**Part 1: General Discussion Questions**

*Please answer each of the following questions by first discussing with your partner, and second, by responding briefly on a blank sheet of paper. Responses can be in bulleted format*.

1. Why did Jackson support a policy of Indian removal after making a name for himself as an Indian destroyer?
2. In the election of 1824, what was the so-called “corrupt bargain”?
3. Do you think Jackson was right to distrust the Bank of the United States?
4. Party politics reached a new high in Jacksonian America, with interplay between the Democrats, the National Republicans, the Whigs, and others. What do you see as the advantages and disadvantages of political parties?
5. What led the Democratic-Republicans to split - and ultimately - what issues divided the parties that emerged thereafter?
6. Was Andrew Jackson good for American politics? How did he change the political process and/or office holding for the better and for the worse?
7. What examples of Jackson’s political legacy can we identify in contemporary politics?
8. Why did Jackson win the election of 1828?  Was his victory rooted in ideology? Economics? Geography?
9. Are American politics more civil today? Why or why not?

**Part II: In-Depth Responses**

*Please answer each of the following questions by discussing with your partner, and second, by responding in a detail-oriented constructed response (length is a nonfactor, as quality is more crucial than quantity)*

1. Discuss Andrew Jackson's political philosophy. What were the major tenets of Jackson's philosophy? Assess the impact of Jackson's political philosophy on the following events of Jackson's presidency: (a) the Nullification Crisis, (b) the Indian Removal policy, (c) the Maysville Road Bill veto.
2. Discuss Andrew Jackson's Bank War. What events prompted the Bank War? What were the economic effects of the Bank War? What were the political effects of the Bank War?
3. Some historians portray Andrew Jackson as the champion of the democracy and the common man. Others claim that Jackson was an autocrat who had little sincere regard for the interests of the American people. Which image of Jackson comes closer to being correct? Why?

**Part III: Debate Question**

*Based on textbook reading, the documentary, and responses to other questions, craft an argument using one of the following statements:*

* 1. Andrew Jackson was a major molder of events.
  2. Andrew Jackson was a political opportunist, who exploited the democratic ferment of the times
  3. Andrew Jackson acted merely as a symbol for the times that unfolded around him.