

Jackson Vs. Documents

1. Summarize each of the 10 sources in a couple of sentences on your chart. Be sure to include information that is key to understanding this source.
2. Identify on your chart whether each source supports Jackson's image on the \$20 bill or opposes it.
3. Give each source a rating of 1-5 to indicate how strongly that source supports or opposes Jackson's image on the \$20 bill.
4. Choose the document which you believe is the most persuasive FOR his image being on the \$20 bill. Explain why you chose that source.
5. Explain which document is the most persuasive AGAINST his image being on the \$20 bill. Explain why you chose that source.
7. After reviewing all the documents and responses, make a decision based on these documents and your responses. Should Andrew Jackson be honored with his image on the \$20 bill? Write a RACES response with a minimum of 3 paragraphs stating your response and supporting your opinion.

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Source A: Thomas Bailey and David Kennedy, The American Pageant, 1994.

So in a broader sense the election (of Andrew Jackson in 1828) was a “revolution” comparable to that of 1800. It was a peaceful revolution, achieved by ballots instead of bullets... “Shall the people rule?” cried the Jacksonians. The answering roar seemed to say, “The people shall rule!”

“I never saw anything like it,” a puzzled Daniel Webster mused about Jackson’s inauguration. “Persons have come from five hundred miles to see General Jackson, and they really think the country is rescued from some dreadful danger.”

Jackson’s victory accelerated the transfer of national power from the country house to the farmhouse, from the East to the West, from the snobs to the mobs. If Jefferson had been the hero of the gentleman farmer, Jackson was the hero of the dirt farmer.

Source B: Letter from Andrew Jackson to Dr. Bronough, 1822

Dr. Bronough,

I had the pleasure on last evening to receive your letter of the 22nd. It affords me great pleasure to be informed of your flattering prospects of success on your election.

If the soldiers should be allowed to vote you are safe, the army will stick by you. Under existing circumstances it would be unfair to make a property qualification (for voting.) Residence alone, in fairness to all, should be required.

Andrew Jackson

Source C: Robert Remini, Andrew Jackson and The Course of American Empire, Vol. III, 1984.

Jackson’s view on office holding became even more democratic as he grew older. He proceeded from the idea that all offices – whether appointed or elected – must ultimately fall under the absolute control of the people. Appointed offices should be rotated, preferably every four years. Elected offices must be filled directly by the people. In keeping with this principle, Jackson tried to abolish the College of Electors (those who choose the president) by Constitutional amendment. In addition, he said, the President should serve a single terms of no more than six years.

Source D: Andrew Jackson’s Letter to Congress, 1829

The duties of all public officers are so plain and simple that men of intelligence may readily qualify themselves for their performance; and I believe that more is lost by the long continuance of men in office than is generally gained by their experience. In a county where offices are created solely for the benefit of the people, no one man has any more right to official station than another. Officers were not established to give support to particular men at the public expense. No wrong is done by removing them since neither appointment nor continuance in office is a right.

Source E: Remini, The Life of Andrew Jackson, 1988

When Van Buren learned that Jackson intended to appoint Samuel Swartwout to the office of collector he almost collapsed. He alerted Jackson immediately and warned him that Swartwout’s appointment would “not be in accordance with public sentiment, the interest of the country or the credit of the administration.” Unfortunately, Jackson refused to listen. He liked Swartwout because he had been an early supporter. In time Swartwout stole over \$1 million. Jackson was mortified.

When the scandal broke Jackson’s opponents double over with laughter. All the talk of rooting out corruption in government, they said, and here greatest theft in the history of the Republic occurred in Jackson’s own administration. This, they said, was the consequence of denying government service to an elite bureaucracy in to serve some idealistic democratic principle.

Source F: Andrew Jackson’s Message to Congress, 1829

By persuasion and force they (Native Americans) have been made to retire from river to river from mountain to mountain, until some of the tribes have become extinct. This fate is fast overcoming the Choctaw, the Cherokee and the Creek. Humanity and national honor demand that every effort should be made to avert so great a calamity.

I suggest we set apart an ample district west of the Mississippi to be guaranteed to the Indian tribes as long as they shall occupy it. This emigration should be voluntary but if they remain within the limits of the states they must be subject to their laws.

Source G: “Memorial of the Cherokee Nation,” 1830

We wish to remain on the land of our fathers. We have a perfect and original right to remain without interruption or interference.

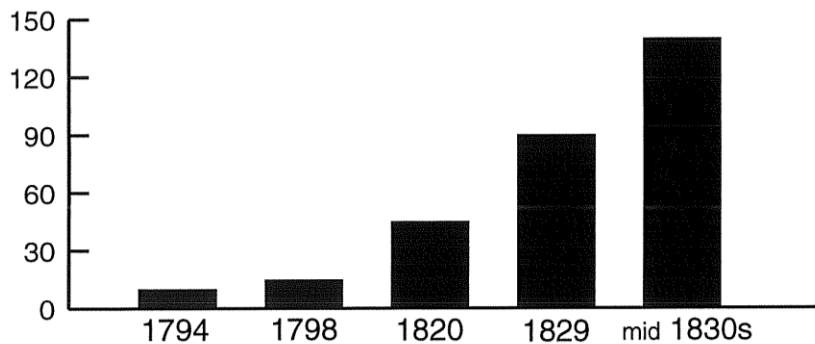
But if we are compelled to leave our country, we see nothing but ruin before us. The country west of the Arkansas territory is unknown to us. The far greater part of that region is badly supplied with food and water. All our neighbors would speak a language totally different from ours and practice different customs.

On the soil which contains the ashes of our beloved men we wish to live – on this soil we wish to die.

Source H: Slaveholdings of Andrew Jackson (Robert Remini, *Life of Andrew Jackson*, 1988)

Source: Robert Remini, *Life of Andrew Jackson*, 1988.

Slaveholdings of Andrew Jackson



Note: Andrew Jackson served as President from 1829–1837.

Source I: Excerpts of Letters written by Andrew Jackson to his wife Rachel regarding their Creek son, Lyncoya

Source: John Spencer Bassett (ed.), *Correspondence of Andrew Jackson*, 1931.

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Excerpts of letters written by Andrew Jackson to his wife Rachel regarding their Creek Indian son, Lyncoya, adopted after the battle of Tallashatchie, November 13, 1813

December 19, 1813

He is the only branch of his family left, and the others when offered to them to take care of would have nothing to do with him but wanted him to be killed.... Charity and Christianity says he ought to be taken care of and I send him to my little Andrew and I hope he will adopt him as one of our family.

December 28, 1823

Tell Lyncoya to read his book and be a good boy and obey you in all things.

Note: Lyncoya died at age 14 of tuberculosis in 1827 and was buried in the family cemetery.

Source J: Jackson's Call "To the Free Coloured Inhabitants of Louisiana" before the Battle of New Orleans, 1814

Source: H. Eaton, *A Treatise on the Intellectual Character and Civil and Political Condition of the Colored People of the United States*, 1837.

Jackson's Call "To the Free Coloured Inhabitants of Louisiana" before the Battle of New Orleans, September 21, 1814

Through a mistaken policy you have heretofore been deprived of a participation in the glorious struggle for national rights, in which our country is engaged. This shall no longer exist....

To every noblehearted free man of color, volunteering to serve to the present contest with Great Britain and no longer, there will be paid the same bounty in money and lands now received by the white soldiers of the United States, viz. \$124 in money, and 160 acres of land. The non-commissioned officers and privates will also be entitled to the same monthly pay and daily rations and clothes furnished to any American soldier.

On enrolling yourselves in companies, the major general commanding will select officers for your government, from your fellow white citizens. Your non-commissioned officers will be appointed from among yourselves.

Due regard will be paid to the feelings of freemen and soldiers. You will not, by being associated with white men in the same corps, be exposed to improper comparisons or unjust sarcasm. As a distinct, independent battalion or regiment, pursuing the path of glory, you will, undivided, receive the applause and gratitude of your countrymen.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ PERIOD: _____

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Circle One Yes / No	Brief Summary	
Rate 1-5		

SOURCE B: Letter from Andrew Jackson to Dr. Bronough, 1822		
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SOURCE C: Robert Remini, Andrew Jackson and The Course of American Empire, Vol. III, 1984		
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SOURCE D: Andrew Jackson's Letter to Congress, 1829		
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