Unit 3 DBQ

Society of the Round Table
Prompt and Thesis:

Historians have traditionally labelled the period after the War of 1812 the “Era of Good Feelings.” Evaluate the accuracy of this label, considering the emergence of nationalism and sectionalism.

The period concluding the War of 1812 is inaccurately labelled the “Era of Good Feelings” due to the conflicting views on slavery, the unstable economic developments, and the unsuccessful attempts of the government to keep the U.S. together.
I. It isn’t fair to aggravate the people more than they already do to benefit the manufacturers.

II. Our government was created on equality, and favoring these manufactures wouldn’t be fair.

III. Our government is changing and losing what it was originally designed as. People now have different interests. The farmers are in poverty while the manufactures increase their wealth.
Outside Informations:

I. *Tariff of 1816*- protected American Manufacturing. It raised the average rates to around 20%. The reason for this was because of how the British had stashed large quantities of their manufacturing goods in warehouses during the war of 1812.

II. *Power struggles*- during this time people wanted different things for their industries which made it difficult to maintain a government.

III. *American System*- set of manufacturing methods that evolved with two notable features which were a system for interchangeable parts and a high degree of mechanization.

“So What?”

Serious issues arose because of the different ways everyone wanted to run the government, and how congress should regulate commerce and not levy the taxes.
Document B: John C. Calhoun, Congress, February 4, 1817

Let it not be forgotten, let it be forever kept in mind, that the extent of the republic exposes us to the greatest of calamities—*disunion*. We are great, and rapidly—I was about to say fearfully—growing. This is our price and danger, our weakness and our strength... We are under the most imperious obligations to counteract every tendency to disunion... Whatever impedes the intercourse of the extremes with this, the center of the republic, weakens the union... Let us, then, bind the republic together with a perfect system of roads and canals. Let us conquer space.

I. Advocates construction of roads and canals to develop American System.

II. This document emphasizes to bring cities and states together.

III. Internal improvements bill.
Outside Informations:

I. *Internal Improvements*: the program for building roads, canals, bridges, and railroads in and between the states. There was a dispute over whether the federal government should fund internal improvements, since it was not specifically given that power by the Constitution.

“So What?”

The sectionalism emerged by developing rapidly, the conflicts between sectionalism and nationalism led to the unstable of the economy in America.
I. Fourth of July festivities and celebrations in the town center of Philadelphia

II. Shows the Americans happy and proud to have independence.
Things to look for:

1. In the upper left corner there is an American Flag.
2. Below it there is a picture of George Washington and below that there a depiction of a naval battle of 1812 - The war of 1812.
3. In the upper right hand there is a flag of Pennsylvania with the motto “virtue, liberty, independence”
4. Below there is a painting of the battle of New Orleans
5. The two men hugging in the middle demonstrate the pride and happiness which everyone has because of their new unity and independence
6. The painting also has women and children, which shows that this occasion was for all to celebrate. National unity.

Outside Informations:

I. Patriotism - devotion to one's country
II. Battle of New Orleans - took place on January 8, 1815 and was the final major battle of the War of 1812. The American forces defeated an invading British Army intent on seizing New Orleans.
III. Flag of Pennsylvania - The motto “virtue, liberty, independence” is a depiction of the “Battle of New Orleans”. Shows their strength and pride.
“So What?”

Shows the positive feelings that the Americans had for this new era and new start because the war ended and they were given more opportunities.
Has Congress the power to incorporate a bank? ... In discussing this question, the council for the State of Maryland have deemed it of some importance, in the construction of the Constitution, to consider that instrument not as emanating from the people but as the act of sovereign and independent states. The powers of the general government, it has been said, are delegated by the states, who alone are truly sovereign; and must be exercised in subordination to the states, who alone possess supreme dominion. It would be difficult to sustain this proposition.

I. Congress has the power to charter a bank.

II. Maryland considers Constitution was an instrument of the state.

III. Government power is subject to state.
I. The MARSHALL COURT--- this decision in particular, established the principle of "judicial review" whereby Congressional laws and executive actions may be judged by the Supreme Court to be within the bounds of the Constitution.

II. John Marshall--Chief Justice, According to the Marshell 's Federalist views, he generally favored strong government action and especially supported the supremacy of the federal government over state authorities.

“So What?”
I. Northeast and mid-Atlantic states are densely populated.

II. Southern and inland/western frontiers are more spread out.

III. Growing population showing in the western states.

IV. Separation between the region.
Outside Informations:

I. This shows the movement into the South and West.
II. The Napoleonic War was happening at this time, which led to a French demand for food.
III. This led to a land boom in the South & West due to easy credit from the bank.
IV. After the Bank of U.S. went under new management, they called back the loans/mortgages
V. THUS! Causing the Panic of 1819 (6 year depression; MORE than HALF the “era”) in the U.S.
VI. Expansion led to an unbalanced population as well.

Positive:
“So What?”

- The domestic ECONOMY!
- The Bank called everything back, which left the aspiring farmers with nothing (like Jackson’s mother).
- This led to a 6 year depression, which is basically half the “Era of Good Feelings.” How is it “good feelings” when you’re depressed half the time?!
I. The question of Jefferson speaks of as a “fireball in the night” is the Missouri Compromise.

II. The “geographical line” is the 36’ 30 parallel line.
Outside Informations:

I. Missouri Compromise: Missouri applies for admission into the Union as a slave state. Since the beginning of the republic, new states had come in pairs. Missouri would upset the balance of slave and free. Furthermore was then the application of Maine as a free state. Maine ultimately offered the solution as the Senate agreed to combine the Missouri and Maine proposals into a single bill.

II. The 36,30' parallel: An amendment proposed by Senator Jesse B. Thomas of Illinois prohibited slavery beyond north of this line.

III. Tallmadge Amendment: Proposed by Representative James Tallmadge Jr. Of New York. A statehood bill prohibiting further introduction of slaves into Missouri along with providing gradual emancipation of those already there. Provoked a controversy that was to rage for the next two years.

“So What?”

This document largely disproves the title of an "Era of Good Feelings" since it shows the widening gap between the north and south as well as the strengthening sectionalism.
I. Anna is saying to her cousin that they almost had a slave uprising.
II. Many more leaders than 100 were believed to be executed but even then would there still be enough people to carry on the work.
Outside Informations:

1. Vesey Rebellion: an attempted uprising by slaves and freemen in and around Charleston in spring of 1822.

“So What?”

The constant conflicting views on how to take slavery hurt not only the government but the people and how they treated each other.
I. They wanted to stand up against European Powers.

II. Tried to ensure that they keep Cuba from Great Britain in order to protect the U.S.
Outside Informations:

I. Monroe Doctrine: proclamation to European nations that they are not allowed to settle westward.

“So What?”
I. Monroe won all states except New Hampshire in Election of 1820.

II. More candidates in Election of 1824 than Election of 1820.

III. Party System emerged.
Outside Information:

I. The "Corrupt Bargain": Andrew Jackson received more popular and electoral votes than John Quincy Adams, but not the majority therefore the election was taken to the House of Representatives. Henry Clay supported Adams whom ended up victorious and then appointing Clay as the Secretary of State, a stepping stone to presidency.

“So What?”

The election results of 1824 reveal that Jackson may have not won the majority, but received more votes than every other candidate. It also shows that compared to the election of 1820, American is broken up once more showing the return of the party system which was ended at the beginning of Monroe's presidency.
- End of the First Party System
Monroe going around the country (nationalism)
  - Document C .. 4\textsuperscript{th} of July celebration shows pride in independence
  - Note: Battle of New Orleans > Corrupt Bargain

Document H: Monroe Doctrine
America creating protection for themselves
  - Also planning for more land

WHY POSITIVE?
  - These reasons show the political unity at the time, though the negative aspects show sectionalism making this unity start to dissolve.