Lesson 20: How has the Right to Vote been EXPANDED since the adoption of our Constitution?

Purpose:

Terms:

Enfranchisement-

Franchise-

**While reading through lesson 20 please take notes over the following topics and answer the questions pertaining to the different topics.**

Why was Franchise important to the American Constitutional system?

1.How have states differed in expanding franchise?

How was suffrage determined when the Constitution was adopted?

2. What reasoning supported tying the right to vote to property ownership? Is that reasoning still valid today? Why or why not?

3.Why do you think the Philadelphia Convention declined to establish nation-wide qualifications for suffrage?

4. How might the states’ diverse property requirements for suffrage influence citizens’ relationships to their government?

How did voting rights expand for white men?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| African-America | Women |
| Native Americans | 18 Year Olds |

5. What processes did women use to obtain the right to vote? What factors explain why it took women more than three generations to secure the franchise?

6. People between the ages of 18-25 vote less than any other age group. Why do you think this is?