

John Quincy Adams (00:00-13:37)

1. John and Abigail Adams, John Quincy’s parents, had spent a significant amount of effort preparing him to be president. What was the downside of this preparation?
2. What advantages did Andrew Jackson have in the election?
3. Andrew Jackson easily won the popular vote. Why did he fail to win the presidency?
4. Adams dreamed of a nation based on ancient Rome, with a strong federal government building roads, running universities, and making scientific inquiries. How much of this was Adams able to accomplish? Why?

Andrew Jackson (13:37-26:04)

5. Describe the Election of 1828.
6. What was Jackson’s approach toward the Native population? How did most Americans feel about this approach?
7. How did Jackson interact with Congress?
8. According to historian Carol Berkin, what was the result of Jackson’s fights against Congress?

Martin Van Buren (26:04-31:43)

9. The video talks about Van Buren’s recession and says that he inherited it from Andrew Jackson. What do they mean when they say he “inherited” the recession?
10. What criticisms did the American people level at Van Buren?

William Henry Harrison (31:43-33:19)

11. Why did Harrison choose to give his inaugural address without a coat and a hat?

John Tyler (33:19-36:59)

12. Why did Tyler fail to get along with Congress?
13. Tyler was a less effective president. Because of this, he needed an important issue to help him win re-election. What issue did he find and how did this impact the U.S.?

James K. Polk (37:00-44:10)

14. Why did they begin playing “Hail to the Chief” to welcome the president?
15. Historian George Forgie said, “President Polk represents the shift from the politics of economics, which was central to the Jacksonian period, to the politics of expansion.” What does this mean?
16. Polk’s greatest legacy is American expansion. This expansion, though, came at a cost. What problem stemmed from it?