Jacksonian Politics
Republican Victory of 1800

Grievances mounting against Federalist policies:
-- taxation to support an army
-- Alien and Sedition Acts
-- lingering fears of “monarchism”
-- hostilities aroused by Hamilton’s programs
-- the suppression of the Whiskey Rebellion

*Marbry v. Madison:*
-- the Judiciary Act of 1801
-- midnight appointments
-- the first in which the Supreme Court declared a federal law unconstitutional
-- established that the courts would declare federal law invalid on the grounds that it violated provisions of the Constitution
National bank:
--national bank expired in 1811
--State-chartered banks mushroomed
--flooded the channels of commerce with money of uncertain value
--War of 1812 brought a sudden renewal of cheap British imports; gave impetus to a movement for the protection of infant industries
--self-interest of the manufacturers; reinforced by a patriotic desire for economic independence from Britain
--tariff became a sectional issue:
  --manufacturers, food growers, wool, sugar, and hemp growers favoring higher tariffs
  --planters favored lower duties
Andrew Jackson:
--campaign of 1828 Jackson held most of the advantages
  --military hero
  --a son of the West
  --planter and slaveholder
  --vagueness on the issue protected him from attack by various interest groups
  --benefited from a spirit of democracy
Manhood suffrage gaining ground:
--spread of suffrage brought a new type of politician to the fore:
  --the man who had special appeal to the masses
  --the man who became a vocal advocate for the people’s right to rule

Tariff:
--southern planters opposed to tariffs
--based on principle of free trade
--feared that American tariffs would cause other countries to retaliate with tariffs against southern cotton
--nullification doctrine
Bank controversy:
--bank had worked to the benefit of business
--supplied a stable currency by its policy of forcing state banks to keep a specie reserve (gold and silver) behind their notes
--acted as a credit stabilizer
--restricted speculative activities

Enemies:
--debtor groups (esp. Southerners and Westerners)
--states’-rights groups who questioned the bank’s constitutionality

Whigs (party that defeats Democrats in 1840):
--supported a strong central government
--Bank of the United States
--protective tariff
--internal improvements
Jackson vetoed recharter
--gave the deposits to the “pet banks”

Democrats became associated with:
--democratic rights of small farmer
--had appeal in South and West
--distaste for interference, whether from government or from economic monopolies such as the Bank of the United States
--favored expansion, Indian Removal and freedom to do as they pleased on the frontier