

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1751	1. Ohio Company engages in active British colonization of the Ohio Valley. Rivalry between Britain and France for control of the area increases.	2. Franklin publishes <i>Experiments and Observations on Electricity</i> describing electricity as a single fluid and using the terms positive and negative for the first time. 3. Calculus is introduced into the Harvard curriculum by John Winthrop, Jr.	
1752	1. French begin building forts across Pennsylvania and into Ohio to stop British invasion of their territory.		2. Franklin performs his famous kite experiment demonstrating that lightning is electricity. 3. Thomas Bond establishes the first general hospital in the colonies in Philadelphia. Pest-houses (contagious disease hospitals) had been started in Boston, Philadelphia, and Charleston, S. C.
1753	1. Governor of Virginia sends George Washington to demand French withdrawal from the Ohio Territory. French plan further advances.		2. The first theater in New York City is built by a theatrical repertory company headed by Lewis Hallam, an English immigrant. 3. Franklin is the first American to be awarded the Copley Medal by the Royal Society of London. He becomes a Fellow of the royal Society, an Associate of the Academie des Sciences (France), and receives honorary degrees from three American colleges.
1754	1. French build Fort Duquesne (Pittsburgh) at the forks of the Ohio River. French defeat Virginia militiamen led by Washington at Great Meadows (Fort Necessity)--the first battle of <b>the French and Indian War</b> (1755-1763). 2. <b>Albany Plan of Union.</b> The London Board of Trade holds a convention at Albany, N. Y. Delegates from 7 colonies meet with Iroquois chief to prepare defenses: Franklin proposes a Plan of Union where a "Grand Council" of colonies would oversee defense, Indian relations, and trade and would have taxing power, and where a royally appointed executive would have veto power. Both colonial assemblies and Parliament rejected the plan.		3. Franklin publishes, in the Pennsylvania Gazette, a cartoon calling for unity against the French. It is believed to be the first such cartoon in America ("Unite or Die")

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1755	1. French and Indians ambush and defeat colonial militiamen and British regulars under Gen. Edward Braddock, near Fort Duquesne. Braddock is mortally wounded; Washington takes command.		2. Maps of Virginia and the Middle British Colonies are printed.
1756	1. French under Gen. Montcalm capture Fort Oswego and restore control of Lake Ontario to France. 2. Seven Years' War begins in Europe. The war involves colonial rivalry between Britain and France and the struggle for power in Germany between Austria and Prussia	3. John Bartram proposes a geological survey of the colonies in hopes of discovering buried minerals.	4. Through stagecoach line is established between Philadelphia and New York.
1757	1. French under Montcalm capture Fort William Henry on Lake George from the British. Indian allies of the French massacre many British prisoners in the garrison.		2. Washington acquires Mount Vernon Plantation. 3. First street lights are used in Philadelphia: whale-oil lamps, designed by Franklin, are installed on a few streets.
1758	1. French under Montcalm repulse British attack on Fort Ticonderoga, N. Y. British capture Louisburg on Cape Breton Island, and Fort Frontenac on Lake Ontario. French burn and abandon Fort Duquesne, which the British rebuild and rename Fort Pitt.		2. A school for Blacks is established in Philadelphia by the Anglican missionary group. 3. First North American Indian reservation is established in New Jersey.
1759	1. British capture Fort Niagara. French abandon Fort Ticonderoga and Crown Point, N. Y., as British threaten siege. 2. Colonial troops destroy village of the Saint Francis Indians in southern Canada. 3. British under Gen. James Wolfe defeat the French under Gen. Montcalm at the Battle of the Plains of Abraham, near Quebec. Both generals are killed. Quebec surrenders to the British.	4. Colonial shipbuilders are producing nearly 400 vessels each year.	5. Peter Harrison designs the Touro Synagogue in Newport, R. I. It is the first synagogue in the U. S. 6. In Pennsylvania, religious opposition to the theater results in a penalty of 500 pounds for performing a play. 7. Thomas and Richard Penn establish the first recorded life insurance company, the Presbyterian Ministers Fund, in Pennsylvania.

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1760	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. British capture Montreal; French Governor of Canada surrenders the entire province to the British</li> <li>2. French surrender Detroit to the British.</li> <li>3. Cherokee Indians massacre the garrison at Fort Loudoun on the Tennessee River.</li> <li>4. Governors of frontier colonies are told not to honor land grants that have permitted trespass on Indian lands.</li> <li>5. George III becomes King of England.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Tobacco prices in England drop sharply forcing many colonists to begin planting corn and wheat instead.</li> <li>7. Jared Eliot, a Connecticut agriculturist, writes <i>Essays Upon Field Husbandry in New England</i>, modifying British farming techniques for use in America.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. <b>Population in the colonies is estimated at 1.6 million.</b></li> <li>9. New York requires that all physicians and surgeons pass a test and be licensed to practice medicine.</li> </ol>
1761	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. James Otis opposes British writs of assistance (search warrants), claiming they violate the natural rights of British colonials.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. George Washington begins experimenting with crop rotation, soil fertilization, and livestock management and breeding.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. One of the earliest known cookbooks, <i>The Complete Housewife</i>, is published in New York City.</li> <li>4. The first musical society in America, the St. Cecilia Society, is founded in Charleston, S. C.</li> </ol>
1762	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. By the Treaty of Fontainebleau, France secretly cedes the Louisiana Territory to Spain, thus keeping it from falling under British control</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Ethan Allen establishes an ironworks and blast furnace in Salisbury, Conn. This plant will produce many of the cannons used by colonists in the Revolutionary War.</li> </ol>	
1763	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Treaty of Paris</b> ends the French and Indian War. France cedes to Great Britain all its territories east of the Mississippi River, except the Island of Orleans. Spain gives up Florida to Britain for return of Cuba and the Philippines. France and Britain exchange and receive islands in the West Indies.</li> <li>2. <b>Pontiac's Rebellion.</b> Indian tribes attack forts and settlements, now held by the British in the Ohio-Great Lakes region. Indians destroy all forts except Forts Pitt and Detroit before making peace in 1766.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. The technology of printing is firmly established in all 13 colonies.</li> <li>7. Henry William Steigel, German manufacturer, establishes the American Flint Glass Manufactory in Mannheim, Pa.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. America's first medical society is formed in New London, Conn.</li> <li>9. Beginnings of the free Black tradition in New England is seen: there are 5214 Blacks in Massachusetts' population of 235,810. Most Blacks, however, work at menial jobs in shipyards and homes.</li> </ol>

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. <b>Proclamation of 1763.</b> To prevent escalation of the Indian fighting in the west, the British government draws a line down the Appalachian Mountains. Americans were forbidden to settle west of the line in Indian and former French areas. A new colony of Quebec was created west of the proclamation line. Two Indian superintendents were appointed: John Stuart, for tribes in the south, and Sir William Johnson, for the northern tribes.</li> <li>4. <b>Paxton Boys Revolt</b> in Pennsylvania over taxes and help in fighting the Indians.</li> <li>5. George Grenville becomes finance minister</li> </ol>		
1764	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. British Parliament enacts the <b>Sugar Act</b> to raise money in the colonies to pay the British war debt. The <b>Currency Act</b> prohibits the plantation colonies from issuing money (colonies of New England had been under such restriction since 1751). Colonials protest against the two acts.</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Smallpox epidemic sparks the opening of two inoculation hospitals in the Boston area.</li> </ol>
1765	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. British Parliament enacts the <b>Stamp Act</b>, requiring the purchase of tax stamps to be affixed to newspapers, pamphlets, documents, playing cards, licenses, dice, etc.</li> <li>2. <b>Quartering Act</b> requires the colonies to provide food and lodging for British soldiers.</li> <li>3. Virginia Assembly opposes Stamp Act (the Virginia Resolves). Sons of Liberty force British stamp agents to resign. <b>Stamp Act Congress</b> in New York City adopts Declaration of Rights and Grievances to be submitted to the King and Parliament. Colonial policy of nonimportation of British goods goes into effect.</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. John Dickinson, "Penman of the Revolution," criticizes the Stamp Act in <i>Late Regulations Respecting the Colonies Considered</i>.</li> <li>5. John Morgan establishes America's first medical school at the College of Philadelphia.</li> <li>6. Chocolate is first manufactured at Dorchester, Mass.</li> </ol>

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1766	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Stamp Act is repealed</b> after London merchants cite business failures caused by loss of American market for their goods.</li> <li>2. British Parliament enacts <b>Declaratory Act</b>, stating its right to make laws for the colonies.</li> <li>3. Mason-Dixon Line marks boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland.</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Stagecoach between New York City and Philadelphia advertises itself as a “flying-machine, a good stagewagon set on springs.” Trips take two days (in good weather).</li> </ol>
1767	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. New York Assembly is suspended for refusing to comply fully with the Quartering Act.</li> <li>2. <b>Townshend Acts</b> are passed, requiring the colonies to pay import duties on tea, glass, lead, oil, paper, and painters’ colors. Nonimportation policy is revived by the colonies</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. King’s College in New York opens America’s second medical school.</li> <li>4. Daniel Boone, starting from North Carolina, makes his first exploration west of the Appalachian Mountains. He travels along the present-day Kentucky-West Virginia border.</li> </ol>
1768	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Colonial assemblies urge opposition to Townshend Acts.</li> <li>2. Cherokee and Iroquois Indians negotiate treaties. Indian land in Virginia extends to the Ohio River. British control western New York and Pennsylvania.</li> <li>3. Colonists refuse to provide quarters to British troops in Boston.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Bodo Otto, German physician, produces cottonseed oil in Bethlehem, Pa.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Medical School at Philadelphia College graduates its first physicians.</li> <li>6. First Methodist Church is established in New York City.</li> </ol>
1769	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. British governor dissolves Virginia Assembly for its resolutions against the British taxes and other policies.</li> <li>2. Colonial seaports draw up nonimportation agreements against the British</li> </ol>		
1770	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. British soldiers kill several colonists in Boston. Colonial resentment over the Townshend and Quartering Acts caused the incident, now known as <b>the Boston Massacre</b> (March 5).</li> <li>2. British Parliament repeals the Townshend Acts, but retains the tax on tea. Colonists end their embargo on British goods.</li> <li>3. Frederick North (Lord North) becomes British Prime Minister.</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. <b>Population in the colonies is estimated at 2.2 million.</b></li> <li>5. Benjamin Banneker builds a wooden clock that keeps accurate time for more than 50 years.</li> <li>6. Paul Revere publishes the engraving “the Bloody Massacre.” It is actually a copy of an earlier rendition by Peter Pelham, another important engraver of the period.</li> </ol>

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1771	1. British troops suppress uprising of back-country farmers in North Carolina ( <b>Regulators</b> ), who protest discriminatory laws, excessive taxes, and under-representation in the colonial legislature.		2. <i>Poems on Various Subjects</i> by Phillis Wheatley, a Black poet from Boston, is published in London.
1772	1. Governors and judges in Massachusetts are to be paid by the Crown, making them independent of the Assembly's financial control 2. Rhode Islanders attack and burn the British revenue cutter <i>Gaspee</i> in Narragansett Bay.	3. John Hobday invents the threshing machine and is awarded a gold medal by the Virginia Society for Promoting Useful Knowledge.	4. Charles Willson Peale, the most important painter of the Revolutionary period, completes a life-sized portrait of George Washington.
1773	1. Parliament passes <b>the Tea Act</b> to save British East Indian Company from bankruptcy and to reassert its right to tax the colonies. Colonial anger leads to <b>the Boston Tea Party</b> (December 16), in which men dressed as Indians dump British tea shipments into the Boston harbor.	2. Oliver Evans proposes steam-powered "horseless carriage."	3. An early mental hospital, the Public Hospital for Persons of Insane and Disordered Minds, opens in Williamsburg, Va. 4. First large-scale street lighting begins in Boston: 310 street lamps are installed and kept lighted evenings from October to May.
1774	1. British Parliament passes measures ( <b>Intolerable Acts</b> ) to punish the Massachusetts colonists for the Boston Tea Party. Boston port is closed until payment is made for the tea destroyed. Colonists are forced to quarter British soldiers and are deprived of many chartered rights. 2. <b>First Continental Congress</b> meets in Philadelphia (September 5) with delegates from all of the colonies except Georgia. Petitions of grievances are sent to the king.		3. Thomas Paine arrives in America and becomes the editor of <i>Pennsylvania Magazine</i> . 4. Thomas Jefferson writes his first important work, <i>A Summary View of the Rights of British America</i> , in which he asserts that the British have no right to rule or legislate for the colonies. 5. Ann Lee arrives from England with a group of followers called the United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Coming (Shakers). She establishes a community at New Lebanon, N. Y. 6. <i>Royal American Magazine</i> , the first to use illustrations regularly, is published. Paul Revere contributes engravings attacking the British oppression of the colonies.

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1775	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Patrick Henry delivers speech against tyrannical British rule, closing with "Give me liberty or give me death."</li> <li>2. Paul Revere alerts colonists that British soldiers are on the way to Concord to destroy arms. Minutemen fight British at <b>Lexington and Concord</b> (April 19), beginning the American Revolutionary War.</li> <li>3. Green Mountain Boys under Colonel Ethan Allen capture Fort Ticonderoga from the British.</li> <li>4. <b>Second Continental Congress</b> meets in Philadelphia (May 10) and appoints Washington Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army (June 15).</li> <li>5. British defeat colonial forces at the <b>Battle of Bunker Hill</b> (June 17).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. David Bushnell invents a one-man, hand-operated submarine, the "American Turtle."</li> <li>7. Colonies are supplying nearly 15% of the world's iron.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. Postal system is established by the Second continental Congress, and Franklin is appointed Postmaster General.</li> <li>9. "Yankee Doodle" becomes popular as a rallying song with which to taunt the British.</li> <li>10. First abolition society, the Society for the Relief of Free Negroes Unlawfully Held in Bondage, is organized in Philadelphia by Franklin and Benjamin Rush, physician and political leader.</li> </ol>
1776	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. British forces evacuate Boston.</li> <li>2. Congress adopts a resolution made by Richard Henry Lee (June 7) advocating independence. Congress then adopts <b>the Declaration of Independence</b>, drafted by Thomas Jefferson</li> <li>3. General William Howe leads British troops in the successful Battle of Long Island, captures New York City, and defeats the Continental Army at White Plains, N. Y. Washington retreats; he defeats Hessians (German soldiers hired by the British) at the Battle of Trenton, N. J. (December 26).</li> <li>4. British hang, without trial, Nathan Hale as a spy.</li> <li>5. British defeat small colonial fleet under Benedict Arnold on Lake Champlain.</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Thomas Paine's <i>Common Sense</i> is published and sells more than 100,000 copies in 3 months. It urges the end of the union with England.</li> <li>7. Philip Freneau, "Poet of the American Revolution," writes biting satires against the British.</li> <li>8. David Bushnell unsuccessfully tries to sink a British warship by attaching time bombs to the hull.</li> </ol>

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1777	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Washington defeats the British at the Battle of Princeton</li> <li>2. British forces under General John Burgoyne seize Fort Ticonderoga, but fail to capture Albany. Revolutionary forces surround and defeat Burgoyne at <b>the Battle of Saratoga</b> (October 7), ending the British plan to split the colonies along the Hudson River. Burgoyne surrenders his entire army to General Gates (October 17).</li> <li>3. British forces under General Howe defeat Washington's forces at Brandywine and Germantown, Pa. British control and occupy Philadelphia (September 27). Washington sets up winter quarters at Valley Forge, Pa.</li> <li>4. Congress adopts and sends to the states for ratification <b>the Articles of Confederation</b> and Perpetual Union.</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Congress specifies the design of the U. S. flag: "thirteen stripes alternate red and white...thirteen stars of white on a blue field."</li> <li>6. The New Testament of the bible is published in English for the first time in America.</li> <li>7. Washington orders his soldiers to be inoculated against smallpox. California's oldest building still in existence, the chapel of the San Juan Capistrano mission, is built.</li> </ol>
1778	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Congress ratifies treaty of alliance with France and rejects British peace offer. British evacuate Philadelphia, fearing blockade by French fleet.</li> <li>2. Baron Friedrich von Steuben and Marquis de Lafayette help Washington train Continental Army.</li> <li>3. Washington defeats British at the Battle of Monmouth, N. J. British capture Savannah, Ga.</li> <li>4. British Tories and Indians massacre inhabitants of Wyoming Valley, Pa., and Cherry Valley, N. Y.</li> </ol>		

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1779	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Virginians under George Rogers Clark complete their conquest of the Old Northwest, capturing Vincennes, Ind.</li> <li>2. General Anthony Wayne defeats the British at Stony Point, N. Y.</li> <li>3. <i>Bonhomme Richard</i>, commanded by John Paul Jones, wins naval victory against British frigate <i>Serapis</i> off the east coast of England.</li> <li>4. French and colonial land-sea forces fail to recapture Savannah, Ga.</li> <li>5. Spain enters the war against Britain.</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Under Thomas Jefferson, William and Mary College creates schools of medicine, law, and modern languages. The system allowing students to choose courses is introduced.</li> <li>7. John Murray establishes the First Universalist Congregation at Gloucester, Mass.</li> </ol>
1780	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. British capture Charleston and overrun South Carolina.</li> <li>2. Benedict Arnold's plot to surrender West Point to the British is discovered through the capture of a British spy. Arnold flees and joins the British, with whom he campaigns.</li> <li>3. British win the Battle of Camden, S. C. Colonial frontiersmen win the Battle of King's Mountain, S. C.</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. The American Academy of Arts and Sciences is organized in Boston.</li> <li>5. Philadelphia Humane Society is established to teach first aid (reviving drowning victims). Franklin proposes mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.</li> <li>6. <b>U. S. population is estimated at 2.7 million.</b></li> </ol>
1781	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Colonials win the Battle of Cowpens, S. c., but lose at Guilford Court House, N. C. British suffer heavy losses.</li> <li>2. French fleet defeats British naval force at Hampton Roads and blockades the Chesapeake Bay. Revolutionary troops surround the British at Yorktown, Va. General Charles Cornwallis surrenders to Washington (October 19), ending hostilities of the American Revolution.</li> <li>3. Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union are ratified.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Congress charters Bank of North America.</li> <li>5. Jeremiah Wilkinson produces cold-cut iron nails from iron plate.</li> </ol>	

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1782	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and John Jay negotiate peace treaty with British in Paris.</li> <li>2. British troops evacuate Savannah, Ga., and Charleston, S. C.</li> <li>3. Holland recognizes U. S. independence.</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. J. Hector St. John de Crevecoeur publishes <i>Letters From An American Farmer</i>, a series of 12 essays about his extensive travels in North America.</li> <li>5. Robert Aitken, printer, publishes the first complete English-language Bible in America.</li> <li>6. Harvard Medical School opens.</li> <li>7. Great seal of the United States is adopted.</li> <li>8. Use of the scarlet letter for adulterers in New England is discontinued</li> </ol>
1783	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Treaty of Paris</b> between Britain the U. S. ends American Revolution; Britain recognizes U. S. independence.</li> <li>2. British evacuate New York City.</li> <li>3. Continental Army is disbanded; Washington resigns as Commander-in-Chief.</li> <li>4. U. S. independence is recognized by Sweden, Denmark, Spain, and Russia</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. The first daily newspaper in the U. S., the <i>Pennsylvania Evening Post</i>, begins publication.</li> <li>6. Abel Buell makes first map of the United States.</li> <li>7. Josiah Flagg, America's first native-born dentist, opens practice in Boston.</li> <li>8. Noah Webster published <i>The American Spelling Book</i>. The work helps standardize spelling of American English.</li> <li>9. <b>Population of the U. S. is estimated at 2.4 million.</b> Decrease is due mainly to war deaths and the departure of Loyalists during the Revolutionary War.</li> <li>10. It takes Thomas Jefferson five days to travel by public transportation from Philadelphia to Baltimore, Md., a distance of about 90 miles.</li> </ol>
1784	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Congress adopts Jefferson's plan for governing western lands.</li> <li>2. North Carolina cedes its western lands to the U. S. The state of Franklin (present-day east Tennessee) exists until 1888, when settlers accept renewed jurisdiction of North Carolina.</li> <li>3. Congress, with no power of taxation under the Articles of Confederation is unable to raise needed revenue.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Oliver Evans establishes an automatic production line in a flour mill near Philadelphia.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Jefferson published <i>Notes On Virginia</i>.</li> <li>6. Franklin invents bifocal eyeglasses.</li> <li>7. The ship <i>Empress of China</i> sails to Canton, China. This trade route enables American commerce to recover from the British blockade of the Revolutionary War. Salem, Mass., becomes the center in New England for the China trade.</li> </ol>

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1785	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. U. S. and Spain argue over navigation rights on the Mississippi River and the boundaries of Florida (returned to Spain by Britain in 1783).</li> <li>2. U. S. and Prussia sign treat of commerce and friendship.</li> <li>3. Thomas Jefferson becomes Minister to France; John Adams to Great Britain.</li> <li>4. Congress enacts a land ordinance that provides that a section of each township in the Western Reserve (northeast Ohio) be set aside for the support of public schools.</li> <li>5. Mt. Vernon conference.</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. First American edition of <i>Mother Goose Rhymes</i> is published by Isaiah Thomas.</li> <li>7. John Greenwood, George Washington's dentist, begins using porcelain for false teeth.</li> <li>8. Regular stagecoach routs linking New York City, Boston, and Philadelphia begin operation.</li> </ol>
1786	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Britain tells U. S. it will not evacuate Great Lakes region until U. S. debts to Britain are paid.</li> <li>2. Barbary pirates raid U. S. ships in the Mediterranean Sea.</li> <li>3. Debt-ridden farmers in western Massachusetts, led by Daniel Shays, revolt against the state government, protesting high taxes, shortage of money, and insistent creditors. <b>Shay's Rebellion</b> is crushed (1787).</li> <li>4. <b>Annapolis Convention.</b> Representatives of 5 states meet at Annapolis, Md., in September. Invitations are sent to all of the states to send delegates to meet in Philadelphia in May the following year to discuss amending the Articles of confederation.</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. First Ice cream is made commercially in New York City.</li> <li>6. A "golf club" is established at Charleston, S. C.</li> <li>7. Physician Benjamin Rush suggests that some illnesses may be psychosomatic.</li> </ol>
1787	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Congress enacts <b>Northwest Ordinance</b>, providing for government for the Northwest Territory east of the Mississippi River and north of the Ohio. Territory is to be divided into three to five states when population is large enough.</li> <li>2. Congress calls for Constitutional convention to meet in Philadelphia on May 5. Delegates draft and sign the Constitution of the United States (September 17), which is sent to the states for ratification. Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey ratify it.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. John Fitch launches first American steamboat on the Delaware River.</li> <li>4. First American cotton mill opens in Beverly, Mass.</li> <li>5. John Rumsey invents a "jet-propelled" steamboat which shoots a stream of water through the stern (rear).</li> </ol>	

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1788	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Georgia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, South Carolina, and New Hampshire ratify the Constitution, thereby achieving the necessary nine-state acceptance to put it into effect.</li> <li>2. Virginia and New York, the two most populous states, ratify the Constitution after heated debate.</li> <li>3. Rhode Island and North Carolina refuse to ratify the Constitution.</li> <li>4. Bill of Rights is recommended by anti-Federalists.</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <i>The Federalist Papers</i>, written by James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay are published.</li> <li>6. Maryland and Virginia give land on the Potomac River to Congress as the site for a federal capital.</li> </ol>
1789	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Supporters of ratification of the Constitution form <b>the Federalist Party</b>. George Washington and John Adams (both Federalists) are chosen President and Vice President, respectively.</li> <li>2. Federal Judiciary Act creates Supreme Court, 13 district courts, and three circuit courts. John Jay becomes first chief Justice.</li> <li>3. Congress creates Departments of State, War, and Treasury and adopts the first ten amendments to the Constitution (<b>the Bill of Rights</b>) and sends them to the states for ratification.</li> <li>4. North Carolina ratifies the Constitution (Rhode Island ratifies it in 1790).</li> <li>5. New York City becomes the first capital of the U. S.</li> </ol>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. William Hill Brown writes <i>the Power of Sympathy</i>, often considered the first American novel. It deals with such topics as incest, desertion, and suicide.</li> <li>7. Christopher Colles publishes the first American road map.</li> <li>8. Edward Holyoke, physician, publishes life expectancy table showing that Americans live longer than Europeans.</li> <li>9. Thanksgiving Day is celebrated as a national holiday for the first time.</li> <li>10. First organized temperance group is formed by 200 farmers in Connecticut, who pledge not to drink alcoholic beverages during farming season.</li> <li>11. Political buttons first appear.</li> </ol>
1790	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Congress adopts financial programs of Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton. Federal government assumes national debt; Bank of the United States is proposed; revenue is raised by import tariffs and excise taxes.</li> <li>2. Seat of government moves from New York City to Philadelphia, which becomes the new capital.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Noah Webster is instrumental in gaining passage of the Copyright Act.</li> <li>4. Samuel Slater builds the first American steam-powered cotton-processing machines in Rhode Island, an event that marks the beginning of the industrial Revolution in America.</li> <li>5. Congress rejects a proposal by Thomas Jefferson, Secretary of State, that the U. S. adopt a decimal system of measurement (an early metric system).</li> <li>6. First American patent is awarded to Samuel Hopkins for his process of manufacturing potash.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. John Greenwood invents foot-powered dental drill.</li> <li>8. <b>First national census sets U. S. population at 4 million</b>; approximately 25% in New England, 25% in the Middle States, and 50% in the South. The largest city is Philadelphia with 42,000 inhabitants, followed in order by New York, Boston, Charleston, and Baltimore.</li> </ol>

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1791	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indians armed by the British attack settlements in the Northwest Territory. Indians defeat U. S. forces near the Wabash River in Ohio.</li> <li>Vermont becomes 14<sup>th</sup> state, ending 14 years as an independent republic.</li> <li>States ratify the Bill of Rights, which becomes part of the U. S. Constitution.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First important turnpike is opened, a 620 mile road between Philadelphia and Lancaster, Pa. It is the first macadam road.</li> <li>Congress passes the first internal revenue law. Fourteen revenue districts are set up, and a tax of 20 to 30 cents a gallon is put on distilled spirits.</li> <li>John Rumsey receives patents for his improved steam boiler.</li> <li>First successful American sugar refinery is opened in new Orleans by Antonio Mendez</li> <li>Anthracite coal is discovered in Pennsylvania.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Franklin's <i>Autobiography</i> is published in Paris.</li> <li>Pierre-Charles L'Enfant, engineer, completes the design of Washington, D. C.</li> </ol>
1792	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Republican Party (later Democratic-Republican) is formed to oppose the Federalists. Republicans led by Jefferson feel Federalists' policies favor urban financial and commercial groups and are harmful to the farmers. Republicans, who are pro-French, oppose a strong centralized government favored by the Federalists, who are pro-British.</li> <li>Congress passes a national conscription act to require "each and every free able-bodied white male citizen of the republic" to serve in the U. S. Militia.</li> <li>Kentucky becomes 15<sup>th</sup> state.</li> <li>Edmond Genet, minister of the French government, tries to goad the U. S. government into a pro-French position.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A mint is established in Philadelphia.</li> <li>New York Stock Exchange is organized.</li> </ol>	
1793	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Washington declares U. S. neutrality in British-French war. Washington and Adams are re-elected president and Vice President, respectively.</li> <li>Congress passes the Fugitive Slave Act, making it illegal to aid or to prevent the arrest of runaway slaves.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work begins on the Middlesex Canal in Mass. (Completed in 1803.)</li> <li>Work begins on the Santee Canal in South Carolina. (Completed in 1800.)</li> <li>Eli Whitney invents the cotton gin. ("Gin" is short for engine.)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Irish-American architect James Hoban designs the White House.</li> <li>George Washington lays the cornerstone of the U. S. Capitol building.</li> <li>Eli Whitney's cotton gin greatly increases cotton production and revives the dying slave economy of the south.</li> </ol>

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1794	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Neutrality Act forbids U. S. citizens serving in the military forces of foreign countries and forbids the giving of supplies to foreign warships in U. S. ports.</li> <li>2. Militia puts down <b>Whiskey Rebellion</b> in western Pennsylvania. Farmers protest the excise tax places on liquor in 1791.</li> <li>3. U. S. Army under General Wayne defeats the Indians at Fallen Timbers. Indian resistance in the Northwest Territory is broken.</li> <li>4. U. S. and Britain conclude <b>Jay's Treaty</b>. British promise to evacuate Great Lakes posts, but British interference with neutral U. S. ships continues.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. David Wilkinson invents the sliding rest lathe for making delicate pieces of machinery.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Postal rates are usually paid by the person receiving the mail: 6¢ up to 30 miles, 15¢ up to 200 miles, and 25¢ over 400 miles.</li> <li>7. Use of powder on men's hair goes out of fashion after more than 100 years. Hair is still worn in a braid, tied with black ribbon.</li> </ol>
1795	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Naturalization Act makes five-year residence a requirement for citizenship. Members of the nobility entering the U. S. must give up titles.</li> <li>2. General Wayne signs <b>Treaty of Greenville</b> with the chiefs of 12 Indian tribes. Indians cede lands in the Northwest Territory to white settlers.</li> <li>3. Treaty of San Lorenzo (or <b>Pinckney's Treaty</b>) between Spain and the U. S. establishes Florida boundary and gives U. S. right of navigation on the Mississippi River and the "right of deposit" at New Orleans.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Robert Fulton patents the first power-shovel for digging canals.</li> <li>5. One of the earliest unions, the Federal Society of Journeymen Cordwainers (shoemakers), is organized in Philadelphia.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Artist Gilbert Stuart executes famous portraits of Washington. The engraving of one of them is now on the \$1 bill.</li> </ol>
1796	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tennessee becomes 16<sup>th</sup> state.</li> <li>2. Washington's "Farewell Address" warns against U. S. involvement in foreign affairs. He refuses the Presidency for a third term.</li> <li>3. John Adams (Federalist) is elected President; Thomas Jefferson (Democratic-Republican) is elected Vice President.</li> <li>4. Congress authorizes the construction of Zane's Trace, a road from Wheeling (now in West Virginia) to Limestone (now Maysville), Ky. It becomes one of the main routes traveled by west-bound settlers.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. America's first suspension bridge is built across Jacob's Creek in Westmoreland, Pa., by James Finley.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. The first complete works of Shakespeare are published in the U. S.</li> <li>7. Travelers along the Philadelphia-Baltimore roads complain of chasms 6 to 10 feet deep along the way, sometimes causing vehicles to overturn. It often takes a stagecoach 5 days to make the trip.</li> </ol>

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1797	1. <b>XYZ Affair.</b> France, believing Jay's treaty shows U. S. bias toward Britain, interferes with U. S. shipping. Three agents of French Foreign minister Charles Maurice de Talleyrand try to extort money from U. S. commissioners in Paris. The U. S. ministers were Gerry, Pinckney, and Marshall, who indignantly refused to bribe the French government.	2. Charles Newbold patents America's first cast iron plow amid reports that the iron would poison the soil and increase the weeds.	
1798	1. Congress repeals all treaties with France and orders navy to capture French armed ships. 2. Federalist majority in Congress amends Naturalization Act to require a residence period of 14 years. <b>Alien and Sedition Acts</b> permit the arrest and deportation of any "dangerous" alien and restrict political opposition. 3. <b>Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions</b> , framed by James Madison and Thomas Jefferson respectively, declare the Alien and Sedition Acts unconstitutional and declare that states may "nullify" acts of Congress (states' rights).	4. Eli Whitney invents a milling machine to produce muskets with standard and interchangeable parts. He is later hailed as the "Father of Mass Production." 5. Robert Fulton invents the Nautilus, a hand-operated, four-man submarine.	
1799	1. Settlement of the Mississippi Territory, created by Congress in 1798, is hampered by hostile Indians and by Spanish control of the Gulf ports. 2. President Adams avoids war with France by reopening negotiations; pro-war group of Federalists, led by Hamilton, bitterly attacks Adams' friendly policy toward France.	3. Alexander Hamilton describes the state of American industry in <i>Report on the Subject of Manufactures</i>	4. First recorded use of the word 'scab' comes in the strike of shoemakers in Philadelphia. The term of abuse refers to workers hired to replace strikers. 5. A 14 year-old boy graduates from Rhode Island College. Intellectual ability among children is not uncommon during colonial times. Infants of 3 are sometimes taught to read Latin as soon as they are taught English. Timothy Dwight, President of Yale College, was able to read the Bible at age 4.

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1800	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Seat of government moves from Philadelphia to Washington, D. C., which becomes the new capital.</li> <li>2. Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr (Democratic-Republicans) run for President against John Adams and Charles Pinckney (Federalists). Because candidates for President and Vice President are not separately nominated, Jefferson and Burr end in a tie with 73 votes each in the electoral college. The election was resolved in the House of representatives early the following year after more than 30 votes were taken.</li> <li>3. Congress enacts a law dividing the Northwest Territory into two territories, Indiana and Ohio.</li> <li>4. By secret treaty (the Treaty of San Idlefonso), Spain cedes the Louisiana Territory to France.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Benjamin Waterhouse gives America's first smallpox vaccination to his son.</li> <li>6. Fireboats are used in New York Harbor.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. The Library of Congress is founded.</li> <li>8. Rembrandt Peale paints a portrait of Thomas Jefferson.</li> <li>9. <b>Second national census shows a population of 5.3 million, including more than 800,000 slaves.</b></li> <li>10. William young of Philadelphia is the first shoemaker in America to make different shoes for the right and left feet.</li> <li>11. 4-tined forks come into common use in American homes at this time, replacing 2- or 3-tined forks.</li> <li>12. John Chapman ("Johnny Appleseed") visits pioneer settlements in the Ohio Valley, distributing religious material and apple seeds.</li> </ol>