

Period 9: 1980-Present

- **Key Concept 9.1:** A newly ascendant conservative movement achieved several political and policy goals during the 1980s and continued to strongly influence public discourse in the following decades.
- **Key Concept 9.2:** Moving into the 21st century, the nation experienced significant technological, economic, and demographic changes.
- **Key Concept 9.3:** The end of the Cold War and new challenges to U.S. leadership forced the nation to redefine its foreign policy and role in the world.

For each term below, write a thoughtful, nuanced definition that explains what the term is, the time period it takes place in (decade), and its effect on American society.

<p>Period 9: Chapters 39-40 (American Pageant)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. religious fundamentalism 2. Moral Majority 3. reverse discrimination 4. election of Ronald Reagan 5. Reaganomics 6. Star Wars 7. Iran-contra affair 8. “tear down this wall” 9. Sandra Day O’Conner 10. William Rehnquist 11. Nicaragua 12. “evil empire” 13. START I and II 14. PACs^[SEP] 15. Mikhail Gorbachev 	<p>Chapters 41-41 (American Pageant), Chapters 30-31 (AMSCO US History: Preparing for the AP Exam)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Persian Gulf War 2. Operation Desert Storm 3. Clarence Thomas 4. failure of health reform 5. “don’t ask, don’t tell” 6. NAFTA 7. NRA 8. Contract with America 9. Oklahoma City bombing 10. Clinton impeachment 11. Balkan Wars 12. European Union 13. World Bank, G-8 14. Internet, e-commerce 15. “graying” America 16. political polarization 17. election of 2000 18. No Child Left Behind 19. War on Terror 20. Al-Qaeda 21. September 11th, 2001^[SEP] 22. Homeland Security Department 23. Patriot Act^[SEP] 24. causes of the Great Recession 25. Affordable Care Act
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Directions: Read each question carefully and write your response on the lined pages provided in the packet. You should take care to fit your answer into the box. The materials will come from the American Pageant (13th Edition) and the AMSCO supplement book (recommended for purchase for about \$20 from <http://bit.ly/2nHXzpd>). If you do not purchase the AMSCO book, please use the Internet to help you define terms that occurred past the last chapter of our textbook. For an overview as to how to tackle a Short Answer Question (SAQ), visit <http://bit.ly/1SfaCXN>

. . . By reducing government intervention, Reagan has injected a new competitive spirit into the marketplace. There is now an atmosphere that encourages business efficiency. For example, merger and acquisition activity, properly undertaken within the constraints of antitrust laws, has allowed companies and even entire industries to restructure and become more efficient and financially sound. Shareholders have reaped the rewards of their investments, and the government has received additional revenues as taxes are paid on those gains.

But Reagan has done even more for the average worker than stimulate employment. Through his tax policies, Americans are now taking home more pay. They have more money for their children's education, a new home, retirement, and investments. Some 42 million Americans have invested in shares of publicly owned companies, either directly or through mutual funds, compared with 30 million in 1980. . . .

SOURCE: Businessman T. Boone Pickens' speech, 1984.

God Almighty heard and God Almighty answered. He sent a change in government. He sent a change in perception. He sent a change in attitude. But I want you to know something; it isn't finished yet. We still have crime. We still have a million babies a year slaughtered since *Roe vs. Wade*. By the end of this century, we will have 40 million children slaughtered. . . .

In this country, the educational level is so appalling that our schools have become jungles. The Attorney General says there are 250,000 violent crimes in our schools every single month. Our schools are the most dangerous place to be, besides perhaps the mother's womb, which is now the most dangerous of all. Beyond that, school, which is a place of learning and moral teaching, has become an absolute zoo. Now the crimes are assault with a deadly weapon, narcotic possession, and narcotic distribution. . . .

The family is broken up so badly that there are now 13 million children who are living with only one of their parents because the divorce rate is such that one out of every two new marriages formed breaks up. You'll be shocked to learn as I was that in the black community, 55% of all the births are to single women. . . .

Ladies and gentlemen, I want to challenge you tonight. We can reverse the tide of secularism. We can bring a reformation to America. We can see little children praying in schools. We can stop the slaughter of abortion. We can eliminate this plague of pornography and the organized crime that goes with it. We can eliminate the drug addiction. We can make the government responsible to the citizens. We can stop the incredible waste in this government.

But it's only going to happen if people like you and like me get involved. . . .

I believe as we leave this place, we do have, as President Reagan said, a date with destiny. We are going to see a change in this nation, and you're going to be a part of it. And who knows, that God has called you to the Kingdom for such a time as this.

Thank you and God bless you.

SOURCE: Televangelist Rev. Pat Robertson, speech to the National Religious Broadcasters, February 5, 1986.

Question 1: HTS: Cause/Effect

- A. Briefly describe ONE significant similarity between Pickens' and Robertson's interpretation of the Reagan administration.
- B. Briefly describe ONE significant cause of the rise of **conservatism** in the 1980s.
- C. Briefly describe ONE significant effect of the rise of **conservatism** in the 1980s.

As the 1994 congressional elections neared, Republicans recognized a golden opportunity to win a clear, conservative majority in the House. In his first two years in office, President Bill Clinton's (served 1993–2001) popularity waned. Clinton experienced bitter battles over gays in the military, tax increases, ethical charges, and health care reform during his first two years in office. Although Democrats had controlled Congress and the presidency for two years, they had failed to effect substantive policy changes. The United States was in an anti-incumbent mood. Republicans, however, realized that Clinton's unpopularity alone was not enough for them to win control of the House. To achieve this, Republicans crafted a positive, detailed ten-point political agenda. It sought to capitalize on widespread voter disillusionment, portraying Republicans as forward thinkers—in stark contrast to the old, tired Democratic policies of the past. In September 1994, 367 Republican candidates for congressional office staged a mass signing of the "Contract With America" on the steps of the U.S. Capitol. The candidates promised to roll back federal power by passing all ten items within the first one hundred days of the 1995–1996 session, echoing the famous "First Hundred Days" of Roosevelt's New Deal. "If we break this Contract, throw us out," they pledged.

Source: Gayner, Jeffrey B. "The Contract With America: Implementing New Ideas In the U.S." *The Heritage Foundation*, 1995

The House lawsuit zeroes in on two changes to Obamacare implemented by the administration. The brief filed on behalf of the House maintains the decision to waive the requirement that employers provide health care coverage isn't expressly called for in the law.

It also argues that the \$175 billion paid by the Treasury Department to insurers was "an unlawful giveaway" because Congress never approved the money. The brief cites the "power of the purse" assigned to Congress under the U.S. Constitution.

"Time and again, the President has chosen to rewrite the law whenever it suits him, ignoring the will of the American people and the Constitution itself," Boehner said in a written statement issued Wednesday.

"No one -- especially no president -- is above accountability to the Constitution and the rule of law," he said.

House Democrats insist the Obama administration acted appropriately, and have denounced the lawsuit as a waste of taxpayer resources.

Source: Deirdre Walsh, "Boehner touts his lawsuit challenge to Obamacare", May 27th, 2015

Question 2: HTS: Compare/Contrast

- A. Briefly compare the **Republican** response to a **Democratic** President from both excerpts.
- B. Briefly use historical evidence to support ONE specific reason for Republican tension with **President Clinton** specifically mentioned in the excerpt.
- C. Briefly use historical evidence to support ONE specific reason for Republican tension with **President Obama** specifically mentioned in the excerpt.



Question 3: HTS: Periodization

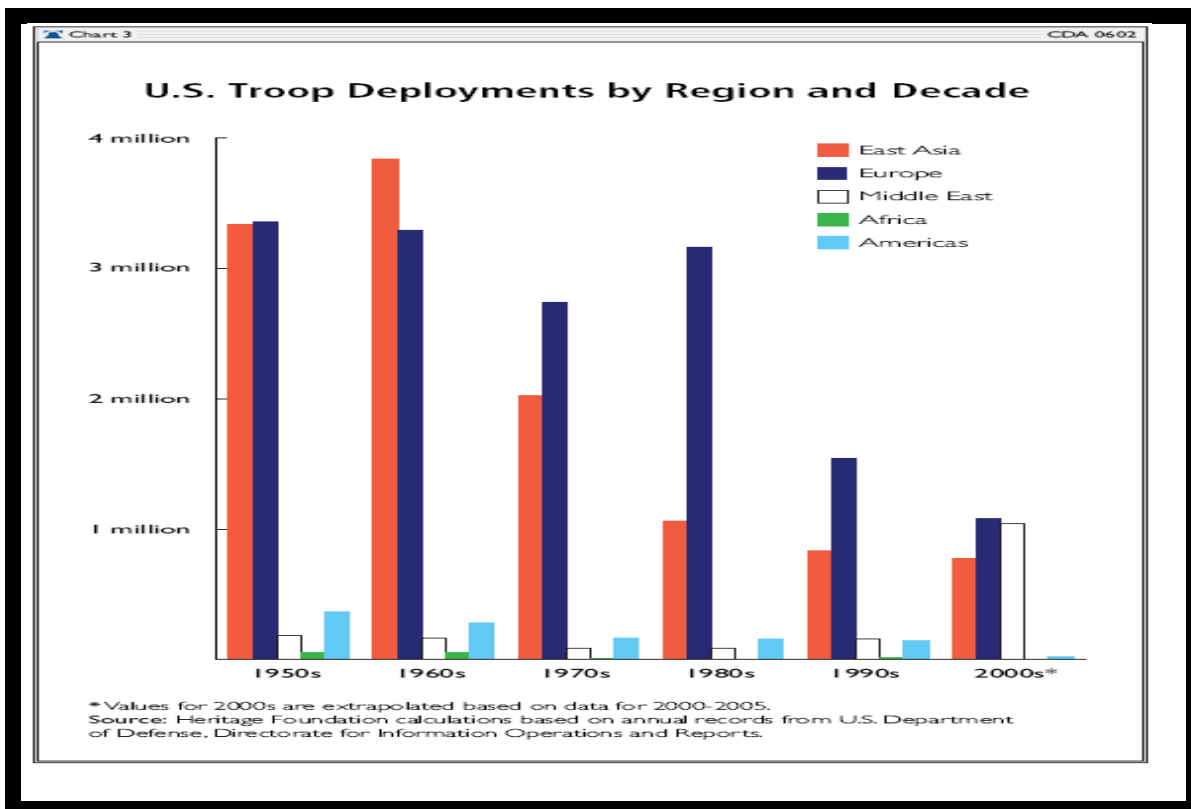
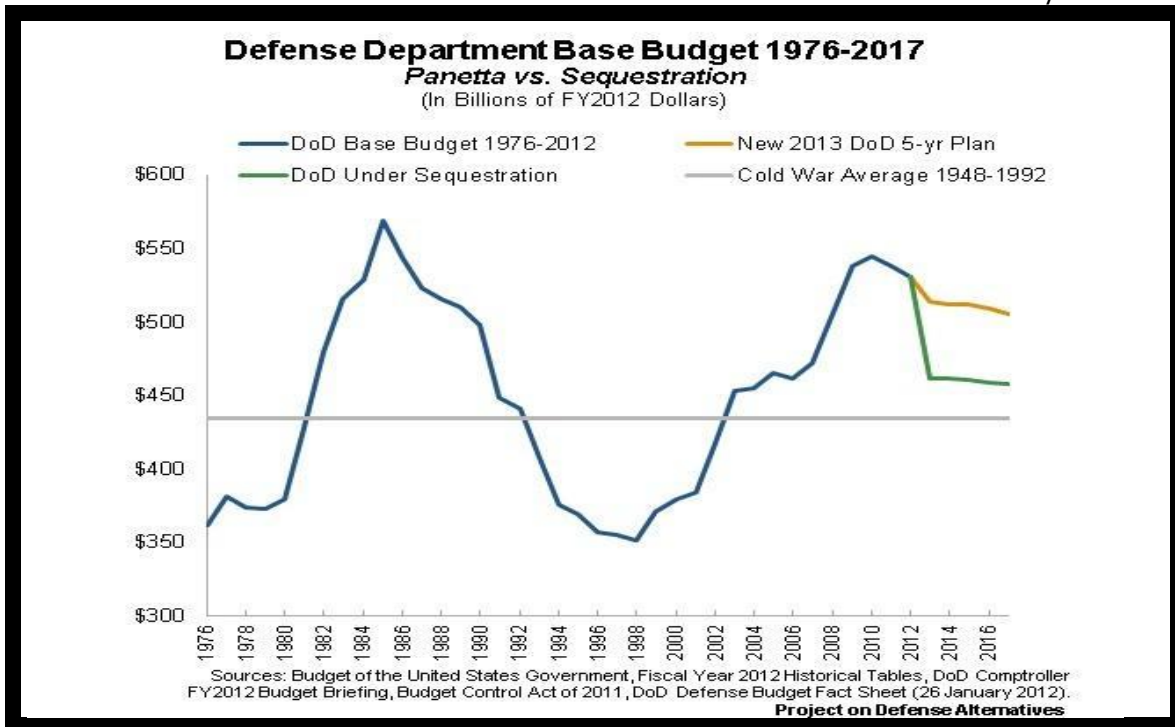
A. Briefly explain the **historical context** of the image above.

**** Historical thinking involves the ability to connect historical developments to specific circumstances in time and place, and to broader regional, national or global processes.****

B. Briefly explain an example of **historical synthesis** that relates to the image above.

**** Historical thinking involves the ability to arrive at meaningful and persuasive understandings of the past by applying all the other historical thinking skills, by drawing appropriately on ideas from different fields of inquiry or disciplines and by creatively fusing disparate, relevant (and perhaps contradictory) evidence from primary sources and secondary works. Additionally, synthesis may involve applying insights about the past to other historical contexts or circumstances, including the present.****

C. Briefly explain how the attacks on **September 11th, 2001** were a turning point for **civil liberties** in America.



Question 4: HTS: Continuity and Change over Time

- A. Briefly compare the **relationship** between the two graphs.
- B. Briefly explain ONE example of continuity in **American foreign policy** during this period.
- C. Briefly explain ONE example of change in **American foreign policy** during this period.