The Republicans Take Power

OBJECTIVE: TO UNDERSTAND THE CAUSES OF THE WAR OF 1812
Jefferson was the first president to reside at the new capital, Washington DC.

He hoped to limit the power of federal government.

He began paying off the public debt instead of paying interest on it by cutting government spending.

He also did away with all excise taxes and downsized the military.
Conflict with the Courts

- Before Jefferson took office, Congress passed the **Judiciary Act of 1801**, which created 16 new judgeships that were filled with Federalists.
- The Republican congress attempted to remove the judges, but was only able to remove one.
- This led to the precedent that judges could only be removed for criminal activity.
- *Marbury v. Madison* established that the Supreme Court has the final say on the interpretation of the Constitution.
- The court also established judicial review, or the power to decide whether laws passed by Congress are constitutional.
The United States Expands West

- Jefferson supported the country’s westward expansion.
- President Washington sent General Anthony Wayne to put down Native American resistance after settlers were moving westward.
- After Wayne’s victory, 12 Native American nations signed the Treaty of Greenville, which meant they gave up land in present day Chicago and Detroit in exchange for yearly payments of $10,000.
Louisiana Purchase

- French leader Napoleon Bonaparte offered to sell America the Louisiana territory for funds he needed for war in Europe.

- American ambassador Robert Livingston negotiated America to buy Louisiana for $15 million, which equal roughly 4 cents per acre.

- A Congress funded an expedition led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, which headed west up to the Missouri River in May 1804.

- The Lewis and Clark expedition provided knowledge and claim to the Oregon Territory.

- Zebulon Pike mapped part of the Rio Grande, which gave Americans detailed information about the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains.
Lewis and Clark

Lewis and Clark Expedition (1804-1806)
Rising International Tensions

- British warships were regularly stopping American merchant ships and searching them for contraband (smuggled goods) and forcing American sailors into British service (impressment).

- Tensions rose after a British warship, the Leopard, opened fire on the Chesapeake, killing three Americans.

- Jefferson asked Congress to pass the Embargo Act of 1807, halting all trade between United States and Europe, which was repealed because it hurt the United States economy.

- President Madison asked Congress to pass the Non-Intercourse Act, which prohibited commerce with Britain and France but promised to resume trade with whichever country first dropped its own trade restrictions.
War Hawks

- War Hawks were members of Congress who wanted to declare war on Britain.
- Southern planters and western farmers were hurt badly by Britain’s trade restrictions.
- Americans also believed that the British were inciting Native Americans such as Tecumseh, who urged Native Americans to unify to hold on to their lands.
- On June 1812, President Madison gave into pressure and asked Congress to declare for war.
War of 1812

- Conquering Canada was the primary objective of the United States.
- Commodore Oliver Perry defeated a British fleet on Lake Erie in 1813.
- William Henry Harrison defeated a combined British and Native American force led by Tecumseh at the battle of the Thames River.
- With attention focused on Canada, a British fleet sailed into Chesapeake Bay and marched troops into Washington, D.C.
- The British set fire to the White House and the Capitol and proceeded to Baltimore.
- The British bombarded Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor, but abandoned the attack in the morning.
War of 1812
New England and New Orleans

- **Hartford Convention** called for constitutional amendments to increase the region's political power.

- General **Andrew Jackson** defeated 7,500 British troops at the **Battle of New Orleans**.

- The United States and Great Britain agreed to the **Treaty of Ghent**, which restored prewar boundaries but did little else.

- War of 1812 increased the nation's prestige overseas and generated a new spirit of patriotism and national unity.