**Speeches, Literature & Entertainment**

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| **Era/Unit** | **Cultural Work & Author** | **Significance** |
| *Beginnings & Colonial Society (1492-1753)* | *The Destruction of the Indies* by Bartolomeo de las Casas  “City on a Hill” by John Winthrop  *The Wealth of Nations* by Adam Smith  “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God” by Jonathan Edwards  John Peter Zenger’s critique of NY politicians | Spanish monk criticized treatment of indigenous people (Caribbean)  Puritan society should be a model of Christian harmony & order (New England)  Principles of capitalism: laissez-faire, free trade, supply & demand, “invisible hand”  1st Great Awakening: “Old lights vs. new lights”… charismatic, evangelical Protestantism (New England)  Sedition/libel trial… Zenger was found not guilty… freedom of the press |
| Revolutionary Era (1754-1783) | Thomas Paine –*Common Sense* & *The American Crisis*  *Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*  Benjamin Franklin – *Poor Richard’s Almanac*  St. John de Crevecouer – Letters from an American Farmer | Urged support for the Revolution, appealed to the Enlightenment idea of the social contract  Lives of slaves; assimilation of Africans into “European-American” society  Forecasts for farmers, wordplay, sayings, “first civilized American”  Revolutionary war… agrarian democracy |
| Federalist Era (1783-1820) | Federalist Papers – Jay, Hamilton & Madison  Washington’s Farewell Address | Supported ratification of the constitution (stronger central govt)  Avoid alliances & political parties |
| Jacksonian Democracy & Age of Reform (1824-1850) | Hudson River School of Artists  George Catlin  Gilbert Stuart  Neoclassical architecture  Noah Webster  Edgar Allan Poe  Washington Irving  James Fenimore Cooper – Last of the Mohicans  Emerson – Self reliance  Henry David Thoreau – Civil Disobedience & Walden  Nathaniel Hawthorne – Scarlet Letter  Walt Whitman – Leaves of Grass  Herman Melville – Moby Dick, Billy Budd | Landscapes & nature  Native American portraits  Portraits of founding fathers  New spin on Greek and Roman styles (stability, power, democracy, republicanism)  Dictionary  Short stories, macabre, detective investigations  “First American literature”… patriotism… Knickerbocker School – NY culture  Destruction of Native American culture  Duh  Refusal to obey unjust laws, nonviolent resistance, independent self reliance, life of contemplation in nature  Sin & human weakness; New England Puritanism  Late Transcendentalist/romantic  Late Transcendentalist/obsession |
| Sectionalism & National Economy (1812-1840) | “Era of Good Feelings”  Poor white trash | Newspapers praised President Monroe  Beginnings of public educational system… literacy rate rising |
| Manifest Destiny & Antebellum Era (1840-1860) | Manifest Destiny – John L Sullivan  Henry D Thoreau – Civil Disobedience  John Gast – American Progress  Sojourner Truth – Ain’t I a Woman?, Harriet Beecher Stower – Uncle Tom’s Cabin, David Walker’s Appeal, Frederick Douglass – North Star, William Lloyd Garrison – The Liberator, Impending Crisis of the South – Hinton Helper  George Fitzhugh – Sociology of the South  “The Frontier Thesis” – Frederick Jackson Turner | White Americans have duty & right to conquer & civilize the west  Opposition to Mex War and expansion of slavery  White angel “Columbia” conquering the west  Abolitionism!!!  Slavery is good b/c it civilizes slaves & it’s better than “wage slavery” in industry  West is a land of opportunity; equality in west; west = individualism & toughness |
| Civil War & Reconstruction (1861-1877) | Red Badge of Courage – Stephen Crane  Thomas Nast political cartoons  Waving the Bloody Shirt | Civil War heroism  Supported Republican party; attacked Tammany Hall; cartoons revealed increasingly hostile attitude to blacks even in the north  Politicians urged people to “vote how you shot”… appealing to hatred of north/south |
| The Gilded Age (1877-1900) | Mark Twain – Gilded Age  Thomas Nast Cartoons  Acres of Diamonds – Russell Conwell  Charles Darwin – The Origin of Species  FW Taylor – Scientific Management  HW Grady – The New South  Ragtime music  Andrew Carnegie – The Gospel of Wealth  Victorian architecture  Thorstein Veblen – Conspicuous Consumption | Greed & political corruption in post-Civil War America  Freedom of the press & criticized political machines like Tammany Hall  It is possible for everyone to become rich  Natural selection… evolution… survival of the fittest… used to justify business competition & monopolies/trusts  Businesses became more efficient (assembly line, etc)… workers were treated like “cogs in a machine” (unskilled labor)  The South must industrialize and have harmonious race relations  Dance music in black communities… birth of jazz  Industrial leaders have an obligation to raise up society by donating their wealth to philanthropic organizations (universities, libraries, museums, etc.)  Wealthy to show off their wealth  Show off wealth |
| Rise and Fall of Populism & Decline of Indians (1877-1900) | Chief Joseph – “I Shall Fight No More Forever”  A Century of Dishonor – Helen Hunt Jackson  Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee – Dee Brown (1960s)  “Crime of 73”  “Cross of Gold” speech – William Jennings Bryan | Manifest Destiny had displaced Indians from their land  US government had broken its treaties with Native Americans  Expressed Native American perspective on theft of Indian land and destruction of Indian culture  Panic of 1873 – Congress embraced the gold standard rather than silver… farmers were angry  Supported coinage of silver to get farmers out of debt… but Bryan lost the election of 1896 to McKinley |
| The Progressive Movement (1890-1920) | Upton Sinclair – The Jungle  The History of the Standard Oil Company – Ida tarbell  Jacob Riis – How the Other Half Lives  The Ashcan School of Painters  The Souls of Black Folk – WEB DuBois | Muckraking – meatpacking industry… Pure Food & Drug Act/FDA  Muckraking – oil/Rockefeller… US government filed antitrust lawsuit… Standard Oil was broken apart  Muckraking – urban slums… Jane Addams - Hull House  Urban filth, slums, poverty, dull colors… realism  Black history/culture… “Talented Tenth” |
| Imperialism & WWI (1877-1918) | Josiah Strong – Our Country  Alfred Thayer Mahan – Influence of Sea Power upon History  Yellow Journalism – Hearst & Pulitzer  Fourteen Points speech – W Wilson | WASPs – White Anglo Saxon Protestant superiority  US should build strong navy with bases around the world  Sensational news stories that encouraged US to go to war with Spain in 1898  US should be leader in world affairs; League of Nations; economic cooperation; freedom of the seas; peace |
| Boom & Bust (1920-1941) | Lost Generation writers  F Scott Fitzgerald – The Great Gatsby, “Jazz Age”  Ernest Hemingway – Farewell to Arms, The Sun Also Rises  Radio revivalists  Fireside Chats  John Steinbeck – The Grapes of Wrath & Of Mice and Men  Harlem Renaissance | Fitzgerald, Hemingway, Eliot  Wealth & conspicuous consumption… sadness & loneliness  Anti-war (WWI), issues of masculinity and alienation  Billy Sunday, Aimee Semple McPherson – spread evangelical Christianity over the radio  FDR used radio effectively to communicate with American people  Suffering of poor people (esp. “Okie” farmers) during the Depression  Langston Hughes, Duke Ellington, James W Johnson… jazz, poetry, literature |
| World War II (1939-1945) | Quarantine Speech – FDR  Four Freedoms Speech –FDR | US will cut off trade with nations that violate international law  Speech, worship, from want, from fear… FDR is targeting Axis Powers |
| Cold War (1945-1990) | Declaration of Conscience speech – Margaret Chase Smith  Arthur Miller – The Crucible  Arthur Miller – Death of a Salesman  The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit  The Affluent Society  Rock & roll, British Invasion, Catcher in the Rye, Beatniks, Hippies, Woodstock Festival  The Feminine Mystique – Betty Friedan, Ms. Magazine – Gloria Steinem  Silent Spring – Rachel Carson  I Have a Dream – MLK  Black Power – Stokeley Carmichael, Ballot or the Bullet – Malcolm X | McCarthyism threatens – not strengthens – American freedoms  Allegory to McCarthyism… Salem Witch Trials  Criticism of materialism & business culture  Men were focused on job/ corporate loyalty at the expense of their families and values  The US is wealthy, but money is not spent for the benefit of all citizens… led to LBJ’s Great Society/War on Poverty  Youth culture/counterculture in the 1950s-60s… criticized materialism… politically active…. Drug culture…  Beginning of feminist movement  Beginning of environmental movement… targeted pesticides  1963 March on Washington… 1964 Civil Rights Act/1965 Voting Rights Act  Militant African American movement |
| The US Since Vietnam (1975-present) | Evil Empire speech – Ronald Reagan  New World Order/1000 Points of Light – GHW Bush  Axis of Evil speech – GW Bush | Reagan targeted USSR, ended Nixon’s policy of détente  Cold War is over, US can shape the world in a positive way  Iraq, Iran & North Korea are military and terrorist threats… helped pave the way for the 2003 invasion of Iraq |