The American Pageant Chapter 15 Reading Guide

**Vocabulary**

*The Age of Reason*

Deism

Unitarians

Second Great Awakening

Burned-Over District

Mormons

Lyceum

American Temperance Society

Maine Law of 1851

Woman’s Rights Convention at Seneca Falls

New Harmony

Brook Farm

Oneida Community

Shakers

Hudson River school

Minstrel shows

Transcendentalism

“The American Scholar”

**People to Know**

Peter Cartwright

Charles Grandison Finney

Joseph Smith

Brigham Young

Horace Mann

Dorothea Dix

Neal S. Dow

Lucretia Mott

Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Susan B. Anthony

Lucy Stone

Amelia Bloomer

Robert Owen

John J. Audubon

Stephen C. Foster

James Fenimore Cooper

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Henry David Thoreau

Walt Whitman

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Louisa May Alcott

Emily Dickinson

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Herman Melville

George Bancroft

William H. Prescott

Francis Parkman

**Reading Questions**

1. How did deism differ in its views from traditional religion?

2. Explain the key changes that occurred in American religion due to the Second Great Awakening.

3. How did the issue of slavery impact American religions?

4. For what reasons did Americans persecute the members of the Mormon Church?

5. Following the murder of Joseph Smith, who led the Mormons, and what did the members of the church do?

6. How were American attitudes toward education changing in the first half of the 19th century?

7. How did figures like Horace Mann and Noah Webster change American education?

8. How were women’s opportunities for higher education increasing in the 1820s and 1830s?

9. What role did Dorothea Dix play in reform movements in American society? Why, in general, did women play such an important role in the social reforms of this era?

10. What tactics did people in the temperance (What is temperance?) movement use in the first half of the 1800s? What gains did they make?

11. Why were gender differences so strongly emphasized in 19th Century America?

12. What is meant by the “cult of domesticity?”

13. What did each of the following women do to push for women’s rights during the 19th century?

- Elizabeth Cady Stanton

- Susan B. Anthony

- Elizabeth Blackwell

14. What was the significance of the Seneca Falls Convention?

15. Describe each of the following “utopian communities.”

- New Harmony, Indiana

- Brook Farm, Massachusetts

- Oneida Community

- Shakers

16. How is American art developing in the 19th century? (Specifically, look at the different painters and the Hudson River School.)

17. Why did American literature take off in the first part of the 19th century?

18. In the section called “The Blossoming of a National Literature”, be sure to know the major works of each of the authors mentioned.

19. Describe the main ideas of the transcendentalists.

20. Explain the significance and identify the major works of each of the following authors.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

- Henry David Thoreau

- Walt Whitman

21. In the section entitled, Glowing Literary Lights, know each of the major authors/poets mentioned, and discuss their major emphasis and any major works.

22. In the section called, Literary Individualists and Dissenters, explain how each of the following authors changed American literature and identify major works:

- Edgar Allan Poe

- Nathaniel Hawthorne

- Herman Melville

23. Identify the subject matter of the following American historians of the early 19th century:

- George Bancroft

- William H. Prescott

- Francis Parkman