**Articles of Impeachment – Andrew Jackson Debate**

Did Andrew Jackson abuse his power as President? Did he violate the basic tenants of the Constitution? Should Andrew Jackson be removed from the office of President? These are the questions before the House of Representatives in 1830 (you).

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| **Step #1:** | The class will be divided into SIX groups (one for each of the three impeachment articles). One group per article will represent House Judiciary Committee members who will attempt to persuade the rest of the House to indict President Andrew Jackson (on that impeachment article, the "PRO" side to each indictment).  One group will represent Jackson's supporters in the House who will argue against an impeachment indictment on that article (the "CON" side of each indictment). |
| **Step #2:** | **ALL students will read these primary/secondary source documents as background for the "trial:"**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | bullet | [First Inaugural Address (March 4, 1829)](http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/index.asp?document=65) | | bullet | [Second Inaugural Address (March 4, 1833)](http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/index.asp?document=66) | |
| **Step #3:** | **Each group will then research their particular impeachment article topic by starting with the web links below:** |
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|  | **"Indictment" 1:  *President Jackson has violated the separation of powers in his actions to destroy the Bank of the United States.***   |  |  | | --- | --- | | bullet | [*"Andrew Jackson and the Bank War" - Tony D'Urso (essay). From Revolution to Reconstruction*](http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa/E/bankwar/bankwarxx.htm) | | bullet | [Henry Clay's Speech on Jackson's Bank Veto - 1832](http://facweb.furman.edu/~benson/docs/clay.htm) | | bullet | [Jackson's Bank Veto Message - 1832](http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa/P/aj7/writings/veto.htm) | |  |  | |  |  | |
|  | **"Indictment" 2:  *President Jackson violated states rights in his dealings with South Carolina in the nullification crisis.***   |  |  | | --- | --- | | bullet | [Veto of the Maysville Road Bill - 1830](http://pinzler.com/ushistory/vetoofmaysupp.html) | |  |  | |  |  | | bullet | [Jackson's Proclamation Regarding Nullification - 1832](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/19th_century/jack01.asp) | | bullet | [Force Bill - 1833](http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/index.asp?document=844) | | bullet | [Letter from Jackson to Van Buren Concerning Nullification - 1833](http://www.wadsworth.com/history_d/special_features/ext/am_hist/ap/chapter10/10.2.jackson.vanburen.html) | |
|  | **"Indictment" 3:  *President Jackson violated laws, treaties, and court orders in his dealings with Native Americans.***   |  |  | | --- | --- | | bullet | [Andrew Jackson Speaks:  Indian Removal. The *eJournal* Website.](http://www.synaptic.bc.ca/ejournal/jackson.htm) | | bullet | [Cherokee Indian Removal Debate - 1830](http://scholarworks.umb.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1045&context=masters_theses)  (this is a very long document--just skim it) | | bullet | [Indian Removal Act - 1830](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/removal.htm) | | bullet | [*Cherokee Nation v The State of Georgia*- 1831](http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa/D/1801-1825/marshallcases/mar03.htm) | | bullet | [*Worcester v The State of Georgia* - 1832](https://www.law.cornell.edu/supremecourt/text/31/515) | |
|  | **Information for ALL Indictments Can be Found Here [These are just ADDITIONAL sites.  You do NOT have to read any or all of them, but some may add weight to your arguments.]:**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | bullet | [Jackson's First Annual Address to Congress - 1829](http://www.synaptic.bc.ca/ejournal/JacksonFirstAnnualMessage.htm) | | bullet | [Jackson's Second Annual Address to Congress - 1830](http://www.synaptic.bc.ca/ejournal/JacksonSecondAnnualMessage.htm) | | bullet | [Jackson's Third Annual Address to Congress - 1831](http://www.synaptic.bc.ca/ejournal/JacksonThirdAnnualMessage.htm) | | bullet | [Jackson's Fourth Annual Address to Congress - 1832](http://www.synaptic.bc.ca/ejournal/JacksonFourthAnnualMessage.htm) | | bullet | [Jackson's Fifth Annual Address to Congress - 1833](http://www.synaptic.bc.ca/ejournal/JacksonFifthAnnualMessage.htm) | | bullet | [Jackson's Sixth Annual Address to Congress - 1834](http://www.synaptic.bc.ca/ejournal/JacksonSixthAnnualMessage.htm) | | bullet | [Jackson's Seventh Annual Address to Congress - 1835](http://www.synaptic.bc.ca/ejournal/JacksonSeventhAnnualMessage.htm) | | bullet | [Jackson's Eighth Annual Address to Congress - 1836](http://www.synaptic.bc.ca/ejournal/JacksonEighthAnnualMessage.htm) | | bullet | [The Presidency of Andrew Jackson. *Digital History*.](http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smtid=2&psid=3544) |   You may use any other documents that you feel are pertinent to your position from my main web links page ([Topic 7 Web Links](http://www.historyteacher.net/AHAP/Weblinks/AHAP_Weblinks7.htm) – Provided by historyteacher.net) or from any other LEGITIMATE SOURCES that you may find on the web which will support your position in the "impeachment proceedings."  (\*\* Be sure to email the opposition side and let them know what "evidence" you will be using, and provide them with copies, if necessary \*\*). |
| **Step #4:** | **Each group member will be expected to participate/speak during the debate and fill ONE of the following roles for the trial/debate:**   * **Presenter 1:** Will deliver primary arguments to the HoR * **Presenter 2:** Will deliver primary arguments to the HoR * **Challenger:** Will ask questions and present challenges to the other side * **Responder 1:** Will respond to questions and challenges presented by the other side * **Responder 2:** Will respond to questions and challenges presented by the other side |
| **Step #5:** | **Outline Your Argument.** The group needs to develop a 3-4 page typed outline of their argument that should include:   * Structure of your argument   + Must have at least 3 main points to support your argument – INCLUDING DETAILS TO SUPPORT YOUR POINTS   + Your plan for responding to potential challenges from the other side – anticipate “holes” in your argument, what the other side might try to emphasize to counteract your argument   + Your plan for challenges to ask the other side * Quotes from appropriate primary sources * Citations for resources – in MLA format |
| **Step #6:** | **The Debate!**   * Each group will be given up to 4 MINUTES to make their presentation * Each group will be given up to 3 MINUTES for questioning by the other side |
| **Step #7:** | **Members of the House of Representatives:**   * Everyone is a member of the HoR when they are not participating in the debate topic. You will take notes on the arguments presented on Discussion Sheets. * You will be required to fill out ALL 6 boxes on the Discussion Sheets, *including your own topic.* That means you have to pay attention to what the other side is saying so you can fill out your topic when the debate is finished! *You must also fill in the Debate Notes section of the Discussion Sheet.* |
| **Step #8:** | **When all of the arguments, pro and con, have been made, the full "House of Representatives" (the entire class) will vote on each article of impeachment.**   * Remember – you are the House of Representatives. Andrew Jackson’s fate rests in your hands! * Once the HoR has evaluated Andrew Jackson’s effects on the United States – you will need to share your personal evaluation of Andrew Jackson. You will write a short reflection essay which you identify how you voted in the “impeachment proceedings” and *provide evidence from each of the three debates* to support your reasoning.   + Your evidence includes not just saying “Because he supported the Indian Removal Act.” Explain why that Act was such a problem!   + Honors: Essay should be 2-3 pages   + Academic: Essay should be 1-2 pages * These essays should be well-thought out, grammatically correct explanations of how you feel about Andrew Jackson and why! |
| **Step #9:** | **Thoughts and Reminders as you’re working on this project:**   * Choose who you work with wisely – you’re depending on each other to be here, contribute to the research and planning, and participate in the debate!   + Conversely – you don’t want to be the weak link! * Events that happen AFTER March 4, 1837 are OFF LIMITS. Jackson’s second term ends when Martin van Buren is inaugurated!   + You cannot refer to problems that may arise AFTER Jackson leaves office, such as: the Trail of Tears (1838), Panic of 1837 (and 1839), South Carolina’s future succession (1860). * We’ll be having the debate on Thursday, November 8 – be prepared! * Your group will need to turn in its Debate Outline the day of the debate. * You will turn in your **Discussion Sheets** and **Reflection Essay** **together** on Tuesday, November 13. |
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