

Focus questions



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Chapter One: New World Beginnings 1. What was Native American society like before European contact? What similarities and differences existed? 2. What factors led to Europe's increased exploration and to the discovery of the New World? 3. What was the role of conquistadores and encomienda in establishing a Spanish Empire in the New World? 4. What was the geographic extent of the Spanish Empire in the New World? What nations were challenging Spain's dominance in the New World and where?

Chapter Two: The Planting of English America 1. What international events and domestic changes prompted England to begin colonization? 2. What was it like for the early settlers of Jamestown? 3. Why were Native Americans unable to repel the English colonization of North America? 4. What crops were important to the English colonies in the south of North America? How did the cultivation of those crops shape those colonies? 5. How did the English sugar plantations of the Caribbean differ from the English colonies in the south of North America? 6. How did slavery develop in North America during colonization?

Chapter Three: Settling the Northern Colonies 1. What religious turmoil in the Old World resulted in the little colony of Plymouth in the New World? 2. Why was the initial and subsequent colonization of the Massachusetts Bay Colony more successful than Plymouth? 3. How did the colony of Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay Colony contribute to the origins of American independence and government? What were the contributions to American independence and government from the New England Confederation, the Dominion of New England and the Glorious Revolution? 4. What role did religious intolerance play in the founding of New England colonies other than

Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay and in the founding of some middle colonies? 5. Besides England, what other nations influenced the colonization of the Atlantic coast of North America? 6. How did the colonization of Pennsylvania differ from the New England colonies and other middle colonies?

Chapter Four: American Life in the Seventeenth Century 1. How did the climate in the southern colonies influence life expectancy, family life, immigration, and economic development? 2. What role did Bacon's Rebellion play in the adoption and expansion of slavery in the southern colonies? 3. What contributions did enslaved Africans provide the colonies? 4. How was life expectancy, family life, immigration, and economic development different in New England as compared with the southern colonies? 5. What are the differences in the legal standing of women in southern colonies and New England colonies? 6. In what ways were all American colonists similar?

Chapter Five: Colonial Society on the Eve of Revolution 1. How did the population growth in the eventually rebellious colonies compare with England's? 2. What ethnicities contributed to the mosaic of the thirteen colonies? 3. How did eighteenth-century America's social hierarchy compare with seventeenth-century America's social hierarchy? How did both compare with the Old World's? 4. What was the leading industry in eighteenth-century America? What other industries were important? 5. How did the Great Awakening influence religion in America? 6. Who are some of America's noteworthy artists and writers from the eighteenth century? 7. How were the colonial governments similar and different, and how influential was England in colonial governance?

Chapter Six: The Duel for North America

1. Where did France colonize in the New World? What was the focus of French colonization?
2. What region in the North America did both France and Britain view as critical to their colonial empires?
3. What nations were the principal adversaries in the Seven Years' War in Europe?
4. How did the Albany Congress portend the American Revolution?
5. What were the significant military engagements in North America of the Seven Years' War and what was the outcome of each?
6. In what ways did British policy during and after the Seven Years' War upset and unite the colonies?

Chapter Seven: The Road to Revolution

1. What role did mercantilism play in creating discord between British authorities and the colonists?
2. How did the colonies respond to Grenville's laws, specifically the Stamp Act?
3. What events resulted in British soldiers landing in Boston and being involved in the Boston Massacre?
4. How did the British respond to the Boston Tea Party?
5. Where did the British soldiers and American colonists clash in April 1775?
6. What were the advantages and disadvantages of Britain on the eve of the American Revolution?
7. What were the advantages and disadvantages of the American colonists on the eve of the American Revolution?

Chapter Eight: America Secedes From the Empire

1. What were some of the military engagements that occurred before independence was declared by the colonists and what was the outcome of each?
2. How did Thomas Paine convince colonists to fight for independence?
3. What were Thomas Paine's views on government?
4. Why was Thomas Jefferson's Declaration of Independence so inspiring at the time and for future revolutions?
5. Who were likely to be Loyalists? What types of people favored Britain? How were

Loyalists treated during the war? 6. What were the major military campaigns after the colonists declared independence? 7. How was French aid secured by American diplomats? 8. How did Old World tensions contribute to the success of American diplomats in securing the Treaty of Paris and its generous provisions?

Chapter Nine: The Confederation and the Constitution 1. How did the principle of equality influence American society after the adoption of the Declaration of Independence? 2. What distinguishes constitutions in America from a constitution in the British tradition? 3. What were the shortcomings of the Articles of Confederation? 4. What events and situations motivated a desire for a stronger central government in some Americans? 5. What compromises were required to produce the Constitution? 6. How did the Anti-Federalists view the proposed Constitution? 7. What was the ratification process for the Constitution, and how did the Federalists eventually triumph?

Chapter Ten: Launching the New Ship of State 1. What important protections were added to the Constitution in the Bill of Rights? 2. What were the components of Hamilton's economic policy, and what did he hope to accomplish with that policy? 3. What two constitutional theories were presented by Jefferson and Hamilton when Washington asked about the constitutionality of creating a national bank? 4. Why did Washington opt for neutrality during the French Revolution? 5. What were the domestic and international consequences of Jay's Treaty? 6. How did John Adams handle foreign affairs with France? 7. What laws were being responded to in the Virginia and Kentucky resolutions, and what was Jefferson's proposed remedy? 8. Who would likely support Hamiltonian federalists, and who would

likely support Jeffersonian Republicans? What were the philosophical differences between these two political parties?