



Modern Georgia

SS8H12 – The student will evaluate the importance of significant social, economic, and political developments in Georgia since 1970.

Lesson One (SS8H12a) – The student will *evaluate* the consequences of the end of the county unit system and reapportionment.

By 1970, Georgia was increasingly becoming one of the most progressive, modern states in the U.S.:

The End of the County Unit System = Equal Representation:

- The county unit system gave much greater political power to small, rural areas (farmers) than growing cities.
- Regardless of population, all counties received no more than 3 electoral votes for statewide elections.



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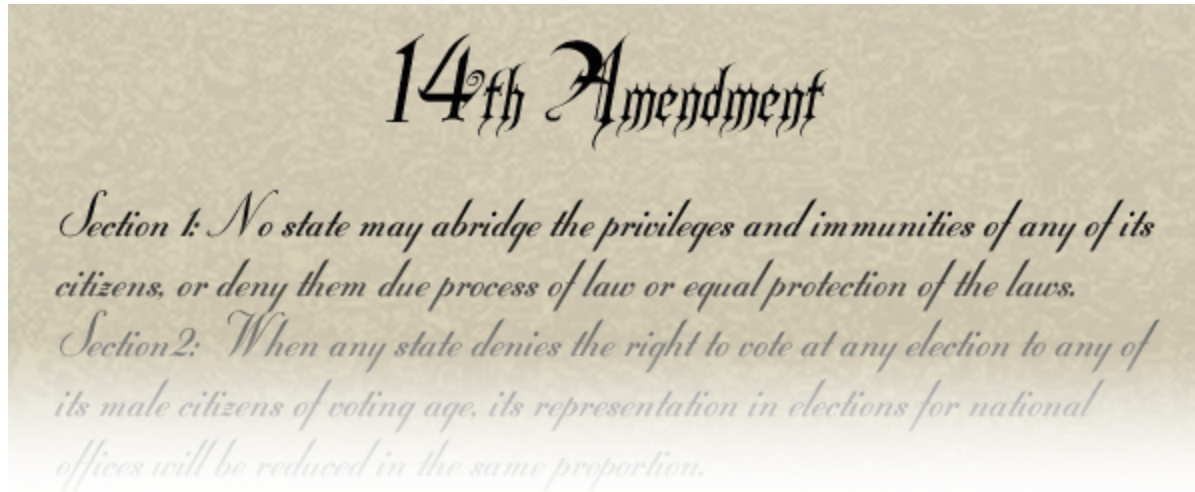


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The End of the County Unit System = Equal Representation:

- In 1962, the U.S. Supreme Court declared the county unit system to be a violation of “equal protection”.



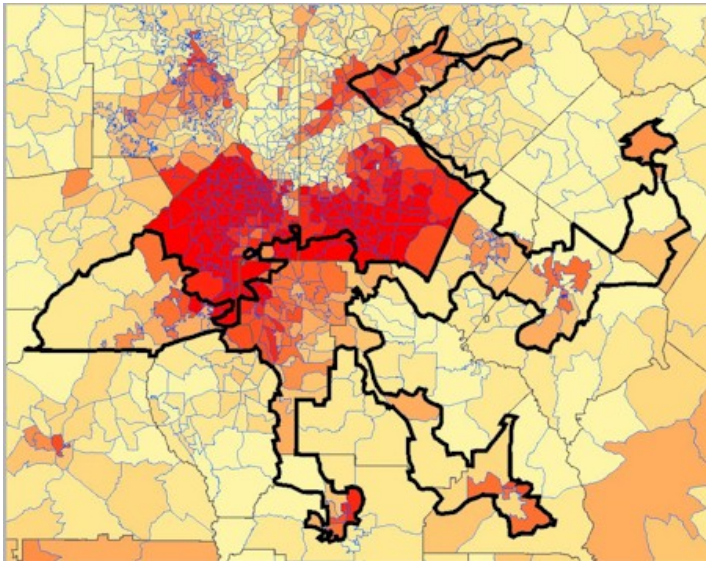
- According to the Supreme Court, political equality meant “one person, one vote.”

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Reapportionment = Equal Representation:

- Georgia's legislative districts (for representatives in the General Assembly) were drawn in irrational ways to ensure that largely white, rural areas kept power in the G.A.



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Reapportionment = Equal Representation:

- Federal courts determined that the 14th Amendment meant that Georgia needed to redraw/reapportion its districts to more accurately reflect its population.
- Reapportionment brought greater representation to African-Americans, women, and Republicans.



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Lesson Two (SS8H12b) – The student will *describe* the role of Jimmy Carter in Georgia as state senator, governor, president, and past president.

One Georgia leader was elected to the highest office in the United States:



James E. “Jimmy” Carter

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James E. “Jimmy” Carter – 39th President of the United States

- The first and *only* Georgian to be elected U.S. President
- Served in the United States Navy and managed his family’s peanut farm in the small town of Plains, GA



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- In 1962, Carter was elected to the General Assembly as a member of the GA State Senate.
- In 1970, Carter was elected Governor of Georgia.



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- As Governor of Georgia, Carter announced that the time for segregation had come to an end in Georgia.
 - He reorganized the state government, led reforms in education and criminal justice, and promoted civil rights.
- HE GAINED A NATIONAL REPUTATION AS ONE OF AMERICA’S BEST GOVERNORS.



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THE 1976 U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

By 1976, many Americans had lost trust in their government:

- a) The Vietnam War had been extremely unpopular.
- b) President Nixon resigned as President after his involvement in the Watergate scandal.
- c) In what many considered a corrupt bargain, the new President, Gerald R. Ford, made the unpopular decision to pardon Richard Nixon .

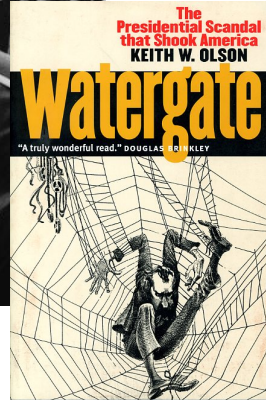
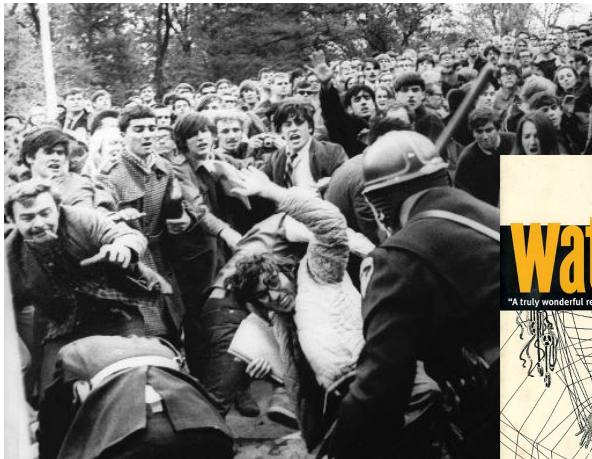
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American’s wanted a fresh voice, **AN OUTSIDER**, to lead the nation...



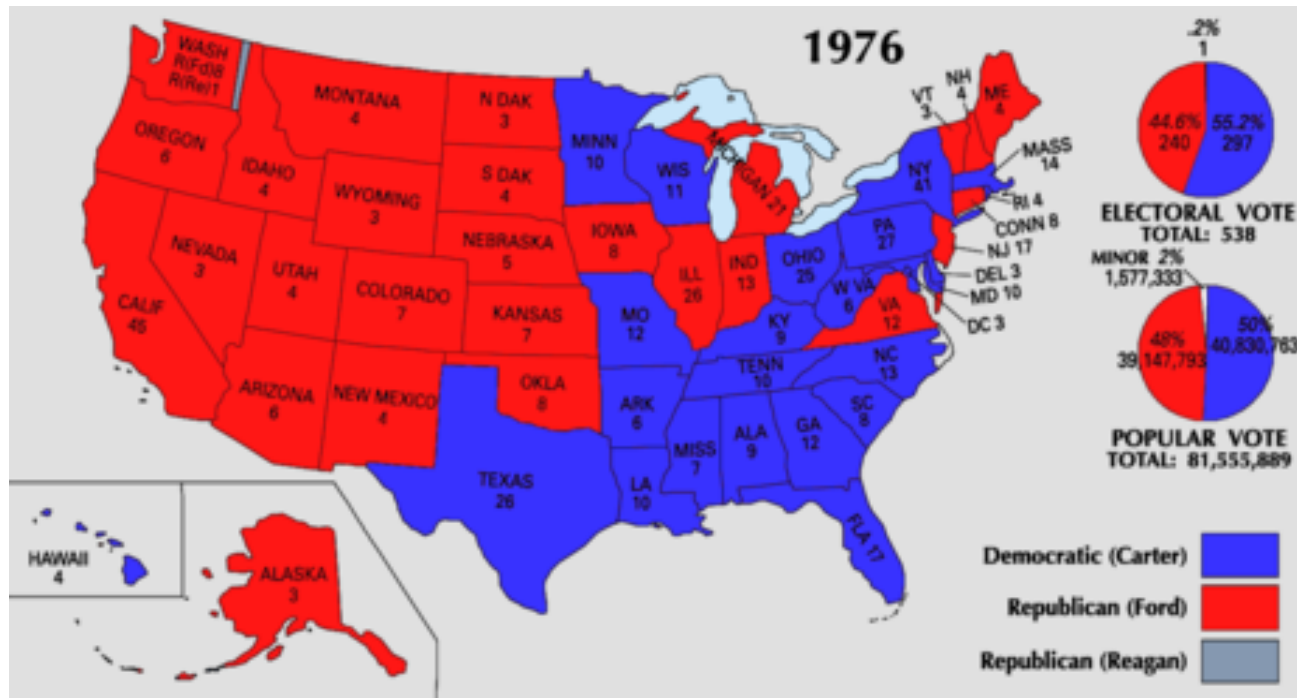
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THE 1976 U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Jimmy Carter was elected President of the United States!!!



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THE CARTER PRESIDENCY

As President, Carter made many notable achievements:

- He opened diplomatic relations with Communist China
- He made human rights a cornerstone of his foreign policy
- He negotiated the Camp David Accords, a peace agreement between Israel and Egypt

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Unfortunately, many considered his Presidency to be one of the worst in American history:



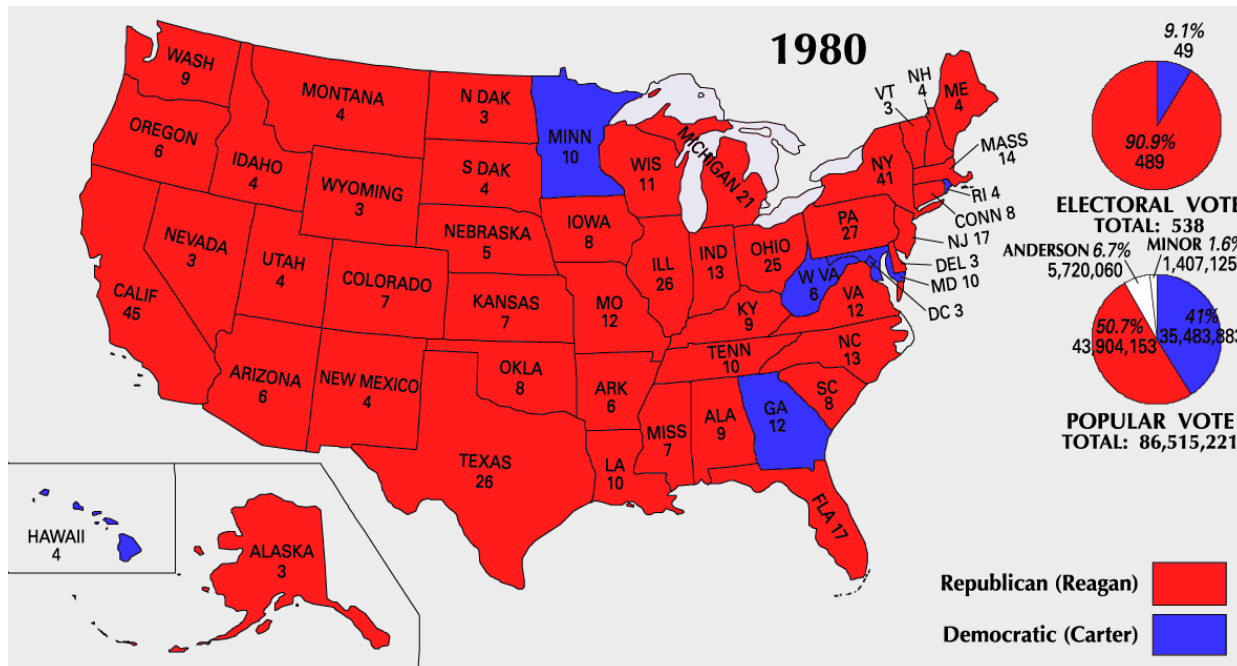
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In the Presidential Election of 1980, Carter was defeated by Ronald Reagan in a landslide:



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AFTER THE CARTER PRESIDENCY

Though he is considered one of the most *ineffective* Presidents, he has established one of the greatest post-Presidential legacies:

- He has been an active supporter of *Habitat for Humanity* to help the poverty-stricken in 3rd world nations like Haiti



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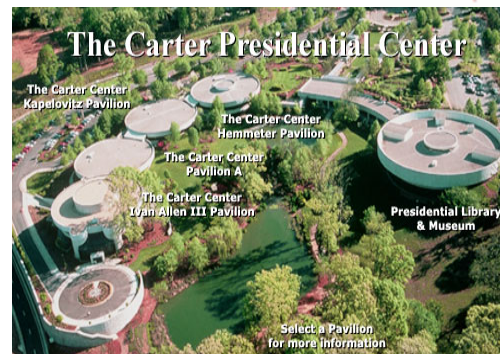
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AFTER THE CARTER PRESIDENCY

Though he is considered one of the most *ineffective* Presidents, he has established one of the greatest post-Presidential legacies:

- The Carter Center in Atlanta monitors elections and fights disease and starvation in 21 countries around the world.



Waging Peace. Fighting Disease.
Building Hope.

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AFTER THE CARTER PRESIDENCY

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- In 2002, Carter was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his 20 year legacy of promoting peace, human rights, and democracy worldwide.

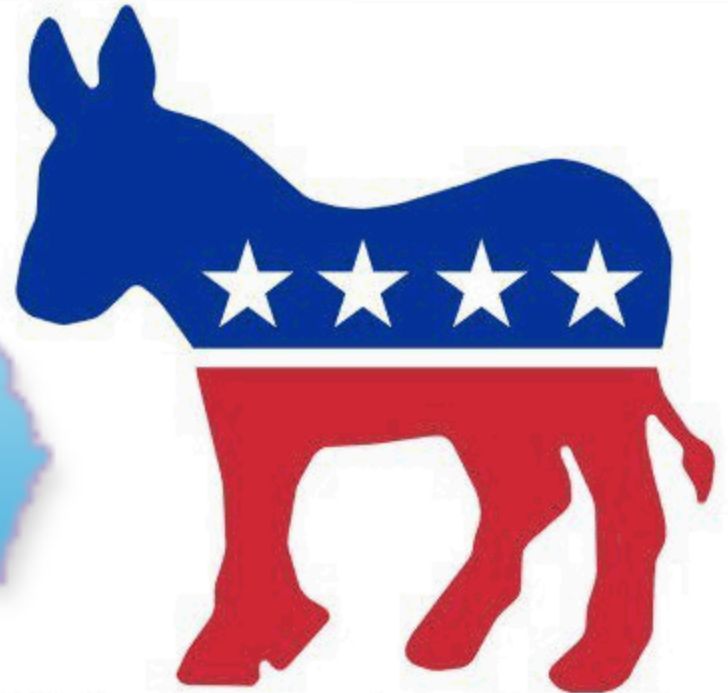
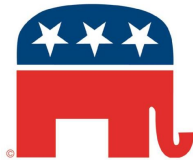


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Lesson Three (SS8H12c) – The student will *analyze* the impact of the rise of the two-party system in Georgia.

As Georgia grew and prospered, the Democrats began to lose their domination of state politics:

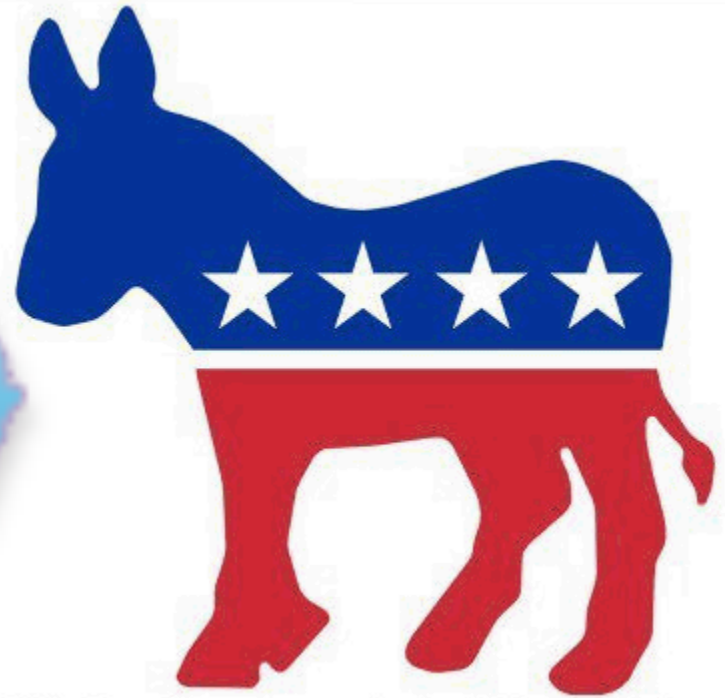
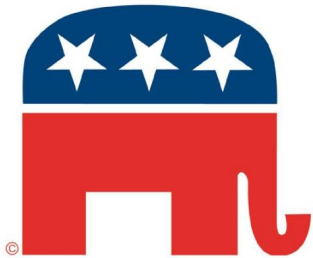
Democrats dominated Georgia's state government since Reconstruction



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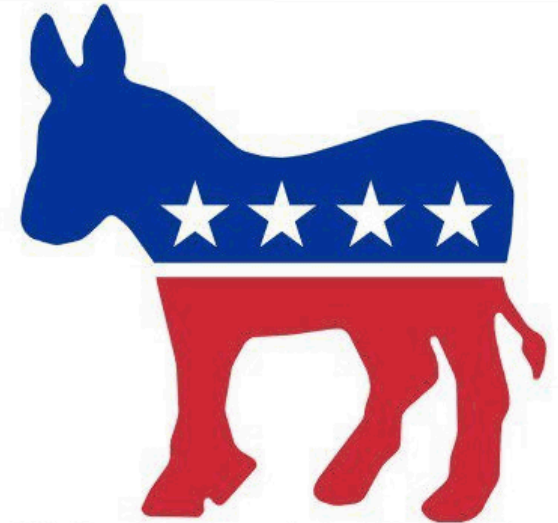
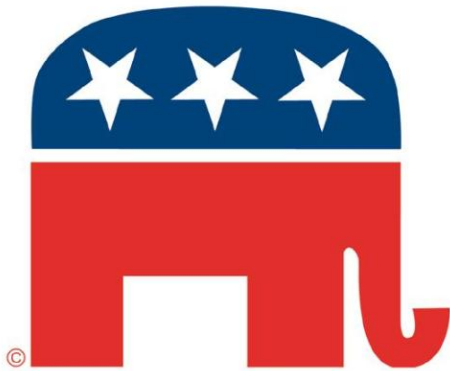
Many Democrats in Washington, D.C. (like John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson) supported integration. Most Georgia Democrats disagreed and began to look to the Republican Party as an alternative.



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In 1964, Georgia, for the first time, supported a Republican for President – Barry Goldwater – over the Civil Rights President, Lyndon B. Johnson. Georgia also elected its first Republican congressman since Reconstruction.



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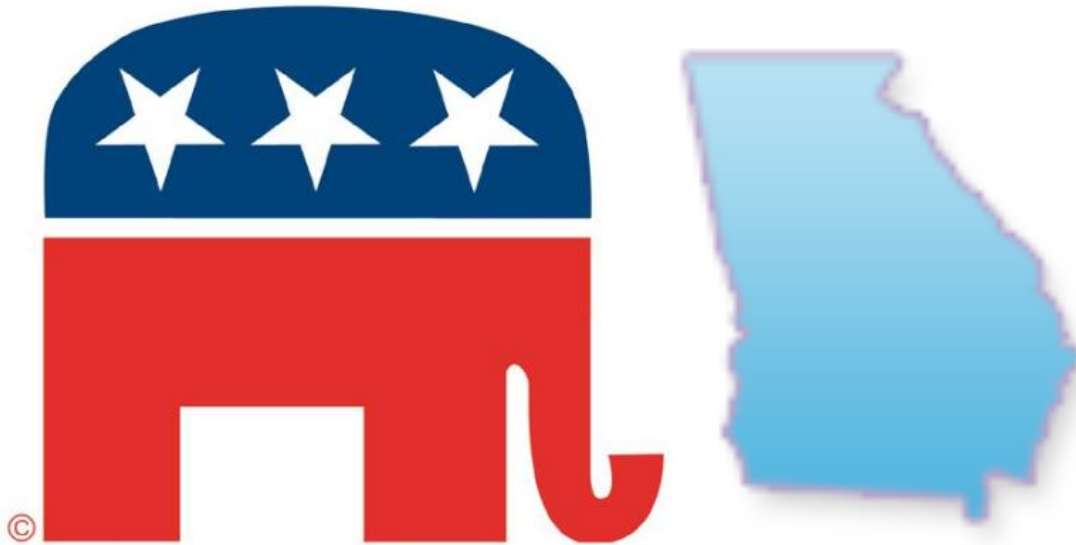
Since 1964, Georgia has supported a Democratic candidate for President only twice, in 1976 and 1980 (the years that native Georgian, Jimmy Carter, ran for office).



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In 2003, Sonny Perdue became the first Republican Governor of Georgia since 1868.



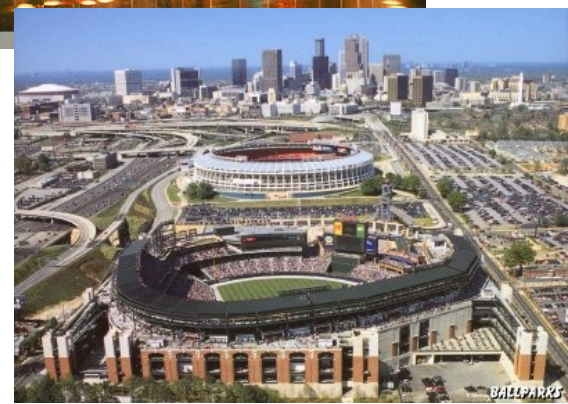
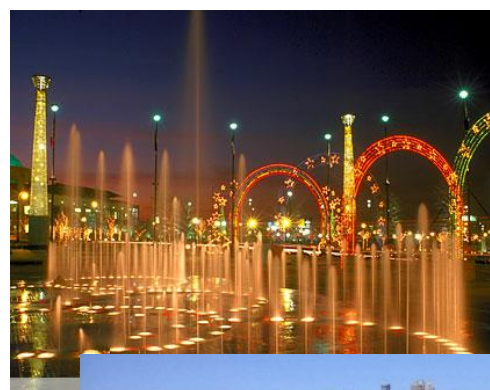
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Lesson Four (SS8H12d) – The student will evaluate the effect of the 1996 Olympic Games on Georgia.

The status of Georgia as a modern state and Atlanta as a world-class city was confirmed when Atlanta was selected to host the 1996 Olympic Games:

Tremendous respect, recognition, and investment poured into Georgia from all over the world!!!

Atlanta and other Georgia cities gained new hotels, restaurants, athletic facilities, and the 21-acre Centennial Park



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Lesson Four (SS8H12d) – The student will *evaluate* the effect of the 1996 Olympic Games on Georgia.

Tremendous respect, recognition, and investment poured into Georgia from all over the world!!!

The estimated impact of the Olympics on Atlanta was over \$5 BILLION.

Most of Georgia's economic fortune today is because of the Centennial Olympic Games.



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Lesson Five (SS8H12e) – The student will *evaluate* the importance of new immigrant communities to the growth and economy of Georgia.

Contributions to the state's growth and economy have also come from growing immigrant communities:


Georgia's foreign-born population increased, between 1990 and 2000, by an incredible 233% !!!



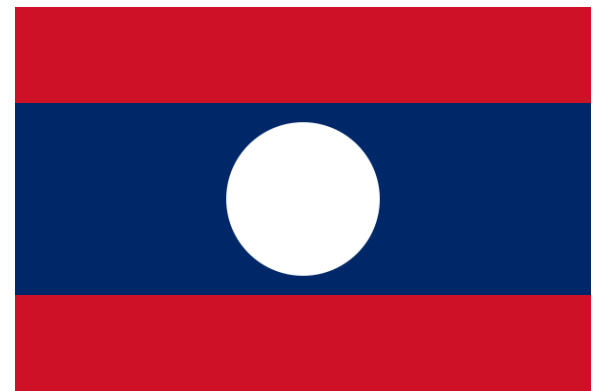
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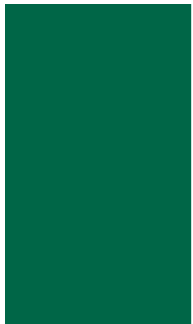
Since the mid-1970s, Georgia has attracted a large number of refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. More recently, immigrants have arrived from Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East.



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Immigrants have had the largest impact on north Georgia, where the Hispanic population have moved to fill jobs in construction, poultry processing, and carpet manufacturing.



Nearly 1/4th to 1/2 of all carpet mill workers are Hispanic immigrants.

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What do you remember about... ...Modern Georgia???

1. Through most of its history, Georgia was dominated by the _____ Party.
2. The system in which counties received no more than three electoral votes was called the _____.
3. The process of redrawing election districts to ensure proper representation is called _____.
4. The only Georgian to become United States President was _____.
5. The first Republican Governor since Reconstruction was _____.
6. The estimated impact of the Olympic Games on Atlanta was over \$_____.
7. The county unit system was a violation of the ___th Amendment.
8. The largest single immigrant group in Georgia is _____.

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ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS:

The actions of individuals affect society and groups through intended and unintended consequences? How did the actions of Jimmy Carter in Georgia lead to his national prominence? What events contributed to the growth of the two-party system in Georgia? How and why?



Acknowledgements

Hodge, Cathy M. Time Travel Through Georgia. Athens, GA: WesMar Incorporated DBA/Voyager Publications, 2005.

Marsh, Carol. The Georgia Experience: 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher's Edition Student Workbook. Peachtree City, GA: Gallopade International, 2008.