

# **Andrew Jackson, *Though scarred, gained the presidency***

**By Sonya Chudgar**

## **STUDY GUIDE**

1. What left a physical scar on Andrew Jackson?
  - A. He was whipped as a child.
  - B. He fell from a horse as a child.
  - C. He was injured in a Revolutionary War battle.
  - D. He received a cut from a British soldier's saber.
  
2. What left Andrew Jackson with emotional scars?
  - A. Losing his job as a teacher
  - B. Losing key military battles
  - C. Losing his home to trespassers
  - D. Losing all of his family members
  
3. Which completes the graphic organizer?

|              |
|--------------|
| ???          |
| Congressman  |
| US Senator   |
| US President |

- A. elected positions Andrew Jackson held
- B. military positions Andrew Jackson held
- C. state level positions Andres Jackson held
- D. appointed positions Andrew Jackson held

4. In 1828, how did Andrew Jackson lose the presidential election?
  - A. The military failed to back Andrew Jackson.
  - B. Ballots were stuffed with votes for John Quincy Adams.
  - C. John Quincy Adams received a slim majority of the popular votes.
  - D. John Quincy Adams was selected by the House of Representatives.
  
5. Why was Andrew Jackson called an “everyman?”
  - A. He held so many different jobs.
  - B. He worked his way up the ranks of the military.
  - C. He grew up without the benefits of wealth and position.
  - D. He retired to Tennessee instead of staying in Washington D.C.
  
6. What shows that Andrew Jackson believed in a strong executive branch of the national government?
  - A. He led battles against Indians and the British.
  - B. He removed Indians from territory awarded in treaties.
  - C. He served as a senator and a representative in the U.S. Congress.
  - D. His was the first photograph of a president to appear in Mathew Brady’s book of illustrious Americans.
  
7. Who made up Jackson’s Kitchen Cabinet?
  - A. Military officers
  - B. Jackson’s friends
  - C. Congressional leaders
  - D. Selected cabinet members
  
8. Which best defines ‘roared back’?
  - A. made a loud noise

- B. made a serious mistake
- C. tried again and succeeded
- D. reached a quick decision and regretted it

9. What's the relationship? Complete the analogy:

Betty Jackson: nurse as Mathew Brady: \_\_\_\_\_

- A. clergyman
- B. judge
- C. photographer
- D. soldier

10. What is meant by the word compunction?

- A. feeling of pride
- B. feeling of anger or rage
- C. feeling of guilt or regret
- D. feeling of homesickness

Verbs to define: Match words and meanings. Do the definitions make sense in the story?

- |                |                                      |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| __1. enlisted  | A. scratched a post                  |
| __2. harbored  | B. sailed into port                  |
| __3. resolved  | C. gave someone a different name     |
| __4. clawed    | D. made a firm decision              |
| __5. nicknamed | E. kept thought in his mind          |
|                | F. signed up for, to or in something |
|                | G. acted forcefully                  |
|                | H. made a list                       |

## EVALUATIONS:

Respond to the prompts in one page (or more). If needed, conduct research to obtain additional facts to support your analyses.

1. What do you learn about Andrew Jackson that supports the description of him as “hot-headed” and “tough as hickory”?
2. Why do you think that the House of Representatives voted for John Quincy Adams over Andrew Jackson in the 1828 election?
3. What did you know about the Trail of Tears before reading this profile? What do you learn about the Trail of Tears from this profile? What more do you want to know? What are your thoughts based on what you knew and learned? How could the American Indians argue against the tag of “trespassers”? How would Andrew Jackson defend his actions?
4. Conduct research to find out what each role of the president means. Match the actions that Jackson took with the following roles of the president:
  - a. chief executive--
  - b. commander in chief--
  - c. head of state--
  - d. chief diplomat--
  - e. leader of political party--
  - f. legislative leader--

## NEWS CONNECTIONS:

1. Write a letter to the editor or editorial that might appear in a newspaper of Jackson’s day. Focus your writing around a specific event that you select.
2. In newspapers, find arguments for and against a strong executive branch. What do you think?
3. In today’s newspaper, find examples of the US Congress challenging presidential rights and power.
4. Conduct research to learn more about the roles of the president and analyze Jackson’s actions (Evaluation #4 above). Using several day’s newspapers and/or archives as sources of news about the US President, describe his actions. Then, match the actions of the current president with the roles:

- a. chief executive--
- b. commander in chief--
- c. head of state--
- d. chief diplomat--
- e. leader of political party--
- f. legislative leader--

Written by Sandra Cook and Cynthia McFadden

Provided by the N.C. Press Foundation