President Richard Nixon

Part A: Short Answer: Instructions: In at least one paragraph, answer the questions below.

1. Describe Nixon’s attitude toward his political rivals as President. How did this attitude impact his political tactics? How did his loss to JFK in the Election of 1960 impact his attitude as President once he won in 1968?

2. Describe Nixon’s relationship with his close advisors. Specially, how did H.R. Haldeman and John Dean impact the Watergate Scandal that Nixon was involved in?

3. In the 1960s and 1970s, many in the USA had a negative view of the government. What factors led to this negative view that many held to in America? How did this impact the administrations of Lyndon Baines Johnson and of Nixon?

Part B: Fill in the blank: Instructions: Complete the sentences below with terms from the word bank.


1. Richard Nixon was in the __________________________ Party.
2. ________________________ tried to destroy documents that could link Nixon to the Watergate scandal.
3. Carl Bernstein and Bob ____________________ reported on the Watergate Scandal.
4. The ________________________ Post followed the Watergate Scandal closely and reported consistently on the topic.
5. John __________________ admitted that Nixon knew about the Watergate break in.
6. Nixon wanted to turn over various audio tapes only after he edited them. Yet, the __________________________ Court ruled he had to turn them over without editing them.
7. President __________________ pardoned Nixon of all crimes connected to Watergate.
Answers:

Part A: Short Answer: Instructions: In at least one paragraph, answer the questions below.

1. Describe Nixon's attitude toward his political rivals as President. How did this attitude impact his political tactics? How did his loss to JFK in the Election of 1960 impact his attitude as President once he won in 1968?

Nixon had a paranoid attitude. He believed a vast conspiracy stood against his political goals. Losing to JFK made him determined to not lose another election. Once in office, he even allowed questionable tactics to be used to stay ahead of political rivals. The most famous questionable tactic was the break in at Watergate.

2. Describe Nixon’s relationship with his close advisors. Specially, how did H.R. Haldeman and John Dean impact the Watergate Scandal that Nixon was involved in?

Nixon, a Republican, entrusted himself to a few close advisors. H.R. Haldeman (Chief of Staff), John Deal (Presidential Counsel), and John Mitchell (Attorney General) were some of his closest consultants. Nixon was frustrated with the various negotiations that were needed to deal with the Congress that was dominated by Democrats. He wanted to get the upper hand on their plans. He allowed mean to break the law by illegally attempting to spy on those Nixon believed were in the conspiracy against him. Haldeman tried to destroy documents linking Nixon to Watergate. Dean confessed Nixon knew about Watergate.

3. In the 1960s and 1970s, many in the USA had a negative view of the government. What factors led to this negative view that many held to in America? How did this impact that administrations of Lyndon Baines Johnson and of Nixon?

In the late 60s and early 70s, many in America held to a negative view of the government, especially toward the actions in Vietnam. Many were frustrated with the war’s length and the devastation it had caused. Lyndon Johnson even refused to run again in 1968, partially due to the unpopularity of the Vietnam War. Richard Nixon inherited the conflict and also had to deal with the negative view of government present in the American culture of the era.

Part B: Fill in the blank: Instructions: Complete the sentences below with terms from the word bank below.


1. Richard Nixon was in the Republican Party.
2. Haldeman tried to destroy documents that could link Nixon to the Watergate scandal.
3. Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward reported on the Watergate Scandal.
4. The Washington Post followed the Watergate Scandal closely and reported consistently on the topic.
5. John Dean admitted that Nixon knew about the Watergate break in.
6. Nixon wanted to turn over various audio tapes only after he edited them. Yet, the Supreme Court ruled he had to turn them over without editing them.
7. President Ford pardoned Nixon of all crimes connected to Watergate.