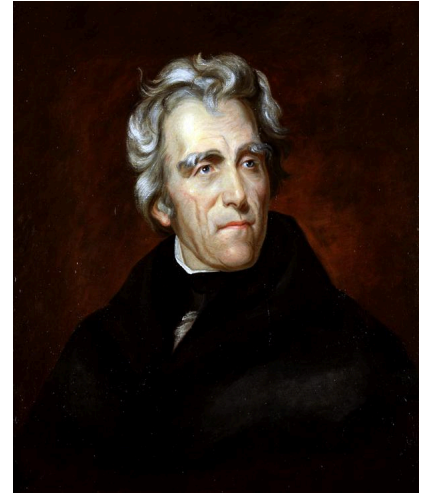


# Andrew Jackson...Great or Not?

Andrew Jackson, the 7<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, is one of the **most** controversial men in American history. Some people believe he is one of the greatest and most effective presidents who ever held the office. Others believe he was one of the most *brutal* and *tyrannical* men who ever walked the earth.



President Andrew Jackson was unlike the previous six men to hold the office of the presidency. His eight years in office marked the end of the “Founding Father” era of leadership and brought in a new wave of political leaders. Most presidents make decisions that have both positive and negative effects on the nation. We saw this with how Washington handled the Whiskey Rebellion and how Adams’ passage of the Alien and Sedition Acts affected the freedoms of the new Americans. President Andrew Jackson (1829 – 1837) was no exception to someone who made decisions with both positive and negative effects. To many Americans, he was the “*hero of the common man*.” To others he was no better than King George III and some people even called him “King Andrew I”.

**Essay Q: Explain how Andrew Jackson was both a good and bad president. Provide two examples for each and in your conclusion state whether you believe he was a good or bad president.**

The paper will be **no longer than three pages typed, double spaced, 12 font, Times New Roman, with one-inch margins**. I **will not** read any paper longer than three typed pages. The paper will be written in the **third person**. **YOU MUST PRINT THE PAPER! -10 PTS IF YOU EMAIL IT!**

**You do not NEED to include any outside sources. The only sources you may use are this packet and any video or video podcast that you have watched in class.  
-15 points if you use an outside source... I’ll know. Trust me.**

## Topics you may wish to include:

- Indian Removal Act & the Trail of Tears
- Nullification Crisis with South Carolina
- Kitchen Cabinet & His Cabinet & the spoils system
- Jackson’s views on slavery/post office ban
- The Bank veto/ Bank war
- His inauguration & party
- His use of the veto power
- The Maysville Road veto
- Foreign policy with Texas/Mexico

### **Rubric: Graded in 5 point increments**

**Content** – 60 pts – The paper includes all historical information that explains Jackson as a president. You have also provided an argument. Your argument is supported by the content we've covered in class.

**Mechanics** – 40 pts – Grammar, punctuation, speaking in third person, double spaced etc...

# How to write the paper...

## **Introduction:**

- What did Andrew Jackson do *before* he became president
- How & when he became president
- Your thesis statement should be the second to last or last sentence in the paragraph that states the two positive and two negative. The thesis explains that Jackson had both positive and negative effects on the nation.

## **Positives Paragraph -- Two issues/events**

- Introduce the topic(s) discussed & state their effects had a positive impact on the nation
- Write about the topics in chronological order
- End the paragraph with a concluding sentence about the topic

## **Negatives Paragraph -- Two issues/events**

- Introduce the topic(s) discussed & state their effects had a negative impact on the nation
- Write about the topics in chronological order
- End the paragraph with a concluding sentence about the topic

## **Conclusion**

- Restate the thesis
- Conclude the paper with a statement telling the reader whether you think Jackson was a good or bad president based on your reading.

### **Think about the following...**

- Was Andrew Jackson a good leader as president?
- Did Jackson use his power the way a president *should*?
- Did Jackson do what was *best* for the country?
- Was he a *popular* president? Why/Why not?
- Did Jackson's actions influence future presidents?