

Standard 25 Vocabulary

1. WMD – Weapon of Mass Destruction
2. Saddam Hussein – Former Iraq president who went into hiding while American troops searched for weapons of mass destruction.
3. Operation Iraqi Freedom – March 2003 invasion of Iraq to search for WMD's.
4. Operation Enduring Freedom – Invasion of Afghanistan by the U.S. military and allied forces.
5. War on Terrorism (Terror) – Series of actions in order to fight al –Qaeda network and other terrorist groups.
6. Department of Homeland Security – security force charged with protecting the United States from terrorist attacks and responding to natural disasters.
7. Patriot Act – Gives government the authority to look into persons suspected of terrorist actions (wire taps)
8. 9/11 – September 11, 2001; terrorist attacks on World Trade Center and Pentagon and failed attack resulting in crashing in Pennsylvania. Led by al-Qaeda.
9. President George W. Bush – President of the United States most known for the events of 9/11 and the anti-terrorist response that followed.
10. Electoral College –elected officials who vote for the presidential candidates. (12th amendment)
11. George W. Bush & Al Gore – Presidential candidates in 2000 election Dem-Al Gore Repub-George W. Bush.
12. 2000 Presidential Election – Won by George W. Bush in electoral college 271 to 266. Gore won the popular vote by 500,000 votes.
13. Impeachment of Clinton – Clinton was second ever president to suffer impeachment. House of Representatives charged him with perjury and obstruction of justice. Was eventually acquitted and allowed to serve out remainder of term.
14. NAFTA – North American Free Trade Agreement brought Mexico into a free trade zone already existing between US and Canada. Pros – open up growing market. Cons – send U.S. jobs to Mexico.
15. President Bill Clinton – 42nd President of the U.S. Helped bring U.S. out of economic struggles of the mid 1990s.
16. End of Cold War – Caused by the collapse of the Soviet Union and the breakup of the 15 states that made up the USSR.
17. Collapse of the Soviet Union – 1991; Soviet Union's last leader set up policies allowing freedom of speech and press and reforms got out of leader's control leading to collapse.
18. Fall of Berlin Wall – November 1989; Berlin wall separating East and West Berlin torn down; unified Germany as one nation again
19. Iran-Contra Scandal – Reagan's biggest failure in international policy. Administration officials sold weapons to Iran – an enemy of the U.S. – and used profits to fund counter-rebellion in Nicaragua.
20. Sandra Day O'Connor – First female appointed to the Supreme Court (Reagan)
21. Reaganomics – nickname for Ronald Reagan's economic policy that included budget cuts, tax cuts and increased defense spending; if Americans had more money to spend the economy would improve

22. President Ronald Reagan – President during the 1980s whose presidency helped shape American politics to this day. Wanted to decrease the size and role of the federal government.
23. Iranian Hostage Crisis – Iranian revolutionaries invaded American embassy in Iran and took 52 Americans captive. Lasted 444 days.
24. Iranian Revolution – 1978 revolution that saw the replacement of the shah (king) friendly to America with a Muslim religious leader unfriendly to America.
25. Camp David Accords – Talks that resulted in a peace agreement between the Egyptian president and the Israeli prime minister at Camp David in 1978.
26. President Jimmy Carter – 39th President of the United States whose presidency was strongly affected by many international issues.
27. Nixon Pardon – President Gerald Ford issued this to a former president and excused any crimes he may have committed.
28. President Gerald Ford – Vice President of Richard Nixon who finished out Nixon's presidency after he was impeached. Vietnam War ended during his administration.
29. Change in attitude toward Presidency – Americans became more skeptical and aware of what presidents were doing in office
30. Nixon's Resignation – Gave up presidency following a scandal during the 1972 presidential election. Had a negative impact on the American people and their belief in general politics and led to changes in campaign financing and to laws requiring some government officials to disclose financial records.
31. Watergate Scandal – An attempt to cover up a burglary of the offices of the Democratic Party during the 1972 election.
32. SALT – Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty; limited the number of nuclear arms (US and Soviet Union)
33. Nixon's visit to China – 1971 Presidential visit to seek scientific, cultural, and trade agreements.
34. Détente – Easing of strained relations, especially in politics (United States and China)
35. President Richard Nixon – 37th President of the United States whose presidency was one of the greatest successes and criminal scandals in presidential history.