

The Presidencies of Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, & Jimmy Carter: 1968-1980**I. The Presidency of Richard Nixon**

- A. By the late 1960s, citizens had seen enough _____ in U.S. foreign & domestic affairs:
1. The _____ of the 1950s & 1960s was starting to come to an end
 2. American prestige in the world was damaged by the failure in _____
 3. Anti-war protests, “_____” culture, & _____ gov’t programs led many citizens to believe that America was headed for moral decay & economic collapse
- B. The Election of Richard Nixon
1. In the 1968, Americans elected _____ Republican Richard Nixon
 2. Nixon’s victory in 1968 was due to the turnout of a “_____ majority” who wanted a more conservative gov’t
- C. Richard Nixon & Domestic Policy
1. As a conservative, Nixon believed in a _____ for the national gov’t
 2. He tried to _____ or _____ many Great Society programs
 3. He gave _____ more control over how money for _____ programs was spent
 4. Conservatives in the Sunbelt
 - a. By the late 1960s, the _____ was becoming more _____ due to new military bases & corporate headquarters, the relocation of retirees, & frustration by whites over civil rights
 - b. Nixon seized the opportunity to attract Southerners to the _____ Party by opposing new civil rights policies & cutting government _____
- D. President Nixon successfully changed U.S. foreign policy
1. Instead of using _____ to fight Communism & increase Cold War tensions, Nixon created a policy of _____ (to ease tensions) with America’s Cold War enemies
 2. President Nixon & aide Henry Kissinger used a strategy called _____ to improve America’s role in the world
 - a. Nixon’s foreign policy included “_____” in Vietnam
 - i. Nixon discussed plans for “_____” but secretly bombed Cambodia & Laos in 1970
 - ii. In 1973, Nixon negotiated a _____, withdrew U.S. troops, & ended the Vietnam War
 - b. Nixon’s foreign policy included better relations with China
 - i. In 1972, Nixon became the 1st president to _____ & _____ China
 - ii. Nixon’s visit allowed for the possibility of U.S. _____
 - iii. Nixon’s visit to China was also meant to exploit a growing _____ between USSR & China; Now the USSR had to cooperate with the U.S.
 - c. Nixon’s détente policy was aimed at _____ Cold War tensions with the _____
 - i. By visiting China, Nixon pressured Soviet leader Brezhnev to _____ with the United States
 - ii. In 1972, Nixon became the 1st president to visit _____; His visit led to the Strategic _____ Limitation Talks (SALT) to limit _____
- E. Nixon was a _____ president by the end of his 1st term
1. His domestic policies reduced _____ & revitalized middle-class, conservative, & Southern voters
 2. His foreign policies led to the end of an unpopular war in Vietnam & _____ with America’s two biggest Cold War rivals
 3. In _____, Nixon won one of the biggest landslide victories in presidential history
- F. But after Nixon’s re-election in 1972, the _____ scandal broke; President Nixon _____ in 1974 rather than face impeachment

II. The Watergate Scandal (see #8 activity)**III. America from 1974 to 1980**

- A. In the late 70s, the U.S. was “_____”
1. Americans _____ their government as a result of Vietnam & _____
 2. The economy had entered a _____ with high unemployment & inflation
 3. A decline in America’s _____ in the world
 4. A series of presidents (Ford & Carter) that _____ to inspire a sense of _____ among the American people
- B. President Gerald Ford

1. When Nixon _____ in 1974, VP Gerald Ford became president
 - a. Ford was seen as an “_____ man” & hoped to move America past the Watergate _____
 - b. But, Ford was unable to move forward due to constant questions about a potential _____ of Nixon
 - c. In September 1974, Ford _____ Nixon of any crimes related to Watergate; Ford lost popular support
 2. Another issue during Ford’s presidency was a growing economic recession
 - a. Since the early 1970s, the economy had grown _____ with few new jobs or business profits
 - b. _____, interest rates, & _____ were all on the rise
 - c. Together, a stagnant economy & high inflation are known as: _____
 3. Making the economic situation worse was the _____ of the 1970s
 - a. Since “_____” of the 1950s, U.S. use of oil was on the rise
 - b. In 1960, the oil rich nations in Middle East & Latin America formed the Org of Petroleum Exporting Countries (_____)
 - c. In retaliation for American support of _____, OPEC _____ to the U.S. in 1973
 - d. As a result, gas prices soared & shortages led to _____ for gasoline
- C. President Jimmy Carter
1. The Election of 1976
 - a. Ford had no answer for _____ or the gas crisis & was challenged by _____ Democrat Jimmy Carter in the 1976 election
 - b. Carter ran as an “_____” who played no part in Vietnam, _____, or the recession
 - c. In the 1976 election, Carter _____ Ford
 2. Carter & Domestic Policy
 - a. As president, Carter tried to attack the _____ stagflation, & the recession
 - b. _____ of his efforts worked: _____ hit 14%; interest rates neared 20%, & a new _____ embargo in 1979 increased gas prices
 3. Carter entered office committed to making “_____” the basis of U.S. foreign policy
 - a. Carter stopped supporting foreign governments that _____ human rights
 - b. In 1977, Carter agreed that the U.S. would return the _____ in December 1979
 - c. Carter hoped to gain _____ in the Middle East between _____ & the Muslim nations
 - d. The Camp David Accords, 1977
 - i. Since its creation in 1947, Israel was _____ by its Muslim neighbors in the 1940s, 1960s, & 1970s
 - ii. By the 1970s, _____ appeared ready to recognize Israel in exchange for the return of land in the Sinai Peninsula
 - iii. Carter brought _____ leader Anwar el-Sadat & _____ leader Menachem Begin to the U.S. for the _____ Accords in 1977
 4. The Iranian Revolution & Iran Hostage Crisis, 1979
 - a. But, the situation in the Middle East got worse in 1979 when fundamental _____ cleric Ayatollah Khomeini led the _____
 - b. Iranians seized the U.S. _____ & captured 52 American _____ (Iranian Hostage Crisis)
 - i. Carter tried negotiation, economic threats, & a rescue mission to return the hostages but all efforts _____
 - ii. The 52 hostages were held for _____ days
 5. Carter & the Cold War
 - a. To make matters worse, the Soviet Union invaded _____ in 1979 to defeat an anti-communist uprising
 - b. The invasion signaled an end to Nixon’s _____ with the USSR as the United States sent aid to the Afghan rebels
 6. The Election of 1980
 - a. By 1980, Carter had been unable to end _____, free the U.S. hostages in _____, or restore America’s place in the world
 - b. In the election of 1980, Americans in search of answers elected _____ as president

IV. Conclusions: By 1980, the USA seemed to be losing its place as the top nation in the world:

- A. The 1970s presented _____ in the Cold War & new problems in the Middle East
- B. The social protests & counter culture seemed to divide _____ & _____
- C. Stagflation & the economic recession were growing _____, not better
- D. The failures of Johnson, Nixon, Ford, & Carter left citizens in search of _____, strong leadership, & conservative policies