## networks

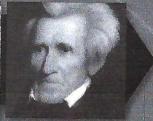
There's More Online!

- BIOGRAPHY
  Andrew Jackson
- GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

  Democrats and National

  Republicans
- MAP
  - The Election of 1824
  - The Election of 1828
- VIDEO





Lesson 1

# **Jacksonian Democracy**

ESSENTIAL QUESTION What are the characteristics of a leader?

## IT MATTERS BECAUSE

During the Jackson Era, the American democracy expanded and our modern political system began to take shape.

## **New Parties Emerge**

GUIDING QUESTION What new ways of campaigning appeared during the elections of 1824 and 1828?

From 1816 to 1824, the United States had only one major political party. This was the Democratic Republican Party. The party was far from united. In 1824, four Democratic Republican candidates competed for the presidency. Party leaders chose William H. Crawford, a former senator from Georgia, to be their candidate. Three other candidates were **favorite sons**—that is, they received backing from their home states rather than the national party. Their views reflected the interests of their regions.

Two favorite sons, Andrew Jackson and Henry Clay, were from the West. Clay, of Kentucky, was Speaker of the House of Representatives. Jackson, of Tennessee, was a hero of the War of 1812. Raised in poverty, he claimed to speak for Americans who had been left out of politics. The third favorite son, John Quincy Adams of Massachusetts, was the son of former president John Adams. He was popular with merchants of the Northeast.

## The House Chooses the President

In the election, Jackson received a **plurality** (pluh•RA•luh• tee) of the popular vote—the largest share. No candidate received a **majority**, or more than half, of the electoral votes.



### **Taking Notes: Comparing**

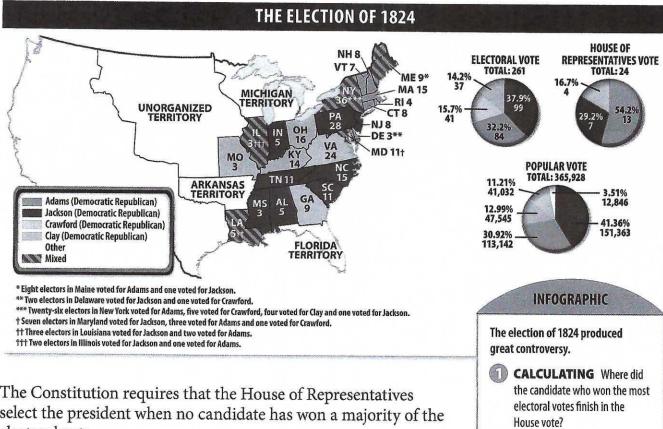
As you read, use a diagram like this to compare political parties, their candidates, and their supporters.

Party Candidate Views Supporters

#### **Content Vocabulary**

· plurality

- favorite son mudslinging nominating
  - · bureaucracy convention
- majority
   spoils system



The Constitution requires that the House of Representatives select the president when no candidate has won a majority of the electoral vote.

As the House prepared to vote, Clay met with Adams. Clay agreed to use his influence as Speaker to defeat Jackson. With Clay's help, the House chose Adams for president. Adams quickly named Clay to be secretary of state. In the past this office had been the stepping-stone to the presidency. Jackson's followers accused the two men of making a "corrupt bargain" and stealing the election.

### Adams as President

Adams and Clay denied any wrongdoing. No one ever uncovered any evidence of a bargain. Still, the charge cast a shadow over Adams's presidency.

In his first message to Congress, Adams announced his plans. In addition to improving roads and waterways, he wanted to build a national university and support scientific research.

Adams's proposals upset his opponents. They wanted a more limited role for the federal government. It would be wrong, they believed, for government to spend money on such projects. Congress finally approved funds for improving rivers, harbors, and roads, but this was far less than Adams wanted.

**favorite son** a candidate for national office who has support mostly from his home state

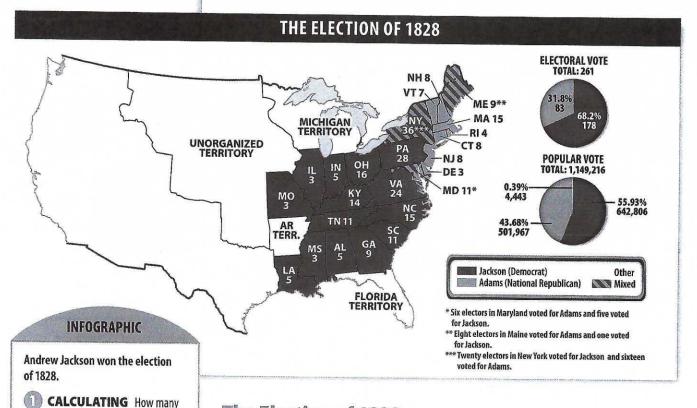
**plurality** the largest number of something, but less than a majority majority greater than half of a total number of something

(2) CRITICAL THINKING

basis might Jackson have

**Drawing Conclusions** On what

expected to win the presidency?



### The Election of 1828

By 1828, the Democratic Republican Party had split. Jackson's supporters called themselves Democrats. The National Republicans supported Adams. Most Democrats favored states' rights and distrusted strong central government. The National Republicans wanted a strong central government. They supported measures such as building roads and a national bank to **facilitate** economic growth.

During the campaign, both sides resorted to **mudslinging**, or attempts to ruin their opponent's reputation with insults. The candidates also used slogans, buttons, and rallies. Such practices became a regular part of American political life.

In the election, Jackson received most of the votes cast in the frontier states. He also received many votes in the South, where his support for states' rights was popular. John C. Calhoun of South Carolina, who had been Adams's vice president, switched parties to run with Jackson. Calhoun also supported states' rights. Jackson won the election easily. Shortly after the election, Jackson's supporters officially formed the Democratic Party.

PROGRESS CHECK

Making Connections What practices of the 1828 election are still used today?

Reading HELPDESK

more electoral votes did Jackson get than he needed to win

the election?

this election?

(2) CRITICAL THINKING

**Comparing** How did having

in 1828 affect the results of

only two presidential candidates

**mudslinging** a method in election campaigns that uses gossip and lies to make an opponent look bad

**bureaucracy** a system of government in which specialized tasks are carried out by appointed officials rather than by elected ones Academic Vocabulary

**facilitate** to help make happen **participate** to take part in