**EXERCISE: USING DOCUMENTS TO SUPPORT YOUR ARGUMENT**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. **Read each document carefully, then summarize each. After you do this:**
2. **Formulate an argument based on (1) your knowledge of the prompt’s subject (CHECK YOUR NOTES!), and (2) information gleaned from the documents.**
3. **Write an intro paragraph for the prompt (HINT: Whichever doc you DON’T agree with; that’s your counterargument)**

**THE EXERCISE IS IN WORD FORMAT; IF YOU WANT TO SEND IT TO ME FOR A LOOK-OVER JUST EMAIL IT BACK AS AN ATTACHMENT.**

**PROMPT**: Which was the greater driving force behind Andrew Jackson’s Indian policy: his devotion to states’ rights, his loyalty to his constituency, or his personal distaste for Native Americans?

**DOCUMENT 1**

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| “Jackson believed that removal was the Indian’s only salvation against certain extinction from encroaching white culture. That is not to say that the President was solely motivated by concerns for the Indians; rather he was motivated principally by two considerations: First, military safety: Indians must not occupy areas that might jeopardize the security and defense of the Nation; and second: the principle that all persons living within states are subject to the jurisdiction and laws of that state; which cannot be superseded by the intrusion of the Federal government. Would it have been worse that the Indians had remained in the East? Jackson thought so; he said that, in their current predicament, they would “disappear and be forgotten.” One thing does seem certain: Indians would have been forced to yield to state laws and white society. Indian nations per se would have been obliterated and, possibly, Indian culture along with them.”Robert V. Remini, Phd, *Andrew Jackson and the Course of American Freedom*, 1998. |

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**DOCUMENT 2**

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| “The Georgia Legislature passed a law extending the states’ jurisdiction over Native Americans, particularly the Cherokees living in that state; it was this action that forced the President’s hand. He must see to it that a removal policy long coveted and covertly pursued by the White House would now be enacted into law by Congress.As usual Jackson spoke publicly in a tone of friendship and concern for Indian welfare. He, as President, could be their friend and consequently help them only if they removed themselves across the Mississippi, where they would have a “land of their own” for perpetuity, or “as long as the grass grows and the water runs.”In spite of these conciliatory measures, a harsh policy was nonetheless put into place. Although physical removal of Indian tribes from the American Southeast would not commence until after Jackson had left the White House, it was under their auspices (dictates) of his policy that perpetuated it. It is abundantly cleat that Jackson and his administration were determined to permit the extension of state sovereignty because it would result in the harassment of Indians, who were powerless to resist, by encroaching speculators and other intruders hungry for Indian land.” Anthony D. Wallace, Phd, *The Long Bitter Trail: Andrew Jackson and the Indians*, 1993 |

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**INTRODUCTION PARAGRAPH:**

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