

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Final Study Guide

In what year did Columbus land in the Americas?	1492
What was Columbus's theory about the Earth?	that it was smaller than it actually is
How did Columbus change the world?	connected both sides of the world
What 3 things enabled Cortes and Pizarro to conquer the powerful Aztec and Inca empires?	Guns and horses provided shock value in combat, they allied with oppressed Natives, and disease weakened the empires.
At first Jamestown was an unsuccessful colony. Why did it end up being successful?	They started growing tobacco.
When and where was Jamestown founded?	Virginia, 1607
How were the settlers of Jamestown different from the Pilgrims?	Jamestown was a business venture, the Pilgrims wanted to found a religious community
What was the most important result of the French and Indian War?	The British took all French territory in North America.
Who won the French and Indian War?	British
After Parliament repealed the Stamp Act they passed the Declaratory Act. What did it say?	That Parliament had the right to tax the colonies however it wanted.
What was the Stamp Act?	It put a small tax on paper goods in the colonies.
What was the Stamp Act Congress and why was it important?	It was the first time the colonies all worked together, and they succeeded in getting the Stamp Act repealed.
What was the Boston Massacre?	Boston colonists were rioting and harassing British soldiers and eventually the soldiers shot into the crowd.
The colonists used the Boston Massacre in their anti-British propaganda.	True
The Boston Massacre was when the British lost an election in Boston after the Tea Crisis.	False
What happened at the Boston Tea Party?	Colonists dumped a boatload of British tea into the harbor.
The Coercive Acts were successful. The rest of the colonies didn't want to anger Parliament and turned their backs on Boston.	False
What were the Coercive Acts?	Acts intended to punish Massachusetts and cut it off from the rest of the colonies.

What was the First Continental Congress?	A meeting where representatives from every colony met to decide on a joint response to the Coercive Acts.
Which phrase is associated with Lexington?	“The shot heard round the world.”
What happened at Lexington?	British soldiers and American colonists fought for the first time.
Why is the Battle of Bunker Hill important?	it showed both sides that the Americans could stand and fight
How did Washington force the British to leave Boston?	He put cannon taken from Fort Ticonderoga on Dorchester Heights.
The Declaration of Independence states that when a government violates our rights it is our right to...?	“alter or to abolish it, and institute a new government”
The Declaration of Independence states that all men are...?	created equal
The Declaration of Independence states that people get their rights from where?	"their creator"
According to the Declaration of Independence, why do governments exist?	to protect our rights
What were the two purposes of the Declaration of Independence?	To declare our political ideals and to give our reasons for declaring independence.
Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?	Thomas Jefferson
In what year was the Declaration of Independence written?	1776
After the British left Boston they attacked and defeated the Americans at which city?	New York
What happened at the Battle of Trenton?	George Washington surprised British troops by crossing the Delaware River in the middle of winter.
How did the battles of Trenton and Princeton change the war?	They restored American confidence in the war and in Washington.
Why was the Battle of Saratoga important?	The Americans defeated a British army and it convinced the French to form an alliance with the US.
What happened at Valley Forge?	Washington’s army wintered there. Many soldiers died or left, but Washington turned them into a disciplined army.
How did the French alliance help the Americans?	It helped with a navy, soldiers, and money.

What happened at the Siege of Yorktown?	Washington cornered Cornwallis and he surrendered. This was the last major battle of the war.
What two things did the United States get out of the Treaty of Paris in 1783?	Independence and land west of the Appalachian Mountains.
After the Revolutionary War ended Washington resigned and went home.	True
Why is Washington's resignation after the war important?	People thought he would try to seize power and it showed he obeyed Congress.
In what year was the US Constitution written?	1787
Who wrote the Bill of Rights and is considered the "Father of the Constitution?"	James Madison
Who was the "indispensable man" at the constitutional convention?	George Washington
What do we call the first 10 amendments that were added to the Constitution?	Bill of Rights
Why did George Mason refuse to sign the Constitution?	It didn't have a bill of rights.
What was the Great Compromise?	Each state gets 2 votes in Senate, House is determined by population.
What was the Louisiana Purchase?	A large piece of land we bought from France for \$15,000,000.
Lewis and Clark explored the Louisiana Territory for the United States.	True
What was unfortunate about the timing of our declaration of war for the War of 1812?	We declared war at the same time the British ended impressment of our sailors.
The British did what in Washington DC during the War of 1812?	Set fire to the White House and the Capitol.
The War of 1812 was between the United States and which country?	Great Britain
What were the three parts of the Missouri Compromise?	Maine as free state, Missouri as slave state, new states north of line free, south of line slave
What are some of the things Mexico required of immigrants moving to Texas?	learn Spanish, become Catholic, obey laws, become citizens
Texas declared independence in 1836 because: They wanted to govern themselves more and Santa Anna suspended the constitution and declared himself dictator of Mexico.	True

What did the United States get out of the Mexican-American War?	What is now California, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah.
What did Mexico get after the Mexican-American War?	\$15 million
Why did the Mexican-American War start?	President Polk moved US troops into disputed territory near Texas.
What was "Bleeding Kansas?"	A small civil war in Kansas over whether the state would be slave or free.
How did some people in the North and South view John Brown?	Many in the North saw him as a hero and he represented radical abolitionism to the South.
Who was John Brown?	An abolitionist who tried to lead a slave rebellion and became a hero to Northern abolitionists.
Who won the election of 1860?	Abraham Lincoln
What event convinced the Deep South to secede?	Lincoln's election.
What happened at Fort Sumter?	South Carolina fired on federal troops in a fort.
Which event convinced the Upper South to secede?	Fighting at Fort Sumter.
What was the root cause of the Civil War?	Slavery
What were the dates for the Civil War?	1861-1865
What is in the 1st Amendment?	It protects the rights of religion, speech, press, assembly.
What is in the 2nd Amendment?	The right of the average person to own a gun.
What is in the 3rd Amendment?	The government can't force people to house (quarter) troops in their homes.
What is in the 4th Amendment?	Law enforcement can't search your house without a warrant.
The 5th Amendment protects us from double jeopardy. What is double jeopardy?	Being tried twice for the same crime.
The 5th Amendment guarantees us due process before life, liberty, or property is taken away. What is due process?	A fair legal proceeding
What is in the 5th amendment?	Can't be tried twice for same crime and don't have to testify against yourself
If we are arrested, what are we entitled to because of the 6th Amendment?	Speedy and public trial, and a lawyer.
What is in the 7th amendment?	The right to trial by jury
What is in the 8th amendment?	It outlaws cruel and unusual punishment

What does the 9th amendment say?	We listed some of our rights not all of them.
What does the 10th amendment say?	The federal government can only do what we gave it permission to do.
What did the 13th amendment do?	It banned slavery everywhere in the United States.
What three things did the 14th amendment do?	Birthright citizenship, due process, equal protection of the laws.
What does the 15th amendment say?	Can't deny the right to vote based on race or color.
What did the 15th amendment leave out?	Gender
If there is no majority in the Electoral College how is the president chosen?	House of Representatives chooses the president, one state one vote.
Which part of the government must vote to ratify a treaty?	Senate with a 2/3 majority.
Which part of the government can impeach the president?	House of Representatives with a simple majority.
Which part of the government can convict and remove the president?	The Senate with a 2/3 majority.
Which part of the government approves nominees to the Supreme Court.	Senate with a simple majority.
Which part of the government can override a presidential veto?	House and Senate with a 2/3 vote.
Which part of the US government is the only part that can write laws?	Legislative Branch (Congress)
Which part of the government decides how many people will be on the Supreme Court?	Congress
How long are federal judges on the court?	For life.
Which person in the government is the Commander in Chief of the US military?	The President
What is the Vice President's only real power as President of the Senate?	He can break tie votes in the Senate.
If Congress sends a proposed law to the President, what can he do?	He can veto it or sign it into law.
How do judges get nominated to be on federal courts?	The President nominates them and the Senate approves them.
Who negotiates treaties with other countries on behalf of the United States?	The President.
What is Supreme Court's main power?	Judicial Review - the power to declare laws unconstitutional and strike them down.

Columbus	1492
Cortes and Pizarro	Cortes, 1521 Pizarro, 1532
Jamestown	1607
Pilgrims	1620
French and Indian War	1754-1763
Stamp Act	March, 1765
Stamp Act Congress	October, 1765
Declaratory Act	March, 1766
Boston Massacre	1770
Boston Tea Party	1773
Coercive (Intolerable) Acts	March, 1774
First Continental Congress	October, 1774
Lexington and Concord	April, 1775
Bunker Hill	June, 1775
British leave Boston	March, 1776
Declaration of Independence	JULY 4, 1776
Americans lose New York City	August, 1776
Battles of Trenton and Princeton	December, 1776
Battle of Saratoga	October, 1777
Valley Forge	December, 1777
French form alliance with United States	March, 1778
Siege of Yorktown	1781
Treaty of Paris	March, 1783
Washington resigns	December, 1783
Constitution	1787
Louisiana Purchase	1803
Lewis and Clark	1804-06
War of 1812	1812-15
Missouri Compromise	1820
Texas Independence	1836
Mexican-American War	1846-48
Bleeding Kansas	1854-58
John Brown's Raid	1859
Lincoln's Election	1860
Secession of Deep South	Dec 1860-Feb 1861
Fort Sumter	April, 1861
Secession of Upper South	Summer, 1861
Civil War	1861-1865