

## Featured Artifact: Andrew Jackson's Uniform Coat

*Era 4: Expansion and Reform (1801-1861)*

<http://historyexplorer.americanhistory.si.edu/resource/?key=3879>



Look at the artifact presented to you. In a few sentences, respond to the following questions:

**Describe:** Objectively describe the artifact. What do you think it is made of? What does it look like? Does it look old or new? Is it intact, or is it damaged in some way?

**Analyze:** When, where or how do you think this item was used? What kind of person may have created or used this item? What significance do you think the object held, either for the creator or the user? Do you see words or images on the artifact that connect it to others (besides the creator and user)?

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**Share your conclusions with a partner, then discuss the following:**

**Evaluate** : Justify why you came to those conclusions about the artifact. What further questions do you have about the object? Of those questions, which could you solve by observing the object in person and which would you need to solve with research?

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### Background Information

Andrew Jackson wore this uniform coat at the Battle of New Orleans, January 8, 1815; it was also worn by Jackson when he sat for his portrait by artist Ralph E. W. Early, about 1815.

**After reading and considering the background information, compose a response to the following:**

**Analyze:** Address the following object-specific questions:

- How is this uniform different from military uniforms you might see today?
- What do you know about Andrew Jackson? How might you describe his personality?

**Synthesize:** What does this object tell us about the era in which it was created, or the American experience as a whole? How would you describe the social, economic, or political climate of America during this time? What connections can you make between this object and other things that you have seen, read, or experienced?

### Era-Specific Essential Questions

- What were the sources and character of cultural, religious, and social reform movements in the antebellum period?