

Part 1: The Anchor Facts of American History**A. Write a brief description of the key event occurring at the date indicated.**

1. 1215 AD

English lords force King John to sign the Magna Carta. (1 pt)

2. c. 4 BC

Jesus Christ is born in the Roman Empire. (1 pt)

3. c.3000 BC

Menes Narmer unifies ancient Egypt, becoming its monarch (ruler). (1 pt)

4. 1492 AD

Christopher Columbus discovers America. (1 pt)

5. 1607 AD / 1620 AD

Jamestown / Plymouth settled by the English. (2 pts)

B. Use your knowledge of anchor facts to answer the following questions.

6. In what three places did people make important progress towards freedom before the United States? What kind of government did each of them create?

Three societies created governments of greater freedom before America. First, around the same time, Athens created a democracy (a system of majority rule) and Rome created a Republic (a government with a constitution to protect rights). Then, much later, the English created the first constitutional monarchy.

(7 pts: 2 pts for each combination; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

7. “*There would be no United States of America without the Founding Fathers...*” rebelling against British tyranny. What three other things did they have to do before there could truly be a *United States of America*?

In order to create the United States of America as the country it became, the Founding Fathers could not just rebel against British tyranny. They had to declare the principle of rights to explain why, they had to fight a war to earn the new nation’s independence, they had to create a constitution to build a permanent government for rights along with a Bill of Rights to guarantee rights, and finally they had to lead the nation as presidents in order to put their principles into practice and steer the country onto a course compatible with rights.

(4 pts: 3 pts for formulations of three of the above; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

Total Points for this page: 17 points

Part 2: The American Revolution

8. Why is James Otis an important Founding Father? (What specifically did he do to champion individual rights?)

James Otis is an important Founding Fathers because he was a lawyer who opposed the Writs of Assistance. These were warrants that allows government officials to enter people's homes and businesses any time. Otis said they were against the "rights of Englishmen."

(3 pts: 1 pt for the phrase "writs of assistance"; 1 pt for describing Otis' actions; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

9. What were the Virginia Resolves? What "act" were they against, and what Founding Father championed this effort to resist growing British tyranny?

The Virginia Resolves were a set of statements by the Virginia House of Burgesses against the Stamp Act. Patrick Henry championed this effort against growing British tyranny.

(3 pts: 1 pt for opposition to Stamp Act; 1 pt for Patrick Henry; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

10. Why did the British government pass the Quebec Act of 1774? What did it say?

The British government passed the Quebec Act of 1774 to punish Americans for the Boston Tea Party of 1773 and to try to stop a rising rebellion against British power. The Quebec Act said that Quebec would be extended down to the Ohio river, taking that region forever away from America.

(3 pts: 1 pt punishment for Boston Tea Party; 1 pt for expansion of Quebec; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

11. Perhaps a million people cross the Delaware river every day. Why is one crossing remembered above all others? (Be sure to explain exactly who crossed, and how important it was in as much detail as you can.)

Late in 1776, George Washington crossed the Delaware with his American militia to launch a sneak attack. It would become the first important victory for America in the Revolutionary War. Not all crossings of a river are "created equal." This one is obviously the most important crossing ever, and this is why it is remembered.

(4 pts: 1 pt for George Washington; 2 for an explanation that focusses on the *importance* of Washington's crossing; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

Total Points for this page: 13 points

13. What were three important reasons why, even after winning the Revolutionary War, the thirteen colonies might still not form a true *United States of America*?

Even after winning the Revolutionary War, the thirteen colonies were not a single, true *United States of America* for many reasons. They were distant from each other at a time when transportation and communication were poor; they had separate governments; they had separate religious traditions; they had competing land claims to the West; they had different rules for trade that would lead them to conflict; and above all, they had differing views on slavery.

(4 pts: 3 pts for three reasons from the above; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

Part 3: The Founding Era

14. What is the Bill of Rights? To what is it an addition, and why did the Founding Fathers view it as so critical to make such a set of additions?

The Bill of Rights is a set of ten *amendments* to the Constitution of the United States created by the Founding Fathers. The Founding Fathers believed it was important to make a set of rules to strongly limit the future growth in power of the government in order to help protect individual rights.

(4 pts: 1 pt for amendments; 1 pt for Constitution 1 pt for rights; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

15. Explain *three* things the Founding Fathers did as presidents to help make sure the United States would remain *independent* during the Founding Era.

The Founders main goal was to keep America independent, so they worked to keep America from being politically connected to other countries. George Washington proclaimed America's neutrality in Europe's wars. John Adams kept peace with France, but also built a navy to make America strong. Thomas Jefferson sent the navy to fight the Barbary Pirates, and bought Louisiana from France. James Madison declared war on Britain in the War of 1812 to protect Americans from Britain. Finally, James Monroe issued the Monroe Doctrine insisting that Europeans stay out of the Americas as America intended to stay out of Europe.

(4 pts: 1 pt for each of three from the above; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

Total Points for this page: 12 points

Part 4: Bonus Questions

16. What is the final line from Patrick Henry's most famous speech?

English lords force King John to sign the Magna Carta. (1 bonus pt)

17. What were the promoters and opponents of the Constitution called during the Critical Period?

Promoters: Federalists Opponents: Anti-Federalists (1 bonus pt)

18. Where was the final major battle of the Revolutionary War fought?

Battle of Yorktown (1 bonus pt)

19. From whom did Jefferson purchase Louisiana?

Napoleon / France (1 bonus pt)

20. What are the names of the two-part parliament (or "Congress") of the United States?

House of Representatives *and* Senate (1 bonus pt)

Total Points on Test: 42 points
Total bonus points on Test: 5 points