

ASS 601

30

Introduction Dawn of the Industrial Age The US experienced a revolution in the early 1800s—a revolution in the way many people lived and worked. This revolution introduced factory methods of production from Great Britain.	Witness to History Quote Lowell mill girl writes to her father about her work schedule “Dear Father, I am well which is one comfort...At half past six [the bell] rings for the girls to get up and at seven they are called into the mill. At half past 12 we have dinner and are called back again at one and stay till half past seven. I get along very well with my work.” —Mary Paul, 21 Dec. 1845	Question(s) A. How long does the young woman work in the Lowell mill each day? B. What effect do you think this work will have on a young person?
<p>2. A Nation of Farming and Industry Thomas Jefferson and the Democratic Republicans had once championed the idea of a nation of farmers. But Jefferson’s own embargo act of 1807 and the War of 1812 severely limited American access to British manufactured goods. Suddenly, Americans needed to develop factories.</p>	<p>“We must now place the manufacturer by the side of the agriculturalist...[S]hall we manufacture our own comforts or go without them at the will of a foreign nation? He, therefore, who is now against domestic manufactures must be for reducing us...to dependence on that nation...” —Thomas Jefferson, in a letter to Benjamin Austin, 1816</p>	<p>A. Why does Jefferson want the United States to equate the roles of the manufacturer and the agriculturalist?</p>
<p>3. In the Spirit of Nationalism Nationalistic feelings ran high following the War of 1812. Many Americans sought to strengthen their nation. Among them was Henry Clay, Speaker of the House, who proposed a national economic plan called the American System. He sought to protect American farmers and manufacturers from foreign competition</p>	<p>“This transformation of the condition of the country from gloom and distress to brightness and prosperity, has been mainly the work of American legislation, fostering American industry, instead of allowing it to be controlled by foreign legislation, cherishing foreign industry” —Henry Clay. “The American System,” speech in the Senate, 1832</p>	<p>A. Why did Clay want to protect the United States from foreign policy?</p>
<p>4. The “People’s President” After a disappointing loss in the election of 1824, Andrew Jackson rode a wave of popular support to the presidency in 1828. At his inauguration, many of those same voters caused a wild scene at the White House when they arrived in</p>	<p>“Ladies fainted, men were seen with bloody noses and such a scene of confusion took place as is impossible to describe...But it was the People’s day, and the People’s President, and the People would rule.” —Margaret Bayard Smith in a letter to Mrs. Kirkpatrick, 11 March 1829</p>	<p>A. What was unusual about Andrew Jackson’s inauguration? B. Why might Jackson have been called the “People’s President”?</p>

write on your own paper