

The Growth of a Young Nation**Section 5****Reforming American Society****Terms and Names**

Unitarians Religious group that emphasized reason

Ralph Waldo Emerson Leading philosopher of the era

transcendentalism Philosophy that emphasized the truth to be found in nature and intuition

abolition The movement to do away with slavery

William Lloyd Garrison Abolitionist leader

Frederick Douglass Escaped slave who became a noted abolitionist leader

Nat Turner Leader of a violent slave rebellion

Elizabeth Cady Stanton Leader in the abolitionist and women's rights movements

Seneca Falls convention Convention held in 1848 to argue for women's rights

Sojourner Truth Former slave who became an abolitionist and women's rights activist

Before You Read

In the last section, you learned about changes in the American economy.

In this section, you will read about reform movements in 19th-century America.

As You Read

Use a diagram to take notes on historical events or key figures related to reforming American society in the 19th century.

A SPIRITUAL AWAKENING**INSPIRES REFORM (Pages 144-145)****What changes in religion took place in America in the first half of the 1800s?**

The Second Great Awakening was a wide-spread religious movement. In revival meetings that lasted for days, people studied the Bible and listened to impassioned preaching. Many Americans joined churches as a result of the movement.

Unitarians were a religious group that appealed to reason instead of emotion. **Ralph Waldo Emerson**, a New England minister, writer, and philosopher, founded **transcendentalism**. It was a philosophy that

emphasized the interconnection between nature, human emotions, and the imagination.

Enslaved African Americans also experienced the urge to reform. Many in the South heard the sermons and hymns as a promise of freedom. In the North, free African Americans formed their own churches. These churches became political, cultural, and social centers for African Americans.

1. Name three religious movements that took place in America in the first half of the 1800s.
