

**Questions for Excerpts from New York State Constitutions**

1. According to the New York State Constitution passed in 1777, what were the requirements for voting in New York?

**A person had to be an adult, white male who had lived in New York for at least six months prior to the election; owned at least twenty pounds of property or rented a property worth forty shillings; and paid taxes.**

2. According to the amendment added to the New York State Constitution in 1821, what were the requirements for a white male to be able to vote in New York? What were the requirements for a “man of colour” to be able to vote in New York?

**A white male had to be at least 21 years old and a citizen; he had to have lived in the state for one year prior to the election and in the specific town or county for six months prior; and he had to have either paid taxes, been declared exempt from taxation, or performed military service.**

**A “man of colour” had to have been a citizen for three years and had to own property worth at least \$250.**

3. Despite the expanding electorate, not everyone in New York could vote in 1821. Which groups of New York citizens were not allowed to vote in 1777 or 1821?

**Black men who did not own property and women of any race were still not allowed to vote.**

4. How might limits or restrictions on voter eligibility influence or change the results of an election?

**Student must state a claim and support it with evidence.**

**Questions for Letter, Martin Van Buren to Thomas Ritchie**

1. What political innovation proposed by Ritchie was Van Buren writing to support?

**Van Buren was supporting the idea of a national nominating convention**

2. What qualities made Andrew Jackson an attractive presidential candidate?

**Jackson's personal popularity, combined with his views on a small central government, made him an attractive choice.**

3. What does Van Buren mean when he said, "the revival of old party distinctions"? Why did he see these distinctions as positive for his plan?

**Van Buren was referring to the split between Federalists and Democratic-Republicans. Therefore, when he said, "plain Republicans of the North," he was referring to the Democratic-Republicans that supported Jefferson. He believed that by uniting two factions that oppose a larger federal government, he would more quickly create a unified national party.**

4. In Van Buren's opinion, how would a revival of these old party distinctions benefit the nation?

**These party distinctions would overcome sectional differences and avoid "prejudices between free and slaveholding states."**

**Questions for “Jackson Forever!”**

1. Political broadsides like this use different fonts and text sizes to emphasize their most important points. Why do you think the creator chose to emphasize the words that they did?

**Student must state a claim and support their answer with evidence from the broadside. Answers should point toward the relationship between the words and Jackson’s image as the people’s president.**

2. What evidence did the broadside use to support its claim that Jackson was a “man of the people”?

**The broadside referred to the deal that decided the election of 1824 as well as Jackson’s opposition to several other U.S. and European laws and events that did not favor the will of the people.**

3. When considering the outcome of the election of 1828, what change in how elections were conducted might support the claim that Jackson was a “man of the people?”

**Many states removed the property requirement for voting so that more non-propertied, average citizens could vote.**

4. Why do you think the broadside made several references to Andrew Jackson’s military career?

**Student must state a claim and support their answer with evidence.**

**Questions for “Monumental Inscriptions!”**

1. The election of 1828 saw a very nasty campaign with lots of personal attacks. What element of Andrew Jackson’s record was being attacked in this broadside?

**This broadside is attacking Jackson’s military service record by questioning a decision he made to execute several soldiers who had deserted.**

2. Often known as the “coffin handbill,” this broadside was the first in a series. Why do you think the creator chose to use this imagery?

**Student must state a claim and support it with evidence from the broadside. Answers should point toward coffins being a universally recognizable symbol.**

3. The creator of this broadside uses all capital letters in the top portion of text for emphasis. What did he choose to emphasize, and why do you think he might have made those choices?

**The creator capitalized three things: 1) Jackson’s name, 2) references to spilled blood, and 3) the liberty and happiness of the country.**

**Student should make a claim and support it with evidence from the text. Answers should point toward the juxtaposition of violence and happiness.**

4. Compare this broadside to “Jackson Forever!”, which carries a very different message. Which design elements are similar? Which are different? Do you think the design of each supports its meaning?

**Similar: use of capitalization, font size, bolded wording, etc., for emphasis**

**Different: “Jackson Forever!” has far less wording overall, no visual imagery**

**Student should make a claim and support it with evidence from the text.**

**Questions for Excerpt from Letter, Robert Y. Hayne to Andrew Jackson**

1. How did Hayne open his letter? What did he want to provide to Jackson?

**Hayne declared that he did not wish for a response from Jackson, but only wished to inform him of the “actual state of things” where he was.**

2. Hayne did not agree with everything that Jackson thought. What is one example of a disagreement? Why do you think he supported Jackson anyway?

**Hayne disagreed with Jackson on whether there should be a federal tariff but said he supported him anyway because of his “wisdom and integrity.”**

3. How did Hayne portray John Quincy Adams in this letter?

**Hayne indicated that John Quincy Adams did not care about the needs of the southern states and acted in “direct violation of the will of the people.”**

4. Hayne discusses sectional conflict, particularly as it relates to slavery, writing, “should they meddle with our Slave institutions, I would not be answerable for the consequences.” What consequences do you think he was suggesting?

**Student should make a claim and support it with evidence from the text. Answer should relate to ongoing sectional differences that were leading to conflict and potential violence.**