The continued need for civil and government reform plagued President Grant’s second term in office and continued through to the administration of President Grover Cleveland. Presidents Harrison, Cleveland and McKinley all led our nation through a time of confusion as we continued to establish ourselves in world trade, develop our national resources, continue civil and government reform, and host the World’s Columbian Exhibition to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus’ arrival in the New World.

Key People and Events

- The 15th Amendment
- President Ulysses S. Grant
- Carpetbaggers
- Scalawags
- Ku-Klux-Klan
- The Force Acts
- Horace Greeley
- President Benjamin Harrison
- The McKinley Tariff
- The Sherman law
- The Chicago Exhibition
- The Dingley Tariff
- President Grover Cleveland
- President William McKinley

Vocabulary

Lesson 1: 
timidation
agitation

Lesson 2: 
none

Reading and Assignments

In this unit, students will:

- Complete two lessons in which they will learn about the Grant and Cleveland administrations and confusion in politics during that era, journaling and answering discussion questions as they read.
- Define vocabulary words.
- Complete biography notebook pages on President Grant and President Cleveland.
- In this week’s lesson two, instead of discussion questions, this unit will be focusing on note taking skills in a bullet point outline format. Directions are listed in each lesson.
• Explore the following website
  Creating and Using Outlines
• Complete literature assignments including using the “Editing Checklist” read over your rough draft and correct any errors found there.
• Complete Comma Rules Application Exercise.
• Visit www.ArtiosHCS.com for additional resources.

Leading Ideas

Honesty is a character quality to be desired.
The Lord detests differing weights, and dishonest scales do not please Him.
— Proverbs 20:23

The Bible provides the ethics upon which to judge people and nations.
— Exodus 20:1-17

God is sovereign over the affairs of men.
From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands.
— Acts 17:26

Scripture addresses the Christian’s Responsibility to Government.
Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore he who resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of him who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain; he is the servant of God to execute his wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be subject, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay all of them their dues, taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due.
— Romans 13:1-7
**Literature, Composition, and Grammar**

**Writing a Personal Essay**

*Topic for Units 5 - 9*

*Across Five Aprils*

*by Irene Hunt*

*Literature for Units 5 - 9*

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**Unit 8 – Assignments**

**Literature and Composition**

- Irene Hunt used letters and newspaper articles in order to show the action of her story. Choose one letter or article found in the story and write down who it came from, and what important plot points were conveyed in the letter. Why do you think Irene Hunt chose to show so much of the story through letters?
- Using the “Editing Checklist” read over your rough draft and correct any errors found there. Your final draft is due next week.
- Study for your vocabulary test.

**Grammar**

- Complete the Comma Rules Application Exercise on the Artios Home Companion.

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**Unit 8 – Assignment Background**

You’ve written your rough draft. That’s fantastic. Now, you need to go back through and look for ways to make your paper stronger. This is called the editing process. Editing your own work is an important skill to learn. When you read through your paper, look for any misspelled words, check to see that you have a three point thesis, topic sentences for each paragraph, the correct number of sentences in each paragraph, strong transitions, and a conclusion that ties everything together.
Lesson One

History Overview and Assignments

From Grant to Cleveland

The continued need for civil and government reform plagued President Grant’s second term in office and continued through to the administration of President Grover Cleveland.

Reading and Assignments

- Review the discussion questions and vocabulary, then read the article: *From Grant to Cleveland*, pages 5-10.
- Narrate about today’s reading using the appropriate notebook page. Be sure to answer the discussion questions and include key people, events, and dates within the narration.
- Define the vocabulary words in the context of the reading and put the word and its definition in the vocabulary section of your history notebook.
- Create biography notebook pages for President Grant and President Cleveland.
- Be sure to visit www.ArtiosHCS.com for additional resources.

Vocabulary

intimidation
agitation

Key People and Events

The 15th Amendment
President Ulysses S. Grant
Carpetbaggers

Scalawags
Ku-Klux-Klan
The Force Acts

Horace Greeley

Discussion Questions

1. How many states had been added to the Union since 1860 and 1869?
2. What were the *Alabama* Claims against England and how was this conflict settled?
3. Describe the start and the extent of damage of the Chicago Fire of 1871.
4. How did the United States come to be involved in the Cuban Rebellion of 1867?
5. Who was Horace Greeley?
6. What government scandals occurred during Grant’s second term as president?
7. Describe the state of Reconstruction in the South at this time.
8. Why did the Union finally withdraw Federal troops from the South?
9. What was the relationship between the “spoils system” and civil reform?
10. How did Chester Arthur come to be president?
11. What were biggest issues that President Cleveland faced during his administration?

Adapted from the book:

A Short History of the United States
by Edward Channing
From Grant to Cleveland, 1869-1889

The Fifteenth Amendment
In February, 1869, just before Grant’s inauguration, Congress proposed still another amendment, providing that neither the United States nor any state could abridge the rights of citizens of the United States on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude. The state legislatures hastened to accept this amendment, and it was declared in force in March, 1870.

End of Reconstruction
Only three states were still unreconstructed. These were Virginia, Texas, and Mississippi. In 1869 Congress added to the conditions on which they could be readmitted to the Union the acceptance of the Fifteenth Amendment. Early in 1870 they all complied with the conditions and were readmitted. The Union was now again complete. Since 1860 four states had been added to the Union. These were Kansas, West Virginia, Nevada, and Nebraska. There were now thirty-seven states in all.

The Southerners and the African Americans
The first result of the Congressional plan of Reconstruction was to give the control of the southern states to the freedmen and their white allies. Some of these white friends of the freedmen were men of character and ability, but most were adventurers who came from the North to make their fortunes. They were called the “carpetbaggers,” because they usually carried their luggage in their hands. The few southern whites who befriended the African Americans were called “scalawags” by their white neighbors. Secret societies sprang into being. The most famous was the Ku-Klux-Klan. The object of these societies was to terrorize the freedmen and their white friends and to prevent their voting. This led to the passage of the Enforcement Acts. These laws provided severe penalties for crimes of intimidation. They also provided that these cases should be tried in United States courts. Federal soldiers, stationed in the South, could be used to compel obedience to the law.

The Alabama Claims
During the Civil War vessels built in
British shipyards, or refitted and supplied with coal at British ports, had preyed upon American commerce. The most famous of these vessels was the Alabama. The claims for losses caused by these vessels which the United States presented to Great Britain were therefore called the “Alabama Claims.” There also were disputes with Great Britain over the fisheries and over the western end of the Oregon boundary. In 1871 the United States and Great Britain made an arrangement called the Treaty of Washington. By this treaty all these points of dispute were referred to arbitration. The Oregon boundary was decided in favor of the United States, but the fishery dispute was decided in favor of Great Britain. The “Alabama Claims” were settled by five arbitrators who sat at Geneva in Switzerland. They decided that Great Britain had not used “due diligence” to prevent the abuse of her ports by the Confederates. They condemned her to pay $15,500,000 in damages to the United States.

**The Chicago Fire, 1871**

One Sunday a fire started in or near a barn next to an alley. The traditional account of a cow kicking over a kerosene lamp in a barn has been widely disputed, so the cause is still unknown and may have been related to other fires that began that morning. In either case, a furious gale carried the burning sparks from one wooden building to another. The fire went on spreading all that night and the following day. Nearly $200,000,000 worth of property was destroyed. The homes of nearly one hundred thousand persons were burned down. But, in a surprisingly short time the burnt district was rebuilt, and Chicago grew more rapidly than ever before.

**Corruption in Politics**

New York City had no two hundred million dollar fire. But a “ring” of city officers stole more than $150,000,000 of the city’s money. Great corruption existed in other cities as well. Nor were the state governments free from bribery and thieving. Many officers in the national government were believed to be mixed up in schemes to defraud the people. The truth of the matter was that the Civil War had left behind it the habit of spending money freely. A desire to grow suddenly rich possessed the people. Men did not look closely to see where their money came from.

**Election of 1872**

This corruption in public service made many persons doubtful of the wisdom of reelecting President Grant. There was not the slightest doubt as to Grant’s personal honesty, but there were grave doubts as to his judgment in making appointments. Reconstruction, too, did not seem to be restoring peace and prosperity to the South. For these reasons many voters left
the Republican Party. They called themselves Liberal Republicans and nominated Horace Greeley for president. He had been one of the most outspoken opponents of slavery. The Democrats could find no better candidate, so they, too, nominated Greeley. But many Democrats could not bring themselves to vote for him. They left their party for the moment and nominated a third candidate. The result of all this confusion was the re-election of Grant. But the Democrats elected a majority of the House of Representatives.

prevent their departure. One of these vessels carrying aid to the Cubans was named the Virginius. The Spaniards captured her, carried her to Santiago, and killed forty-six of her crew. There came near being a war with Spain over this affair. But the Spaniards apologized and saluted the American flag. In 1877 President Grant made up his mind that the war had lasted long enough. He adopted a severe tone toward Spain. The Spanish government made terms with the rebels, and the rebellion came to an end.

**Scandals in Political Life**

In 1872 the House of Representatives made a searching inquiry into the charges of bribery in connection with the building of the Pacific railroads. Oakes Ames of Massachusetts was the head of a company called the Crédit Mobilier. This company had been formed to build the Union Pacific Railway. Fearing that Congress would pass laws that might hurt the enterprise, Ames gave shares of stock in the company to members of Congress. But nothing definite could be proved against any members, and the matter was dropped. Soon after the beginning of Grant’s second term, many evil things came to light. One of these was the “Whiskey Ring,” which defrauded the government of large sums of money with the aid of the government officials. Grant wished to have a thorough investigation and said, “Let no guilty man escape.” The worst scandal of all, perhaps, was that of W. W. Belknap, secretary of war, who was impeached for receiving kickback payments in return for a lucrative contract. But he escaped punishment by resigning.

**The Cuban Rebellion, 1867-77**

When the other Spanish-American colonies won their independence, Cuba remained true to Spain. But by 1867 the Cubans could no longer bear the hardships of Spanish rule. They rebelled and for ten years fought for freedom. The Spaniards burned whole villages because they thought the inhabitants favored the rebels. They even threatened to kill all Cuban men found away from their homes. This cruelty aroused the sympathy of the Americans. Expeditions sailed from the United States to help the Cubans, although the government did everything it could to
Anarchy in the South
In the meantime, Reconstruction was not working well in the South. This was especially true of Louisiana, Arkansas, and South Carolina. In Louisiana and Arkansas, there were two sets of governors and legislatures, and civil war on a small scale was going on. In South Carolina the carpetbaggers had gained control. They stole right and left. In other southern states there were continued outrages against the African Americans. President Grant was greatly troubled. “Let us have peace,” was his heartfelt wish. But he felt it necessary to keep Federal soldiers in the South, although he knew that public opinion in the North was turning against their employment. It was under these circumstances that the election of 1876 was held.

Election of 1876
The Republican candidate was Rutherford B. Hayes of Ohio. He was a gallant soldier of the Civil War and a man of the highest personal character. His Democratic opponent was Samuel J. Tilden of New York—a shrewd lawyer who had won distinction as governor of the Empire State. When the electoral returns were brought in, there appeared two sets of returns from each of three southern states, and the vote of Oregon was doubtful. The Senate was Republican, and the House was Democratic. As the two houses could not agree as to how these returns should be counted, they referred the whole matter to an electoral commission. This commission was made up of five senators, five representatives, and five justices of the Supreme Court. Eight of them were Republicans and seven were Democrats. They decided by eight to seven that Hayes was elected, and he was inaugurated president on March 4, 1877.

Withdrawal of the Soldiers from the South
The people of the North were weary of the ceaseless political agitation in the South. The old southern leaders had regained control of nearly all the southern states. They could not be turned out except by a new civil war, and the northern people were not willing to go to war again. The only other thing that could be done was to withdraw the Federal soldiers and let the southern people work out their own recovery as well as they could. President Hayes recalled the troops, and all the
southern states at once passed into the control of the Democrats.

**Strikes and Riots, 1877**

The extravagance and speculation of the Civil War, and the years following its close, ended in the great Panic of 1873. After the panic came the “hard times.” Production fell off. The demand for labor diminished. Wages were everywhere reduced. Strikes became frequent, and riots followed the strikes. At Pittsburgh, in western Pennsylvania, the rioters seized the railroad. They burned hundreds of railroad cars and locomotives. They destroyed the railroad buildings. At last the riot came to an end, but not until millions of dollars’ worth of property had been destroyed.

**Election of 1880**

At the beginning of his administration Hayes had declared that he would not be a candidate for reelection. Who should be the Republican standard bearer? Former President Grant’s friends proposed to nominate him for a third term. The politicians who advocated a third term for Grant were opposed to the candidacy of James G. Blaine. They were called the “Stalwart Republicans.” In the convention they voted steadily and solidly for Grant. Finally their opponents, with the cry of “Anything to beat Grant,” suddenly turned to an entirely new man, whose name had been little mentioned. This was James A. Garfield of Ohio. He had won distinction in the Civil War and had served with credit in Congress. For vice-president the Republicans nominated Chester A. Arthur, a New York banker. The Democrats, on their part, nominated one of the most brilliant and popular soldiers of the Army of the Potomac, General Winfield Scott Hancock. The campaign was very hotly contested. In the end Garfield won.

**Garfield murdered; Civil Service Reform**

President Garfield took the oath of office on March 4, 1881. On July 2 he was shot in the back by a disappointed office-seeker. Week after week he endured terrible agony. At length, on September 19, the martyred president died. Now at last the evils of the “Spoils System” were brought to the attention of the American people. Vice-President Arthur became president and entered heartily into projects of reform. A beginning was soon made. But it was found to be a very difficult thing to bring about any lasting reform. The Constitution gives the president the appointment of officers, subject to the confirmation of the Senate. No act of Congress can diminish the constitutional powers of the president except so far as he consents, and one president cannot bind succeeding presidents. Any scheme of reform also costs money, which must be voted annually by Congress. It follows, therefore, that the consent of every president and of both houses of every Congress is necessary to make the reform of the civil service permanent. Nevertheless the reform made steady progress until soon the greater part of the civil service was organized on the merit system.

**Election of 1884**

In 1884 the Republicans nominated James G. Blaine of Maine for president. He was a man of magnetic speaking ability and
had made many friends, but he also had made many enemies. Especially many Republican voters distrusted him. They felt that he had used his position for private gain, although nothing was proved against him. These Republicans were called “mugwumps.” They “bolted” from the nomination and supported the Democratic candidate, Grover Cleveland. As mayor of Buffalo, Cleveland had done very well. He had then been elected governor of New York by a very large majority. The campaign of 1884 was conducted on lines of personal abuse that recall the campaigns of 1800 and of 1828. Cleveland carried four large northern states and the “solid South,” and was elected.

**Cleveland’s Administration, 1885-89**

The great contest of Cleveland’s first term was a fierce struggle over the tariff. The government’s need of money during the Civil War had compelled Congress to raise large sums by means of internal revenue taxes. These taxes in turn had brought about a great increase in the tariff rates on goods imported from foreign countries. The internal revenue taxes had been almost entirely removed, but the war tariff substantially remained in force. In 1887 Cleveland laid the whole question before Congress. For a time it seemed probable that something would be done. But the opposition in Congress was very active and very strong. It fell out, therefore, that nothing important was done. The real significance of Cleveland’s first administration lay in the fact that the Southerners were once again admitted to a share in the government of the nation. It marked, therefore, the reunion of the American people.
Presidents Harrison, Cleveland and McKinley all led our nation through a time of confusion as we continued to establish ourselves in world trade, develop our national resources, continue civil and government reform, and host the World’s Columbian Exhibition to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus’ arrival in the New World.

**Key People and Events**

President Benjamin Harrison  
The McKinley Tariff  
The Sherman law  
The Chicago Exhibition  
The Dingley Tariff  
President Grover Cleveland  
President William McKinley

**Reading and Assignments**

- Review the Key People and Events list, then read the article: *Confusion in Politics*, pages 12-14.
- Instead of discussion questions, this unit will be focusing on note taking skills in a bullet point outline format. Directions are listed in each lesson.
- Explore the following website.
- Be sure to visit [www.ArtiosHCS.com](http://www.ArtiosHCS.com) for additional resources.
Confusion in Politics

Benjamin Harrison

Elected President, 1888

In 1888 the Democrats put forward Cleveland as their candidate for president. The Republicans nominated Benjamin Harrison of Indiana. Like Hayes and Garfield, he had won renown in the Civil War and was a man of the highest honor and of proven ability. The prominence of the old southern leaders in the Democratic administration, and the neglect of the business interests of the North, compelled many northern Republicans who had voted for Cleveland to return to the Republican Party. The result was the election of Harrison and of a Republican majority in the House of Representatives.

The McKinley Tariff, 1890

One of the questions most discussed in the campaign of 1888 was the reform of the tariff. There seem to have been two sets of tariff reformers. One set of reformers proposed to reform the tariff by doing away with as much of it as possible. The other set of reformers proposed to readjust the tariff duties so as to improve the protective system and make it more consistent. Led by William McKinley, the Republicans set to work to reform the tariff in this latter sense. This they did by generally raising the duties on protected goods. The McKinley Tariff Act also offered reciprocity to countries which would favor American goods. This offer was in effect to lower certain duties on goods imported from Argentina, for instance, if the Argentine government would admit certain American goods to Argentina on better terms than similar goods imported from other countries.

The Sherman Silver Purchase Act, 1890

During the Civil War gold and silver had disappeared from circulation. But after the close of the war, a gradual return was made to specie payments. In the colonial days the demand for silver, as compared with the demand for gold, outran the supply. The consequence was that silver constantly increased in value in comparison with gold. In the nineteenth century this shifted when the supply of silver greatly outstripped the demand, with the result that silver greatly declined in value as compared with gold. In 1871 the government decided to use silver for small coins only, and not to allow silver to be offered in payment of sums larger than five dollars. This was called the
“demonetization of silver.” In 1878 a small but earnest band of advocates of the free coinage of silver secured the passage of an act of Congress for the coinage of two million silver dollars each month. The silver in each one of these dollars was only worth in gold from ninety to sixty cents. In 1890, Senator John Sherman of Ohio brought in a bill to increase the coinage of these silver dollars which, by 1894, were worth only forty-nine cents on the dollar in gold.

**Election of 1892**

One result of this great increase in the silver coinage was to alarm businessmen throughout the country. Business constantly declined. Everyone reduced expenses as much as possible. Mill owners and railroad managers discharged their workers or reduced their wages. Harrison and Cleveland were again the Republican and Democratic candidates for the presidency. As is always the case, the party in power was held to be responsible for the hard times. Enough voters turned to Cleveland to elect him, and he was inaugurated president for the second time.

**Silver and the Tariff**

In the summer of 1893, there was a great scarcity of money, which brought about the Panic of 1893. Thousands of people withdrew all the money they could from the banks and locked it up in places of security. But Congress repealed the Sherman Silver Purchase Act and put an end to the compulsory purchase of silver and the coinage of silver dollars. This tended to restore confidence. The Democrats once more overhauled the tariff.

Under the lead of Representative Wilson of West Virginia they passed a tariff act which lowered some duties and placed many articles on the free list.

![The 1896 Broadway melodrama The War of Wealth was inspired by the Panic of 1893.](image)

**The World’s Columbian Exhibition, 1893**

The four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus occurred in October, 1892. Preparations were made for holding a great commemorative exhibition in Chicago. But it took so long to get everything ready that the exhibition was not held until the summer of 1893. Beautiful buildings were erected of cheap but satisfactory materials. They were designed with the greatest taste and were filled with splendid exhibits that showed the skill and resources of Americans, along with the products of foreign countries. Hundreds of thousands of persons from throughout the world visited the exhibition with pleasure and great profit.

**Election of 1896**

In 1896 the Republicans held their convention in St. Louis and nominated William McKinley of Ohio for president.
They declared in favor of the gold standard, unless some arrangement with other nations for a standard of gold and silver could be made. They also declared for protection to home industries. The Democrats held their convention in Chicago. The men who had stood by Cleveland found themselves in a helpless minority. William Jennings Bryan of Nebraska was nominated for president on a platform advocating the free coinage of silver and many changes in the laws in the direction of socialism. The Populists and the Silver Republicans also adopted Bryan as their candidate. Now, at last, the question of the gold standard or the silver standard was fairly before the voters. They responded by electing McKinley and a Republican House of Representatives.

The Dingley Tariff, 1897
The Republicans, once more in control of the government, set to work to reform the tariff in favor of high protection. Representative Dingley of Maine was chairman of the committee of the House that drew up the new bill, and the act as finally passed goes by his name. It raised the duties on some classes of goods and taxed many things that hitherto had come in free. Especially were duties increased on certain raw materials for manufactures, with a view to encourage the production of such materials in the United States. The reciprocity features of the McKinley tariff were also restored.