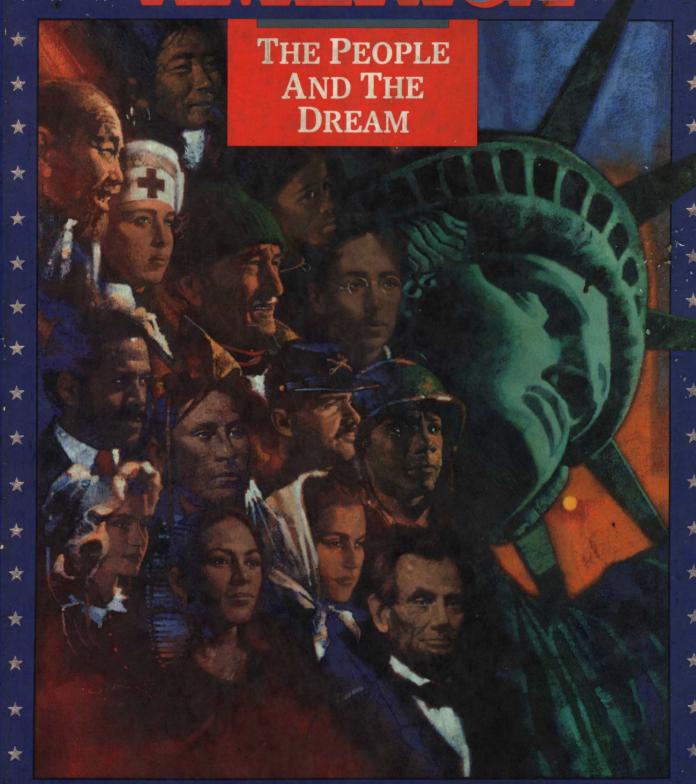
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AMERICA



America

The People and the Dream

Robert A. Divine

T. H. Breen

George M. Fredrickson

R. Hal Williams

With

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Charles Titus

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Scott, Foresman and Company
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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

The **Contents** pages show the book's organization. Use the **Contents** to find page numbers for the parts of the book. The book begins with a **Prologue** that shows the relationship between the geography of North America and historical events.

Unit Organization

America: The People and the Dream is divided into 9 units. Each unit begins with a two-page introduction. The left-hand page has a picture. The right-hand page tells you something about the unit and lists the themes and chapters in the unit.

Each unit ends with a **Unit Review.** Answer the questions in the review to check your understanding of the unit. You will also find essay questions relating to the unit themes to help you tie together what you have learned.

Chapter Organization

America: The People and the Dream has 32 chapters. Each chapter begins with an introduction, a list of sections in the chapter, and a time line.

At the end of each chapter, you will find a **Chapter Review**. It begins with a summary of the sections in the chapter. Read this summary to remind yourself what the chapter was about. Then answer the review questions to check your understanding of the chapter. You can apply what you have learned by doing the activities at the end of the review.

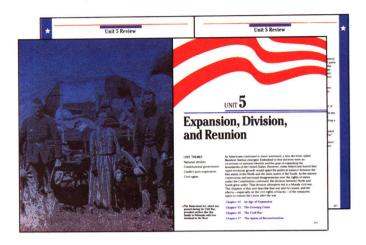
Section Organization

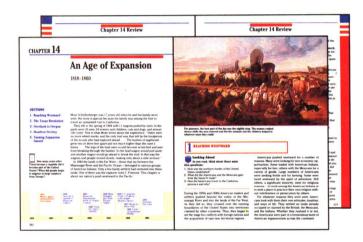
The chapters of the book are divided into sections. Each section begins with **Looking Ahead** questions about the main ideas. The key words in each section appear in **dark print**. Every key word is defined when first used in the section.

Each map in a section has a **Map Study** caption, which asks questions to help you grasp the map's meaning and practice your map skills.

Also within sections, large blue quotation marks set off speeches, diary entries, poems, and other primary sources.

Each section ends with a **Section Review**. Answer the questions in this review to check your understanding of the key terms, people, and places and the main ideas in the section. Under the title **Thinking About History**, you will find one or two questions that ask you to think about the significance of the section.

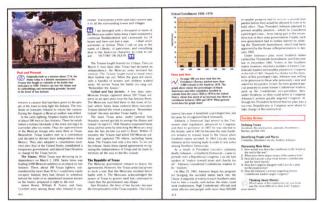




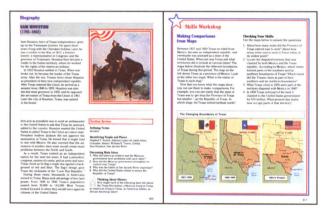


Special Features

America: The People and the Dream includes several features that give you additional information and skills practice.



Past and Present. This picture feature tells you about a topic that links history to life today. **Then and Now.** This graphic-information feature compares facts and figures of interest in United States history.



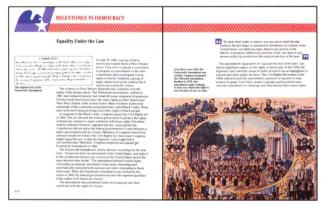
Biography. In this feature you will read about the achievements of interesting people in United States history.

Skills Workshop. Text, maps, graphs, or pictures in this feature teach you a new skill and give you practice in using that skill.

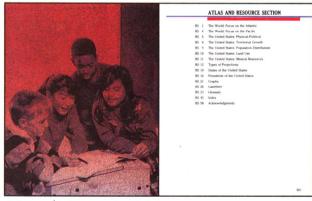


The Past in Pictures. This multi-page feature provides an in-depth look at a particular time in United States history.

A Story Well Told. This multi-page feature captures the drama of a particular historical event.



Milestones in Democracy. This feature focuses on the impact of certain documents and events in United States history.



Atlas and Resource Section
A helpful Atlas and Resource Section begins on page RS1. For more information about this section, see page RS1.

AMERICAN HISTORY AND ITS THEMES

We can chart our future clearly and wisely only when we know the path which has

led to the

present."

Adlai Stevenson

In the year 46 B.C., the Roman orator Cicero tried to explain the value of history. He said, "To be ignorant of what occurred before you were born is to remain always a child. For what is the worth of human life, unless it is woven into the life of our ancestors by the records of history?" Two thousand years later, an American, Adlai Stevenson, observed, "We can chart our future clearly and wisely only when we know the path which has led to the present."

What is history? History is the record of the human past. However, this general definition needs to be refined. A complete record of our past would be as lengthy as the past itself. Even a limited history—for example, one of the United States during the Civil War—would include far too many details and be far too confusing unless the information was reduced to its essentials and given meaning. Historians select from the past the people, events, and ideas that are—or appear to each particular historian to be—the most significant. They select and organize their material in order to make the past meaningful to the present. To put it another way, the task of the historian is to interpret the past for us.

Studying American history. American history is the story of the people, events, and ideas that shaped our nation. Presidents, generals, and other important and well-known persons are a part of our history, but so are ordinary people. Women and men, black and white, rich and poor, workers and business owners or managers—all Americans made this nation what it is today.

We can understand what America and its people are today only by understanding our nation's past—by seeing how we arrived at where we are today. Knowing that past may help us with the decisions we will need to make in our future. This is not to say that we will face the same problems Americans faced in the past. Times change, and history does not repeat itself. Nevertheless, we can learn something from both our successes and our failures in the past, and what we learn can help us face our future with greater confidence.

The big ideas. In studying our nation's history, you will find that certain themes—important ideas—have recurred again and again. These themes have helped shape our culture and our national character. They continue to shape our country today. Although each of these themes may be found throughout this book, we have selected the most appropriate ones to stress in each unit. The themes listed and discussed here will help you better understand American history. Your understanding of these themes, and of our nation's history, will increase as you study this book.

Themes

- 1. Environment: The American people, their economy, and their culture have been influenced by their environment—their natural surroundings. The earliest people in America mostly adapted to the environment—that is, they suited their lifestyles to the landscape, natural vegetation, climate, and so on, of the regions in which they lived. Increasingly, as time went on, Americans began modifying the environment to suit themselves, even to the point of sometimes damaging it.
- 2. Migration: From prehistoric times, when the first people entered the North American continent, to the present, our history has been shaped by migration, the movement of people from one place to settle in another. Immigrants from every part of the world have come together in America and have enriched our nation's history and its culture with their varied contributions.
- 3. Cultural diversity: America—a land populated entirely by people, or the descendants of people, who came from elsewhere—has always been marked by cultural diversity. This diversity, in turn, has brought about cultural interaction, the exchange—and sometimes clash—of the customs, traditions, and ideas of different peoples.
- 4. Values and beliefs: The values and beliefs of the American people have been shaped not only by religious, moral, and ethical ideas, but also by the nation's history, political development, and culture. Values such as religious freedom and representative democracy lie behind this country's most cherished political institutions. The fact that different Americans have had different values and beliefs has sometimes led to serious conflicts.
- 5. Free enterprise: The American economic system is based on the principle of free enterprise—the freedom to make economic choices without excessive government interference. At the same time, Americans have recognized that a certain degree of control or regulation, even though it sets limits on free enterprise, is necessary to protect both consumers and the system. Some regulations have been placed on both management and labor. Major political disagreements have arisen over how much regulation is desirable.

- 6. Technology: America has been influenced by its people's willingness to accept improvements and innovations in technology. Technological change has helped to promote the country's economic growth over the years and has helped the free enterprise system to flourish.
- 7. Constitutional government: The American political system is based on constitutional government and the rule of law. Our particular republican form of constitutional government is a federal system in which states and the national government share powers. This sharing has sometimes led to disagreements over the proper boundary between states' rights and the rights of the national government.
- 8. Civil rights: The struggle to achieve civil rights—the rights of citizenship—for an ever increasing number of people has been a continuing one in American history. The right to vote, for example, was limited at first to white, property-owning, adult males. Gradually, that right was extended to include poorer people, blacks and other minorities, and women. The struggle for full civil rights for all people continues today.
- 9. National identity: Their particular laws, customs, and character have given the American people a national identity that sets them apart from all other people. In spite of the fact that social, racial, cultural, religious, and political differences have sometimes separated groups of Americans from one another, the American people are united by a common national identity that influences their sense of themselves in international affairs. Americans may disagree, however, on what are the most essential of our national characteristics.
- 10. Cooperation and conflict: Affairs within America and between America and other countries have been marked by both cooperation and conflict. Cooperation, for example, brought 13 different British colonies together to fight for independence and to create a new nation. Conflict nearly tore that nation apart in the Civil War. In more recent times, the United States has fought in two world wars, but the country has also cooperated in such organizations as the United Nations and NATO in an attempt to maintain peace.

PROLOGUE

North America Before European Settlement

Until after Columbus made his first landing in America, no one in Europe knew anything about the North American continent. Only very gradually did Europeans learn about this huge and varied land—more than twice the size of Europe and containing a far greater variety of landscapes, climates, vegetation, wildlife, and human cultures.

The people who explored North America over a period of more than three centuries following Columbus's first voyage were continually astonished at what they found. They saw gently rolling hills, towering mountains, incredibly deep canyons, and land as flat as a tabletop that seemed to stretch out forever. They found lakes al-

Sharp, rugged peaks are characteristic of the Grand Teton Mountains in Wyoming. This range is part of the Rocky Mountain system.



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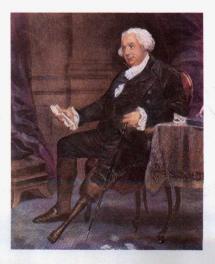
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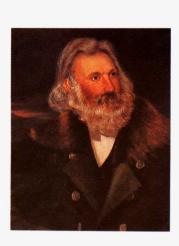
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