Adams learned that the revolutionary regime in France had refused to receive the new U.S. ambassador named by Washington, _____. In a bellicose address to Congress, Adams urged the country to prepare for war.
A. John Jay C. James Monroe
B. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney D. John Marshall
30. Adams deeply resented the betrayal of private confidences by his advisers reflected in Hamilton’s public letter. Soon after the document deriding Adam’s temperament appeared, but without giving it as a reason, _____ submitted his resignation to the President.
A. Fisher Ames C. Oliver Wolcott
B. James McHenry D. Timothy Pickering

31. On November 7, 1800, three days before the scheduled vote in Maryland, word reached Baltimore of the first accounts about _____.
A. Hamilton's letter about Adams
B. a coup installing Napoleon in France
C. the Treaty of Mortefontaine
D. Gabriel's attempted revolt
32. During the 1790s, one of New York's U.S. Senate seats passed back and forth between the Federalist father-in-law of Alexander Hamilton and the Republican _____ as the state legislature twice changed hands between the parties.
A. George Clinton
B. DeWitt Clinton
C. Philip Schuyler
D. Aaron Burr
33. George Washington said that he abhorred partisanship and he probably believed that elected officials could rise above factional interests, yet he readily took sides and increasingly let _____ set the tone for his administration.
A. John Adams
B. Alexander Hamilton
C. Robert Livingston
D. Henry Knox
34. Although a majority of newspapers were Federalists, Republican outlets made up for their lesser numbers with intense partisanship through Philadelphia's _____, Boston's *Independent Chronicle*, and New York's *Argus*.
A. *National Gazette*
B. *Aurora*
C. *Gazette of the United States*
D. *National Intelligencer*
35. To identify their candidates for President, party members increasingly looked towards the _____. The Framers had designed the Electoral College to remove partisanship, but the parties had virtually commandeered the system by 1800.
A. caucus in Congress
B. national convention
C. state conventions
D. state legislative caucuses

Part III: Supplemental Readings
(3 points each)

36. In Thomas Jefferson’s letter to John Holmes, Jefferson discussed his feelings about the “question” of the _____ by stating, “But this momentous question, like a fire bell in the night, awakened and filled me with terror. I considered it at once as the knell of the Union. It is hushed indeed for the moment. But this is a reprieve only, not a final sentence.”
- A. war with France
B. Dorr Rebellion
C. Missouri Compromise
D. Election of 1800

“The question of the power of Congress, to authorize the making of _____, is, in other words, a question, whether the people of this Union, in forming their social compact, avowedly for the purpose of promoting their general welfare, have performed their work in a manner so ineffably stupid, as to deny themselves the means of bettering their own condition.”

37. The quote above from John Quincy Adams’ letter to John McLean in 1807 is best completed with _____.
- A. a national bank
B. a standing army
C. new territories
D. internal improvements
38. Andrew Jackson’s veto message on May 27, 1830, detailed reasons why he supported internal improvements, but not at the current time because he believed it was more important to _____.
- A. improve the navy and state militias
B. end the income tax
C. pay off the national debt
D. shore up harbors and ports
39. In James Madison’s *Note to His Speech on the Right of Suffrage*, he stated, “No free Country has ever been without _____, which are a natural offspring of Freedom.”
- A. universal suffrage
B. free elections
C. parties
D. rebellions
40. Unlike the Liberty Party, which was dedicated to slavery's abolition and equal rights for Blacks, the _____ Party narrowed its demands to the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia and exclusion of slavery from the federal territories.
- A. Free Soil
B. Republican
C. Anti-Masonic
D. Whig

41. The election of _____ featured the same top two contenders as _____, but they were now generally identified with new parties.
- A. 1828; 1824
B. 1800; 1796
C. 1844; 1840
D. 1832; 1828
42. In his 1846 veto message to Congress, President Polk stated, “It would seem to be the dictate of wisdom under such circumstances to husband our means, and not to waste them on comparatively unimportant objects.” The _____ is the “circumstances” he sites as being more important than internal improvement projects.
- A. war with Mexico
B. economic panic
C. British and French embargo
D. Nat Turner Insurrection
43. In the face of intense partisan conflict, the United States became the first nation to peacefully transfer political power from one party to another as a result of an election in what became known as the Revolution of _____.
- A. 1800
B. 1776
C. 1828
D. 1824
44. In 1832, Thomas R. Dew, an influential professor of political economy at the College of William and Mary in Virginia, attacked the call by some in the legislature for an end to slavery. He believed “any scheme for abolition” would result in _____.
- A. an economic collapse
B. the end to all U.S. slavery
C. a revolt by the planter class
D. further slave insurrections
45. In 1838, William Yates wrote that the right to citizenship was of the highest significance because without it a man “may be hindered from going into a State-or...may be expelled.” He gave the example of _____, which had “attempted to prohibit free colored men from coming into, or settling in the State,” via its constitution.
- A. Pennsylvania
B. Texas
C. Missouri
D. Alabama

ESSAY PROMPT:

NOTE: Contestants who do not write an essay will be disqualified. Any essay that does not demonstrate a sincere effort to discuss the assigned topic will be disqualified. The rankings of essays will be based primarily on how well the topic has been addressed. A focused, concise and specific essay beats a vague and rambling essay. Proper grammar and organization should be used to aid clarity, but should not be considered a major factor in scoring. Cover as many corners of the issue as practical. Avoid including personal editorialized opinions, as more than enough information on the subject has been published.

“...the election of 1824 departed from the almost comfortable routine of presidential elections since 1800. For twenty years the imbalance of voters’ party loyalties had made a single party dominant nationally, the reelection of the incumbent in 1804 and 1820 had become almost automatic and the main contest in 1808 and 1816 had been the Republican nomination...However, once the parties lost their ability to command voter loyalty across a large number of states, the election became an unpredictable crisis in which candidates and politicians...were obliged to innovate...as never before required in a presidential election.”

*-Excerpt from *The One-Party Presidential Contest: Adams, Jackson, and 1824’s Five-Horse Race* by Donald Ratcliffe*

The presidential election of 1824 involved one of the longest and most impressive lists of candidates in history. The lack of partisan differences put the spotlight on sectional differences despite each contender claiming to be the one truly “national” candidate. Describe the significant figures of the presidential election and how their individual appeals worked for and against them given the recent and developing context of the era.

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ANSWER KEY

Part I (1 point each)	Part II (2 points each)	Points contestants could mention in their essay:	
1. A	21. C (pg. 74)	Background	•He realized his national appeal was weak and decided to seek the VP slot.
2. B	22. D (pg. 209)	•The War of 1812 made reputations for a new generation of public figures.	John Quincy Adams
3. C	23. C (pg. 44)	•The Panic of 1819 weakened faith in the federal government and the ruling uni-party structure. It inspired liberal suffrage laws for white men which increased the electorate and 20 of 24 states moved to some form of a popular vote.	•Adams held the traditional next-in-line position of Secretary of State and had stellar credentials. He had been a Federalist, but supported Republican policies since before the War. He shunned overt politicking and support was weak in the West, dismal (aside from LA) in the South (he was the only non-slaveholder), but dominate in New England and strong in the Mid-Atlantic.
4. C	24. B (pg. 275)	•The increase of states and greater number of voters broke down the centralization of politics and increased the call for responsive leadership.	
5. A	25. D (pg. 152)	•King Caucus (the Congressional party-member vote) was attacked as undemocratic and though Crawford won, it was a Pyrrhic victory.	Andrew Jackson
6. A	26. C (pg. 95)	William Crawford	•The Hero of New Orleans and invader of Florida was extremely popular, but also extremely lacking in experience compared to the other major candidates.
7. B	27. B (pg. 171)	•Crawford was favored by Monroe and was seen as the standard-bearer, but such an advantage had become unpopular in the new “common man” era. He would win his home state of GA and the Virginia Dynasty favoring states of VA & NC.	•His outsider popularity led to local and state level conventions nominating him and building a grassroots campaign. He was not considered a serious contender until late, but quickly garnered momentum.
8. B	28. A (pg. 128)	•Despite a debilitating illness striking Crawford, Martin Van Buren tried to rally support for him and continuing the party structure even hoping that the contingent election could be won if multiple ballots and deal-making were required.	•He would carry the South outside of Crawford’s states, the western states of IL and IN, the largest electoral prize PA, and its neighbor NJ.
9. B	29. B (pg. 33)	John C. Calhoun	Henry Clay
10. A	30. C (pg. 220)	•Calhoun was one of the earliest candidates who worked in the mid-Atlantic states to spread his appeal beyond the deep South. He supported nationalist policies, but his campaign in NY faltered to supporters of Dewitt Clinton and Crawford and in PA to Jackson.	•The Great Compromiser believed support in the West along with his American System politics would lead to enough support to push the election into the House where, as Speaker, he could use his influence. Jackson usurped much of his support leaving him 4 th winning only his home of KY and the bordering states of OH and, the thankful beneficiary of his compromises, MO.
11. D	31. C (pg. 226)		•His states and influence would be decisive for Adams in the contingent election.
12. B	32. D (pg. 86)		
13. C	33. B (pg. 38)		
14. D	34. B (pg. 74)		
15. D	35. A (pg. 57)		
16. D	Part III (3 points each)		
17. A	36. C		
18. C	37. D		
19. B	38. C		
20. C	39. C		
	40. A		
	41. A		
	42. A		
	43. A		
	44. D		
	45. C		