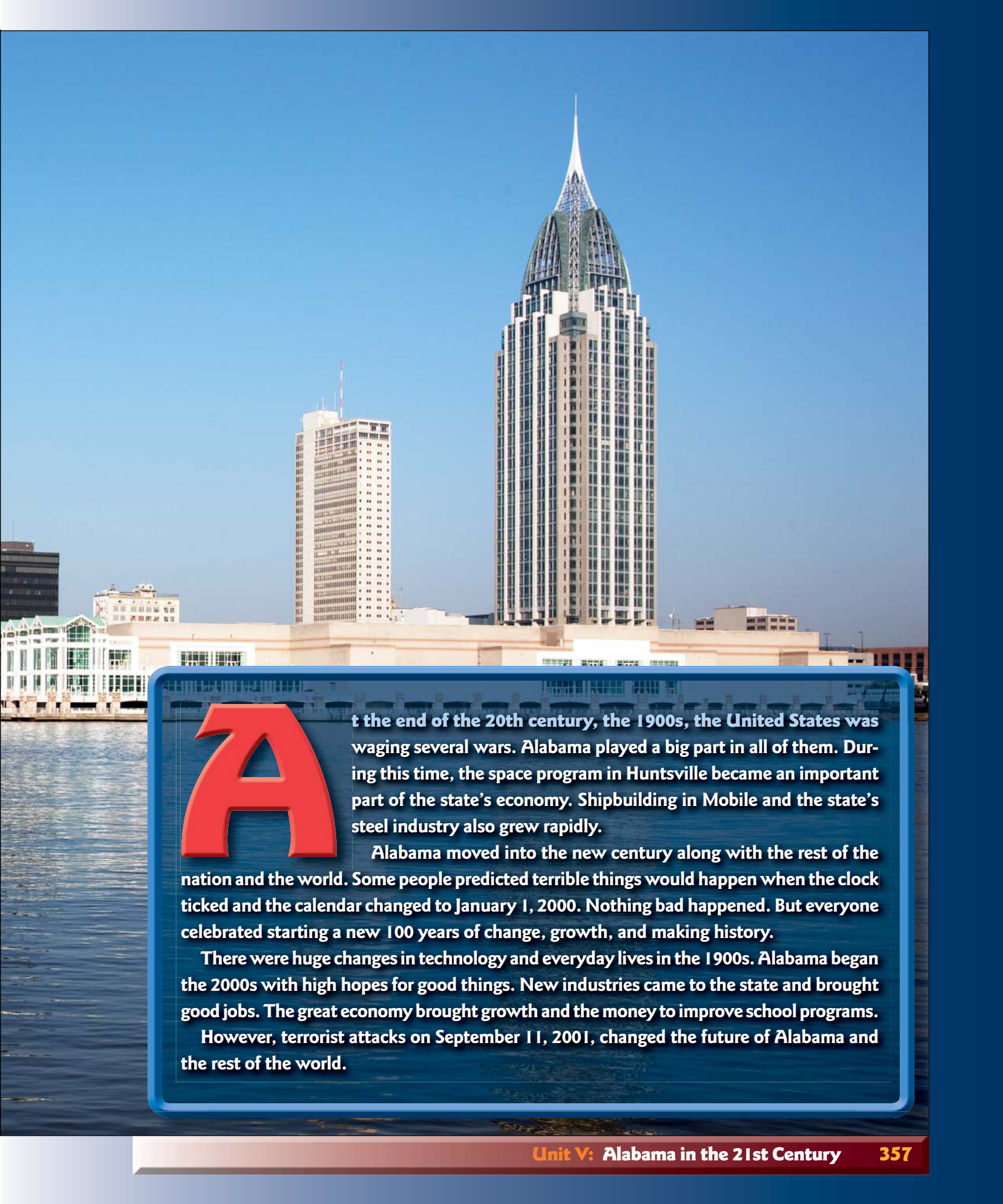


Unit **V**

Alabama in the 21st Century



Above: Mobile has a 21st-century skyline with two new skyscrapers. In the center is the Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel, and on the right, the RSA Battle House Tower. On the river between them is the Arthur C. Outlaw Convention Center. On the left is the new Mobile County Courthouse.



A

t the end of the 20th century, the 1900s, the United States was waging several wars. Alabama played a big part in all of them. During this time, the space program in Huntsville became an important part of the state's economy. Shipbuilding in Mobile and the state's steel industry also grew rapidly.

Alabama moved into the new century along with the rest of the nation and the world. Some people predicted terrible things would happen when the clock ticked and the calendar changed to January 1, 2000. Nothing bad happened. But everyone celebrated starting a new 100 years of change, growth, and making history.

There were huge changes in technology and everyday lives in the 1900s. Alabama began the 2000s with high hopes for good things. New industries came to the state and brought good jobs. The great economy brought growth and the money to improve school programs.

However, terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, changed the future of Alabama and the rest of the world.

Chapter 13

Alabama Enters a New Century

Chapter Preview

TERMS

rebel, Patriot missile, ceasefire, weapons of mass destruction, 9/11, terrorist, War on Terrorism, first-responder, al Qaeda, Muslim, disarm, diversify, suborbital, depletion

Above: *Montgomery is the capital city of Alabama. In the 2010 census, Montgomery had a population of 205,764, making it the second-largest city in Alabama.*

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Birmingham, Alabama, showing a dense urban landscape with various buildings, parking lots, and a river in the foreground. A bridge with a train crossing it is visible in the lower-left corner. The sky is clear and blue.

After World War II, some people left Alabama to live in other states. Many of those who migrated were military men and women. They had lived in other places and seen other ways of life. The population of Alabama grew to over 3 million by 1950. The black population, however, was shrinking (becoming smaller) as African Americans left the state. They moved away to get higher-paying jobs and equal rights. In 1950, 33 percent of Alabama's population was black. Just 10 years later, the number was 30 percent of the total population.

The immigrant population increased during that time as people from other countries settled here. Alabama's total population continues to grow. It increased from 4,040,587 in 1990 to 4,779,736 in the 2010 U.S. Census. The state's African American population ranged between 25 and 26 percent of the total. More than 430,000 of Alabama's residents are veterans. These veterans are men and women of all races who have served in the armed forces.

Focus on Reading Skills

Reading a Line Graph

Learning

Graphs show information in number form. People use line graphs to picture what happens over time. The graph should have a title and a source of information. A line graph is drawn on a grid with numbers on the bottom (horizontal axis) and up one side (vertical axis). Dates usually appear on the horizontal axis (bottom). This shows the passing of time. The line is formed in the graph by connecting dots placed on the grid. Sometimes a line graph has more than one line.

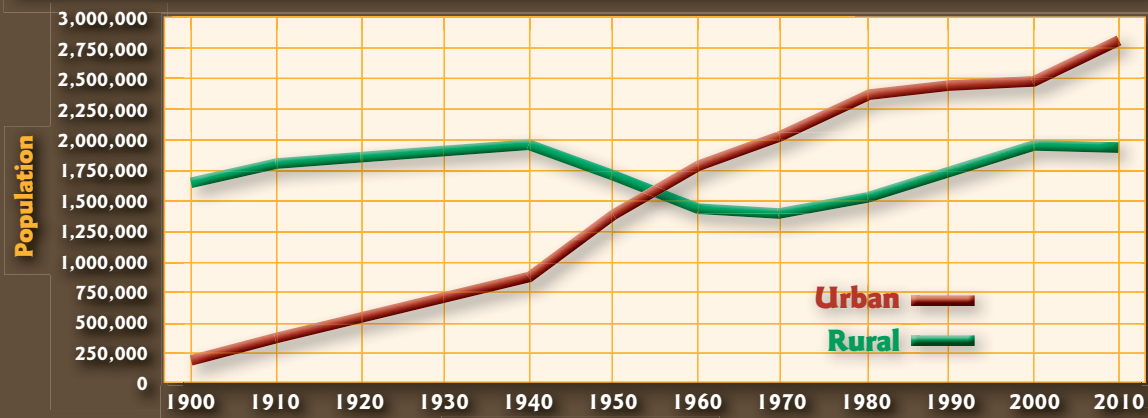
When you study the graph information over several years, you might notice a trend. A *trend* is the way things are going. Look at the line graph below. Are the lines going up? Going down? Or staying the same?

Practicing

Make a line graph of your physical growth history. Put the years of your life on the horizontal axis. Start with the year you were born. Put your height in inches on the vertical axis. Start with 15 inches and increase each number by 5 inches as you move up the axis. As you place dots on the grid, notice the upward trend. Did you grow more in some years? Do you know why? Your source will probably be a baby book or family member. Your doctor may have your height and weight recorded.

Write your ideas about what the results of the graph may mean. Why did the numbers change from year to year? What do you think will happen in the coming years? Why?

Alabama's Urban and Rural Population Growth 1900-2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Wars and Other Military Actions

As you read, look for

- why the United States entered the Vietnam War;
- the natural resource found in Iraq and Kuwait;
- why United States troops moved into Saudi Arabia;
- what 9/11 means in our country;
- the terrorist group that attacked the United States;
- where Afghanistan and Iraq are located;
- Alabama's contributions to Operation Iraqi Freedom;
- terms: **rebel**, **Patriot missile**, **ceasefire**, **weapons of mass destruction**, **9/11**, **terrorist**, **War on Terrorism**, **first-responder**, **al Qaeda**, **Muslim**, **disarm**.

Figure 26
Timeline:
1960 to 2010



1973
Jeremiah Denton,
American POW,
released from Vietnam

1991
Allied nations declared war
on Iraq; Alabama troops
positioned to fight

2001
Alabama mourned
for those lost in
terrorist attacks

2003
Alabama troops began
fighting in Iraq and
Afghanistan

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

1961
First American troops sent
to South Vietnam

1990
Iraq invasion of Kuwait
caused the Gulf War

2001
9/11 terrorist attacks
on the United States

Search for Osama
bin Laden started in
Afghanistan

2003
American
troops and
allies began
fighting in
Iraq and
Afghanistan

2009
U.S.
troops
began
leaving
Iraq



Above: A very young marine who just arrived in Vietnam awaits orders on the beach at Da Nang. **Opposite page, above:** A U.S. Army soldier gets ready to move out after setting fire to a Viet Cong base camp. **Opposite page, below:** U.S. Navy Captain Jeremiah Denton gives a speech soon after his release from a North Vietnamese prisoner-of-war camp. Captain Denton was a POW for more than seven years.

After World War I, Americans believed there would

be no more wars. Then, Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor brought the United States into World War II. After that war, Americans were suspicious of communism. The Cold War developed between the United States and the Soviet Union. Many people thought the communists would try to take over America. The United States and its allies felt they had to stop the spread of communism. That is one reason America went to the defense of South Korea.

The United States was concerned that communism might spread throughout Asia. Vietnam was a divided Southeast Asian country. North Vietnam had a communist government; South Vietnam did not. America began helping South Vietnam with supplies and military training. Over time, our country sent huge numbers of troops to what became the Vietnam War. Many American soldiers, marines, sailors, and aviators died to keep communism out of South Vietnam.

In the early 1990s, the United States was drawn into a war with Iraq to protect Kuwait. Later, after the terrorist attacks in September 2001, American troops were sent to Iraq and Afghanistan.

The War in Vietnam

Vietnam was a French colony for many decades until it gained independence in 1954. It was then divided into two countries, North Vietnam and South Vietnam. North Vietnam wanted to unite the country under a communist government. South Vietnam did not want to be communist.

North Vietnamese troops attacked South Vietnam in 1957. South Vietnam asked the United States for help. Our country sent supplies and other forms of economic aid.

North Vietnam supported communist rebels, known as Viet Cong, in South Vietnam. (**Rebels** are people fighting a war against the government in power.) In 1961, the United States began sending military help to South Vietnam. At first, it was just to teach their army about modern warfare. But the number of American soldiers in Vietnam grew quickly. By 1965, the conflict was a full-scale war. In 1968, there were 500,000 American soldiers in Vietnam.



The war in Vietnam lasted eight years. It was the longest war in U.S. history at that time. The fighting was very heavy and the United States dropped millions of tons of bombs.

There were 1,200 Alabamians among the more than 57,000 Americans killed in Vietnam. Many others were captured and made prisoners of war (POWs). The release of American captives began in 1973. The first POW to step off the plane was Captain Jeremiah A. Denton Jr. of the U.S. Navy. The Mobile, Alabama, native said:

We are happy to have the opportunity to serve our country under difficult circumstances. We are profoundly grateful to our commander-in-chief and to our nation for this day. God bless America.

Captain Denton was later elected to the United States Senate where he represented Alabama from 1981 to 1987.

Crisis in the Persian Gulf

In August 1990, the Middle East country of Iraq invaded its neighbor, Kuwait. Both of these countries are rich in oil, so they have a great deal of economic power. The United States buys millions of barrels of oil from Kuwait each year.





Above:
The Iraqi army left tanks abandoned on the highway as they retreated from Kuwait.



About Alabama

Desert Storm was the first time a missile was used to shoot down a missile in wartime. First Lieutenant Charles McMurtrey III of Montgomery fired that Patriot. It took out an Iraqi Scud over a Saudi Arabian air base.

Operation Desert Shield

Iraq stormed over the border and took control of Kuwait. Armed forces from the United States joined troops from Syria, Egypt, Great Britain, and France in the desert of Saudi Arabia. They moved in to stop the Iraqi advance.

When Iraq took over Kuwait, the United States asked the United Nations (UN) for help. The United Nations voted to stop all trade with Iraq. In November 1990, the UN Security Council said that the forces could use “all necessary means” if the Iraqi army did not leave Kuwait. The Iraqis did not leave by the deadline of January 15, 1991.

Operation Desert Storm

Desert Shield became Desert Storm, or the Persian Gulf War. In January 1991, 33 allied nations declared war on Iraq. For 43 days, Americans watched the war on television while it was taking place on the Arabian Peninsula. We heard about the American antimissile missile called a Patriot. These **Patriot missiles** were used to shoot down Iraqi missiles called Scuds.

By February 1991, there had been thousands of bombing attacks on Iraq by America and its allies. Then, on day 39 of the war, the land war began. Just 4 days later, the allies marched into Kuwait City. Iraqi forces were defeated.

The war was short, but the damage to Kuwait was great. Iraqi troops set fire to over 500 Kuwaiti oil wells and left a huge oil spill in the Persian Gulf. They also destroyed buildings and equipment worth millions of dollars.

Iraq agreed to a ceasefire. (A **ceasefire** is a truce that means all fighting stops.) The allied forces demanded that Iraq destroy its **weapons of mass destruction** (WMD). These are weapons that can kill many people at once. Chemical (poison gas) and biological (germ warfare) weapons are two examples of WMD.

Allied troops not involved in peacekeeping returned to their countries. The first American troops came back on March 8, 1991. About 14,000 of Alabama's career military and National Guard members served in Desert Storm. Many towns and cities across the state welcomed these men and women home. There were parades and celebrations for the returning soldiers.

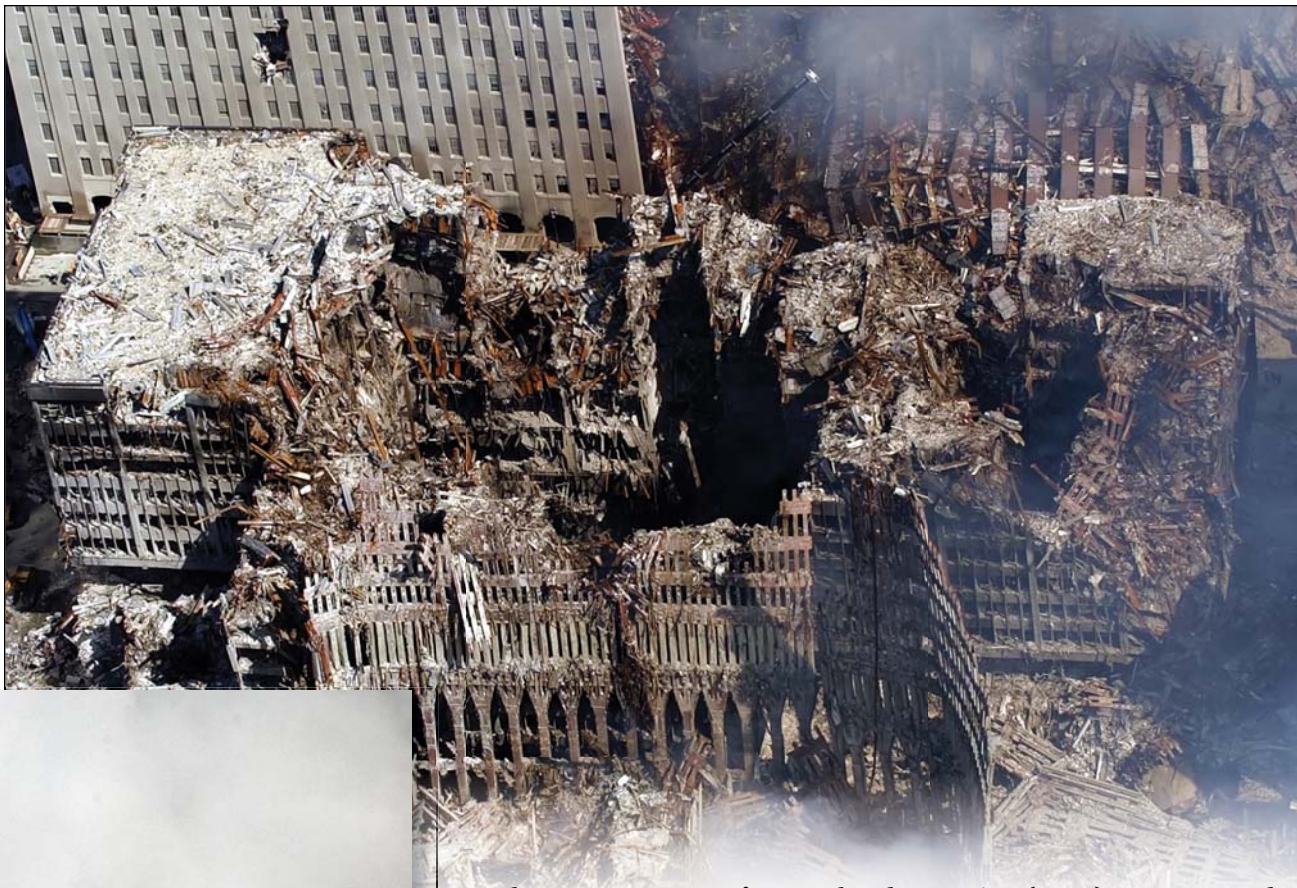
Terrorist Attacks

On September 11, 2001 (now called **9/11**), several terrorist attacks on American soil shocked our country. (**Terrorists** are people who use violence to cause fear. They usually want to change the ruler or government.) On that day, terrorists hijacked (took control of) four passenger planes in the United States. They flew two of the planes into the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, New York. Terrorists flew the third plane into the Pentagon in Washington, D. C. Passengers on the fourth plane fought with the terrorists on board. That plane crashed into a field in Pennsylvania. These attacks killed thousands of people and wounded many others.

Soon after the 9/11 attacks, the War on Terrorism began. This war had no special place to fight. For the United States, the **War on Terrorism** meant any action that stopped terrorists. Inspectors looked closely at travelers and their baggage before letting them board planes. Extra people began watching important places such as bridges, dams, and waterworks. Security was increased at large gatherings such as major sporting events.



Above: *Americans stared at their televisions in disbelief on the morning of September 11, 2001. They saw the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City in flames. The horrible scene was the result of two jet airliners striking the buildings.*



Above: *First-responders to 9/11 fought through clouds of dust searching for survivors. Many later had health problems because of the dust they inhaled. Top:* *This wreckage is all that remained of two of the tallest buildings in the world.*

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) was created after 9/11 to help make our country safe. This new government group handles emergencies including natural disasters and terrorist attacks. The DHS coordinates the various services needed in such situations. Homeland Security also alerts first-responders when something is suspicious. (**First-responders** are the people who rush to help in case of emergency. Police officers, firefighters, first aid workers, and the National Guard are first-responders.) Events like a bomb scare or other threat put the area on alert. The first-responders have plans for these alerts just as schools do for a fire drill.

War in Afghanistan

The 9/11 attacks were planned and carried out by a group of terrorists called **al Qaeda**. They were **Muslims** (people who follow the teachings of the Islam religion), but they were also radicals. These radicals had extreme or fanatical views of religious laws. Being Muslim does not mean the person is a radical or a terrorist. The members of al Qaeda would not be friendly with people of other beliefs. This group often killed people who did not agree with them. The terrorists' headquarters was hidden

in the country of Afghanistan. It is in the Middle East and borders Iran and Pakistan. The leader of al Qaeda was a terrorist named Osama bin Laden.

President George W. Bush demanded that Afghanistan turn over bin Laden to the United States. He also said they had to stop helping the terrorists. The Taliban government of Afghanistan refused.

Bin Laden continued to hide in caves and other places and moved often. In May 2011, U.S. Navy SEALs (special forces) found him in Pakistan. During a secret mission to arrest bin Laden, he was killed.

Shortly after 9/11, President Bush asked Congress for the power to attack terrorist groups. In October 2001, America and Great Britain bombed Afghanistan. That was the beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom. America and the other countries that helped in this war were called the coalition (a working group from different places).

Coalition troops attacked al Qaeda hideouts in Afghanistan. Then coalition forces overthrew (forced to leave) the Taliban government because the Taliban had helped the terrorists.



Map 26
Afghanistan

Map Skills: What country is Afghanistan's neighbor to the west?



Above: This American soldier is on lookout duty in Farah City, Afghanistan, in 2013.

About Alabama

Johnny Michael “Mike” Spann of Winfield was the first American to die in combat in Afghanistan. The United States honors him as a hero. Mike Spann served in the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). He had been a captain in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Below: U.S. Marines get ready to enter one of Saddam Hussein’s palaces during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The United States and its allies then helped the Afghan people form a new government. The terrorists were forced to flee into the mountains. But they continued to attack the new government and the coalition soldiers. The United States tried to gain the trust of the local people. At the same time, America helped rebuild the country from the damages of the war. The war in Afghanistan became the longest war in United States history.

Operation Iraqi Freedom

After Desert Storm and the war in Afghanistan, America still had concerns about the Middle East. The United States believed that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction (WMD). The leader of Iraq, Saddam Hussein, had promised to destroy his WMD after Desert Storm. International inspectors searched for the weapons. But they were unable to prove if Iraq did, or did not, have WMD.

The United States and its allies decided Iraq was a threat. They stationed troops near Iraq to prepare for war. At the beginning of the war, 8,185 Alabama troops were called to duty. They were from 135 units of the National Guard and reservists of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines. On the evening of March 19, 2003, President George W. Bush ordered coalition forces to attack military sites in Iraq. He said, “This will not be a campaign of half measures, and we will accept no outcome



but victory.” The president announced the purpose of the war was “to disarm Iraq, to free its people, and to defend the world from grave danger.” For Iraq to **disarm**, they had to destroy their weapons of mass destruction.

On May 1, 2003, President Bush declared the major combat part of Operation Iraqi Freedom over. American troops stayed in Iraq to help the people put their country back in working order. But it turned out that the fighting was not over.

Iraq Moves Ahead

With the help of American and coalition troops, Iraq held a national election. The country elected a president and wrote a new constitution. Iraqis began to use their own government by writing new laws and holding court. They started rebuilding and forming their own army and police force.

Saddam Hussein, the former president of Iraq, ran from the coalition forces. He was later captured and arrested. An Iraqi court tried him for the murder of his people and other crimes. He was found guilty and executed.

After fighting for several years, American troops began pulling out of Iraq. As they left the country, the American troops handed over each city to the Iraqi government.



Alabama’s Part in the Middle East

Alabama’s National Guard members played a big role in the Middle East wars. The state ranks fifth in the number of troops called to duty. Alabama’s Clay County is believed to have the highest percentage of National Guard and Reserve enlistments in the nation.

At Huntsville’s Redstone Arsenal, engineers took calls and e-mails from soldiers. The engineers helped soldiers who had questions about missiles and helicopters. Redstone Arsenal also developed and managed the Multiple Launch Rocket System

Above: The Multiple Launch Rocket System was developed at the Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville.



Above: *Jeffrey Bonner works in the Anniston Army Depot's small-arms repair shop. Here he is putting an M-2 .50-caliber machine gun back together.*

called “steel rain.” The Space Missile Defense Command provided equipment and computer software for the war effort. These tools gave the military important information needed on the battlefield.

Tons of munitions were shipped from the Anniston Army Depot. This depot also rebuilt, modified, and repaired 3,677 M1 Abrams tanks.

Lockheed Martin’s plant in Troy made the Javelin and Hellfire antiarmor missiles. They also built the Predator and AGM-142 missiles. These weapons were very important in the Middle East wars.

Helicopters were another key part of America’s military actions. The army aviation programs in Huntsville managed the Apache, Blackhawk, Chinook, and Kiowa Warrior helicopters. The helicopter pilots were trained at Fort Rucker near Ozark and Dothan.

American Troops around the World

In the 1940s, American troops were deeply involved in Europe for World War II. After the war, their presence was still needed to help Europe rebuild. There are still many American military bases in Europe. Today U.S. soldiers are stationed there to help protect our European allies. Alabama military personnel are stationed all over the world including the Philippines, South Korea, Turkey, and all the oceans.

Think It Through!

- 1. Why was Vietnam divided into two parts?**
- 2. How long did the Vietnam War last?**
- 3. What was Kuwait’s important natural resource?**
- 4. At the end of Desert Storm, what demand did the allies make of Iraq?**
- 5. What attack on America changed the way Americans think?**
- 6. What terrorist group fought U.S. troops?**
- 7. In 2003, what did President Bush say was the purpose of the war with Iraq?**
- 8. What contributions did Alabama make in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan?**

Spotlight on Leadership



Rear Admiral Dennis Brooks

One of the most outstanding military men of this time came from Alabama. He is Rear Admiral Dennis Brooks (retired). Admiral Brooks was born and grew up in Fairfield. As an eight-year-old boy, he loved to fly and knew he wanted a military career. He also loved the Boy Scouts. As a scout, young Dennis earned the rank of Eagle and Chief of Order of the Arrow, Cherokee Lodge.

After high school, Brooks was chosen to attend the U.S. Naval Academy. But he became very ill and had to refuse the slot. After studying one year at Howard College (now Samford University), he received a second chance to attend

Above: Rear Admiral Dennis Brooks on the bridge of the aircraft carrier, USS Kitty Hawk.

the academy. In 1957, he graduated from the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Admiral Brooks served in many roles in the Navy. He was a test and fighter pilot. Brooks was the commander of the aircraft carrier USS *Constellation*, and director of the Navy's space program. The most memorable assignment was as commander of the Joint Task Force in the Middle East. Here he commanded all U.S. forces. They conducted combat and other operations in support of our nation in the Persian Gulf region.

Changes and Growth

As you read, look for

- the growth of science and technology industries;
- how Alabama's culture changed;
- terms: **diversify**, **suborbital**.



Above: Dr. Werner von Braun was in charge of the rocket program at Redstone Arsenal. In 1960, he became director of the new George C. Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville. **Opposite page, left:** Space shuttle engines on display at Redstone Arsenal.

Alabama played an important role in the military in World War II. Then the 1950s brought technology and the space program to the state. These changes pumped up Alabama's economy and population. New people from other countries came to work in our state. New government facilities brought many good jobs.

The Space Age in Alabama

After World War II, the U.S. Army wanted Germany's Dr. Werner von Braun to work in the United States. Dr. von Braun had made the V-2 rockets that blasted England during the war. Von Braun agreed and

moved to our country along with 120 other German scientists.

Von Braun came to Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville in 1950. He began work on the Redstone missile, which was successfully launched in 1954. In January 1958, a Redstone Jupiter C rocket was launched. It placed the United States' first satellite into orbit. The Huntsville team was only three months behind Russia's first successful satellite launching.

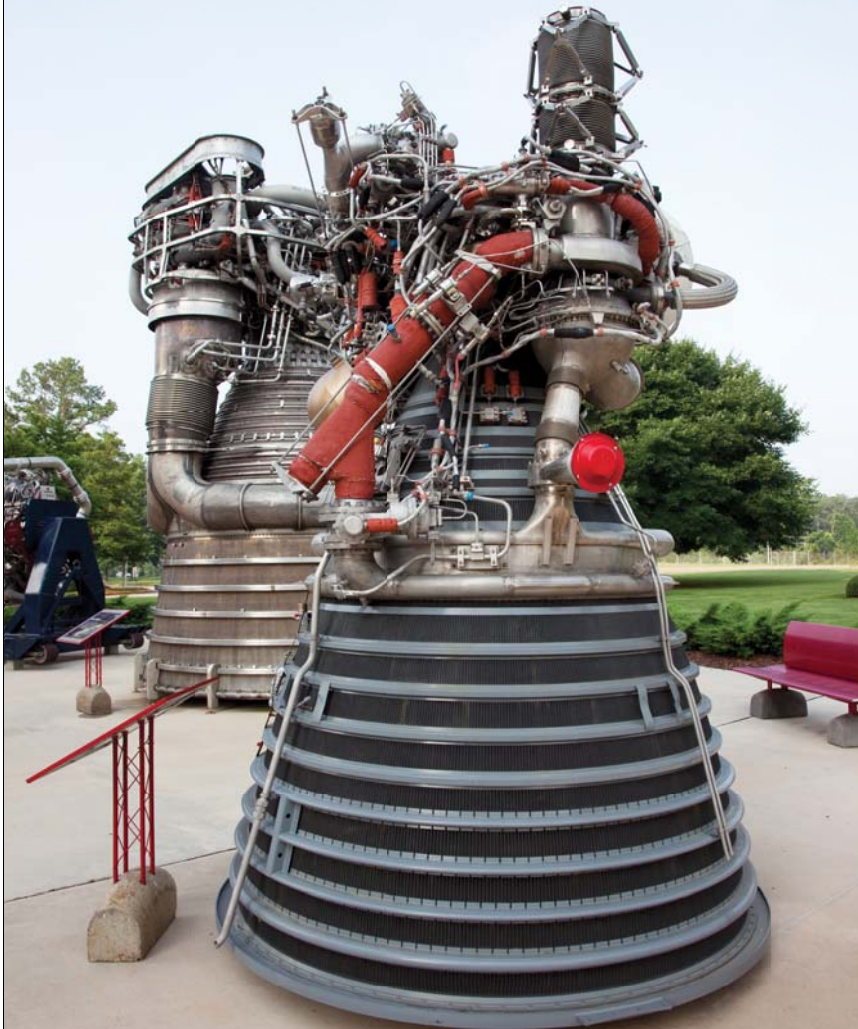
In 1950, the population of Huntsville was 16,437. It jumped to 123,519 in 1960 and then to 158,216 in 2000. This huge increase

was because people came for the new jobs created in the space industry. Another reason for the Huntsville area's growth is that it has **diversified** in the last 50 years. This means they have many different kinds of industries in the area. By 2009, Huntsville's population had grown again to 179,652.

The jobs in Huntsville drew people from distant communities. In 2005, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated that 1,349,603 people lived within 50 miles of Huntsville. People were willing to commute farther to work for these good jobs. Better highways and more dependable cars made the commuting possible.

Marshall Space Flight Center

Huntsville's Marshall Space Flight Center opened in 1960. It began with the transfer of U.S. Army space projects and thousands of people to the new facility. Marshall is part of NASA,



About Alabama

The Saturn V rocket developed in Huntsville launched the first human to the moon aboard Apollo 11 on July 16, 1969.

Below: The Lunar Roving Vehicle was developed at the Marshall Space Flight Center.



the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The center is named for World War II Army Chief of Staff General George C. Marshall. Dr. von Braun was the first director of Marshall Space Flight Center.

In 1961, Marshall's Mercury-Redstone vehicle boosted America's first astronaut, Alan Shepard, on a suborbital flight. (**Suborbital** means it was designed to make less than a full orbit of Earth.) The center's Saturn rockets sent men to

the moon in 1969 and back again 5 more times. They also lifted more than 20 Skylab missions.

In 1975, Marshall provided a Saturn rocket for the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project. This was the first time that the spacecraft of two countries docked in space. The docking formed a single spacecraft. There were three American astronauts and two Russian cosmonauts on board. That was the last launch of a Saturn rocket.

Among Marshall's other successful projects were the Lunar Roving Vehicle for use by astronauts on the moon in 1971. The center also worked on the first space shuttle in 1981 and Spacelab. Other jobs included the 1990 Hubble Space Telescope and the 2003 Gravity Probe B.

Marshall has more projects today than at any time in its history. Scientists there are working on an unmanned vehicle for cargo. NASA will use the vehicle to deliver or operate a payload. Another project at the center is a transportation system to send vehicles back to the moon and to Mars.



About Alabama

The U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville has a Space Camp for Kids. Activities include experiments and defying gravity. You can even ride in a space capsule. They also have space camps designed for children with impaired vision or hearing.

Think It Through!

1. What country was the first to launch a satellite?
2. Why did Huntsville grow so quickly?
3. Who was the first American astronaut in space?

The Cultural and Natural Sides of Alabama

As you read, look for

- the three types of schooling students may receive;
- ways people may practice their religion;
- what activities are included in the “arts”;
- the largest city-owned museum in the Southeast;
- term: **depletion**.

Alabama’s culture includes the beliefs, language, foods, manners, institutions, and arts of its people. In addition to a rich cultural history, Alabama offers the beauty and wonder of nature. Everyone can find some bit of the state to enjoy for recreation or relaxation.

Our Culture Today

Some parts of our culture stay the same while other parts change—sometimes quickly. Over time, new methods of teaching and new forms of art are introduced. Even new meanings for old words like *tweet* change the language we speak. Food choices expand as new people bring different dishes like tacos and wraps.

Education

There are 131 school districts in Alabama. More than 742,000 students attend classes in prekindergarten through grade 12. There are 1,547 public schools in the state, from elementary



Above: *The RISE school at the University of Alabama is for preschoolers with physical or learning handicaps. The school is in the Stallings Center. It was named for Coach Gene Stallings, whose son John Mark had Down Syndrome.*



Top: *There are more than 1,500 public schools in Alabama. This is Scottsboro High School.*
Above: *Alabama Southern Community College has 2 campuses. This is the campus in Monroeville.*

through career/technical centers. The Alabama State Department of Education carries out policies set by the elected Alabama State Board of Education.

There are over 70 schools in Alabama that students can attend after they finish high school. These include technical schools, community colleges, and 4-year colleges and universities.

Most schools in Alabama are public schools that are funded (paid for) by taxes. There are also private schools supported by religious groups or other organizations. Some students are home-schooled.

Language

English is the main language spoken in Alabama. A large number of new Hispanic residents speak Spanish.

Some communities and first-responders have people who speak more than one language. These people can help with communication in emergencies. Religious and immigrant groups speak many other languages.



Religion

Religion is important to many Alabamians today. As you travel throughout the state, you can see churches, synagogues, temples, cathedrals, mosques, and other places of worship. People may practice their religion in the celebration of holidays or the clothes they wear. The customs at weddings and funerals are other ways to express religious beliefs.

The Arts

The arts are popular in Alabama. Most schools teach drawing, crafts, and music. There are piano, voice, drawing, dancing, and photography teachers in many communities. Some towns have art centers. These are places where young people can learn to make pottery, play a musical instrument, or do wood carving.

There are art museums and festivals around the state where you can see paintings and other visual arts. The Alabama Symphony and the Alabama Ballet sometimes travel to the state's



Top: Jefferson Baptist Church is typical of small town churches all over Alabama. **Above:** The Montgomery Ballet performs at the Davis Theatre for the Performing Arts, a 1930 movie palace.



The Museum of Mobile houses a wide range of exhibits. There you can learn about early Mobile citizens and the life of slaves on a ship. Other exhibits at the museum range from Civil War soldiers to the dangers of hurricanes.

schools to perform. The Alabama School of Fine Arts is dedicated to teaching the arts to talented young people.

Alabama is also home to a number of writers. Some of them write articles for newspapers or magazines. Others write books, stories, and poems. Most schools encourage students to put their thoughts into words and write them.

Young people begin to take parts in programs or plays at an early age. High schools often have departments that teach acting. The Alabama Shakespeare Festival is in a 250-acre park in Montgomery. Plays are performed in its 2 theaters throughout the year.

Cultural Attractions

No matter what your cultural interests may be, there are probably some things related to them in Alabama. You can hear symphonies as well as country and western music. You can see both ballet and hoedowns.

Museums around the state have exhibits that display everything from art to mummies. One of the state's most popular museums is the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville. Here you can see the Apollo spacecraft, a shuttle exhibit, and a part of Skylab. Alabama has 2 large zoos and a number of



public gardens. The Birmingham Museum of Art is the largest city-owned museum in the southeastern United States.

Alabama's True Nature

Citizens today are taking a new interest in enjoying and protecting our natural environment. People are working to keep our water pure and litter off the roads. We all want to be able to enjoy nature the way it should be.

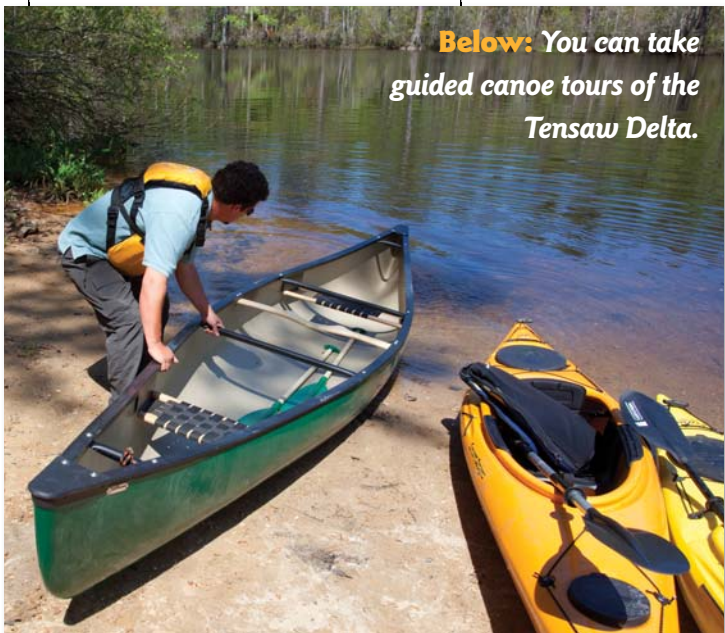
Parks and Recreation Areas

There is some type of state or federal recreation area in most Alabama counties. Camping, hiking, and bird watching are available in four national forests. Several quiet Alabama streams are good for canoeing. Some more lively streams are exciting for kayaking.

Wildlife areas provide natural homes for the state's wildlife. There are places where people can watch animals and birds go about their lives. You can see the natural life cycle of trees and wildflowers too.



Top: *The Alabama Shakespeare Festival is in a beautiful park in Montgomery. Above:* *You can see a rare white tiger at the Montgomery Zoo.*



Below: You can take guided canoe tours of the Tensaw Delta.

The state's lakes and rivers offer fun and recreation to Alabamians as well as tourists. You can cruise along in a pontoon boat, paddle your own canoe, or zip past in a speedboat. Or maybe you just want to wet a hook?

Alabama's Natural Environment

When American Indians first came to what is now Alabama, the air was clean. The streams ran with pure, unpolluted water. These early people were able to live in balance with the area's plants and animals.

As years passed, more and more people moved to Alabama. They discovered the state's natural resources and used them to

earn a living. Soil became worn out with overcropping. Mining sometimes left great scars on the land.

Cities grew with the increase in business and industry. Roads were built to move people and goods from one location to another. Streams became dirty as waste material was dumped in the water.

Today, many people care about the environment. Farmers have learned to cultivate without **depletion** (using up) or erosion of the soil. Citizens have gone to Congress and the state legislature for help. They all worked to get laws passed to help clean up pollution. Students are encouraged to get their families to recycle paper, glass, and plastic. Individuals and groups take part in PALS (People Against a Littered State) activities. One of these is the Adopt-A-Mile program to clean up roadsides. It is a partnership with the Alabama Department of Transportation. Projects like these help keep litter off our streets and highways. Everyone should work to

keep Alabama beautiful.

Our state will continue to make scientific and technological progress. Transportation and industry will continue to be important parts of our economy. Alabama is trying, however, to bring man and nature back into balance.

About Alabama

The Helen Keller Fragrance Garden at the Alabama School for the Blind in Talladega is very special. The plants in the garden are chosen for their scent and texture (feel) instead of the way they look.

Think It Through!

1. How are public schools funded?
2. What are some types of museums found in Alabama?
3. How can you keep Alabama beautiful?

Focus on Nature

A Blooming Treasure

A unique flower called the Cahaba lily grows in special places in Alabama's Cahaba, Tallapoosa, and Coosa Rivers. The flower only grows in clear swift-flowing water above the Fall Line. It also must have sunny streambeds with exposed rocks. The swift water forces the baby lilies into cracks in the rocks. The bulbs multiply, grow quickly, and flower. After sunset, a special visitor flies from lily to lily. It is the hawk moth pollinating

the lilies so they can produce seed. The Cahaba lily blooms between mid-May and mid-June. This rare flower is in danger of extinction. Special attention must be given to protect the habitat of the lily from pollutants, flooding, and the buildup of mud. Groups like the Cahaba River Society work to protect these environments. However, it is up to Alabamians like you to protect special treasures like the Cahaba lily in the future.



Chapter Review

Chapter Summary

After World War II and the Korean Conflict, many people migrated from Alabama. But the state's population still grew during this time. In 1961, the United States began giving South Vietnam military help. That country's conflict with North Vietnam became the Vietnam War. Alabama troops served all through the eight years of the war.

Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990. The United States and other countries in the United Nations worked together to protect Kuwait. These countries fought a short war with Iraq and forced Iraq out of Kuwait.

On September 11, 2001, terrorists called al Qaeda attacked the United States. Thousands of people died in the 9/11 attacks. The United States launched the War on Terrorism to find and punish the terrorists. Afghanistan's Taliban government had shielded al Qaeda. The United States and its allies overturned the Taliban. The war in Afghanistan became the longest in U.S. history.

Operation Iraqi Freedom began March 20, 2003, to rid Iraq of the dictator, Saddam Hussein. Coalition soldiers looked for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. Troops and weapons from Alabama were a large part of the war effort.

The population of Huntsville grew quickly in just ten years. This growth happened because the space and rocket industry came to Redstone Arsenal. NASA opened the Marshall Space Flight Center in 1960. Work in Huntsville produced the Jupiter C and Saturn rockets.

The culture of Alabama has changed as the world has changed. The immigrant population in the state has increased. The growing number of Hispanic citizens has added new sounds, tastes, and sights. The African American population in the state dropped between 1950 and 2010. Religion has remained a strong influence in Alabama.

The arts are appreciated and practiced all over Alabama. The state has many festivals and museums that display and celebrate art.

Alabama is working to improve the environment. Citizens and the government work to clean the air, water, and soil of pollutants.



Remember

Number from 1 to 8 on a separate sheet of paper. Write the word from the list that matches the meanings below.

Al Qaeda	Rebel
Ceasefire	Suborbital
Diversified	Terrorist
9/11	WMD

1. September 11, 2001, the date the terrorists attacked the United States
2. Weapons of mass destruction; weapons that would kill or injure many people
3. Stop firing on the enemy
4. Traveling in a path that is not a full orbit
5. A person fighting his or her government, usually with weapons
6. A person who uses violence to cause fear

7. Radical Muslim terrorist group
8. Many different kinds of things



Reviewing the Facts

1. What weapon(s) did the terrorists use on 9/11?
2. What major industry in Huntsville works with the military and scientists?
3. What country let Osama bin Laden hide in its mountains?



Using Critical Thinking Skills

1. Why did the United States want to protect Kuwait?
2. Explain how the two wars, Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom, are connected.



Making Decisions

Pretend that you own a farm. Your soil is depleted and eroded. What will you do?



Project

Draw and label a map of the Middle East. Be sure to include major bodies of water on the map.



Writing

Interview three people who remember 9/11. Ask about their feelings and emotions too. Write a poem (perhaps a haiku) about the event from the information you gather.



Preparing for Tests

Multiple Choice—These questions are like those you may see on tests. Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

1. For Iraq to disarm, what did they have to get rid of?
 - A. Fighter jets
 - B. Guns
 - C. Tanks
 - D. Weapons of mass destruction
2. Which of these army helicopters is *not* managed at Huntsville?
 - A. Choctaw
 - B. Apache
 - C. Kiowa
 - D. Chinook



Using Technology

Find out more about the history of rockets and the Marshall Space Flight Center at nasa.gov. Choose a mission from the list and review the information. Write a topic sentence and three facts about the mission.

For a timeline of rocket history, go to history.msfc.nasa.gov/rocketry/. Choose an interesting topic. Read the material and write a paragraph summarizing it.