Test: Ford, Carter, and Reagan

Part A: Multiple Choice: Instructions: Choose the option that answers the question or completes the sentence.

1. What criminal activity did Ford pardon Nixon for in 1974?
   a. Nixon had committed war crimes in Vietnam by dropping napalm bombs on Cambodia.
   b. Nixon violated the laws of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization by pursuing diplomatic relations with Communist China.
   c. Nixon secretly approved the overthrowing of the government of Nicaragua.
   d. Nixon was connected to a burglary that occurred in the Democratic National Headquarters.

2. All of the following were occurring in the American economy in the mid-1970s EXCEPT:
   a. Unemployment was increasing
   b. Job growth was rising
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3. What was the purpose of Ford’s WIN strategy?
   a. To pardon Nixon so the nation could move forward
   b. To limit inflation
   c. To officially end the Vietnam War
   d. To refuse cooperation with Communist nations

4. What advisor to Ford urged that the USA continue to practice Realpolitik?
   a. Donald Rumsfeld
   b. Henry Kissinger
   c. John Dean
   d. H.R. Haldeman

5. Why did the Helsinki Accords of 1974 concern some individuals?
   a. They feared that France would join the Soviet Union.
   b. They feared that the USA was diminishing its support for the independence of the Baltic States.
   c. They feared that the meeting would increase the amount of nuclear weapons in the world and simply lead to a surge in the arms race between the USA and the USSR.
   d. They feared that the USA would allow the USSR to put missiles in Cuba.

6. Who was the last President to be in office while the Vietnam War was occurring?
   a. Lyndon Baines Johnson
   b. Jimmy Carter
   c. Richard Nixon
   d. Gerald Ford

   a. Ronald Reagan
   b. Walter Mondale
   c. Gerald Ford
   d. Richard Nixon
8. What option below explains why Carter was hesitant to pursue an open, political relationship with Nicaragua?
   a. Nicaragua supported the Communist takeover of Cuba.
   b. Nicaragua did not protect Human Rights within their country.
   c. Nicaragua allowed the USSR to put missiles in their nation.
   d. All of the above.

9. What option below best describes the impact of OPEC’s political and business tactics on the American economy in the 1970s?
   a. Neutral
   b. Harmful
   c. Helpful
   d. Positive

    a. Henry Kissinger
    b. Gerald Ford
    c. Anwar El Sadat
    d. Moosavi Khomeini

11. What reason did the extremists in Iran give for storming the US embassy and taking hostages in 1979?
    a. They were upset that the USA stopped cooperation with Nicaragua.
    b. They were furious that the USA let Mohammad Reza Pahlavi enter America.
    c. They were angry that the USA was helping the Mujahedeen in Afghanistan.
    d. They were enraged that the USA formed a peace agreement between Egypt and Israel.

12. What option below explains why the USA supported the Mujahedeen in Afghanistan, even though the group had many extremists in their loosely connected association?
    a. The USA wanted an ally to invade Iran.
    b. The USA was secretly trying to capture terrorists.
    c. The USA was more concerned about the USSR than militant extremists.
    d. All of the above.

13. Who would have been most likely to reduce taxes and cut social programs, if he won the Presidency in the election of 1964?
    a. Both Barry Goldwater and Lyndon Johnson wanted to reduce taxes.
    b. Barry Goldwater
    c. Lyndon Johnson
    d. None of the above.

14. Which political party gained massive support from Fundamentalist Christians in the Election of 1980?
    a. The Bull Moose Party
    b. The Republicans
    c. The Democrats
    d. The Green Party

15. Why was it ironic that Jimmy Carter lost support from The Moral Majority in the Election of 1980?
    a. He encouraged people to boycott the election of 1980 until America ceased making nuclear weapons.
    b. Carter publically asserted that he was a born again Christian.
    c. Carter successfully freed many hostages in Iran through the use of military engagement.
    d. He encouraged people to support the government of Nicaragua.
16. All of the following were obstacles that damaged the popularity of President Jimmy Carter EXCEPT:
   a. Carter could not get America out the Vietnam War.
   b. Carter could not secure the release of hostages in Iran.
   c. Carter’s policy of only dealing with nations that secured Human Rights was viewed as naïve and unrealistic.
   d. Carter could not get the economy to start moving in a positive direction.

17. In 1980, all of the following were social trends that many Fundamentalist Christians wanted to see reversed or completely stopped EXCEPT:
   a. The Supreme Court ruled that staff led school prayer was unconstitutional.
   b. The Supreme Court ruled that abortion was legal in Roe vs. Wade.
   c. The Republican candidate, Ronald Reagan, promised to lower taxes if elected President.
   d. The Legislative Branch was gaining momentum to pass the Equal Rights Act.

18. All of the following were economic tactics of President Ronald Reagan EXCEPT:
   a. Reduce funding for social programs
   b. Increase spending on defense
   c. Reduce taxes, especially on the very wealthy
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19. Which of the following is an example of deregulation?
   a. The government reduces the amount of rules a television company has to follow to operate.
   b. The government splits up a monopoly.
   c. The government adds strict rules for trading stocks.
   d. The government buys crops from farmers and sells them for a low price to the public at large.

20. All of the following were critiques that many Democrats offered toward the Strategic Defense Initiative EXCEPT:
   a. It was not needed, since the USSR ceased practicing Communism in 1980.
   b. It was too expensive.
   c. It received funding, while funding for various social programs was reduced.
   d. They asserted it was unrealistic and would not work.

21. Which person below would most likely support Reagan’s appointment of Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy, and Sandra Day O’Conner to the Supreme Court?
   a. A supporter of the Pro-Choice Movement.
   b. A member of Jerry Falwell’s Moral Majority Group.
   c. An American who supported the liberal court decisions that persisted in the mid-20th century.
   d. A Democrat living in the North.

22. What tactic, pursued by President Ronald Regan, contributed to a budget deficit?
   a. Greatly funding defense in the government’s budget.
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   d. Reducing funding for free and reduced lunch in schools.

23. Which of the following did President Ronald Reagan want to fund, expansively, in the nation’s budget?
   a. Defense
   b. Food Stamps
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24. Why did Mikhail Gorbachev want to sign the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty?
   a. Gorbachev wanted America to remove missiles in Turkey during the Cuban Missile Crisis.
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25. During the protests in China, in 1989, at Tiananmen Square, ____________ sent in the military to crush the protests.
   a. Ho Chi Minh
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26. Why did Reagan support the Contras in Nicaragua?
   a. He believed they would win their war against Iraq and bring stability to the Middle East.
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27. Who was the leader of the USSR during the Cuban Missile Crisis?
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28. What was the purpose of the Boland Amendment?
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29. What type of person below would most likely support Trickledown Economics?
   a. A business owner
   b. A Democrat Senator
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30. Who was Ronald Reagan’s Vice President?
   a. Carter
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Part B: Open Response: Instructions: Choose ONE of the questions below and write a response answer the question.

**Option A:** What was the policy of Realpolitik? Who advised President Ford to follow this policy? Why would some people support the policy or Realpolitik? Why would some people stand against the policy of Realpolitik? Explain.

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**Option B:** President Ronald Reagan believed America's government budget needed reduced to bring tax relief to many Americans. If the government funded less programs, then Americans would pay less in taxes. Yet, Ronald Reagan heavily funded defense while in office. In fact, he funded defense so heavily that it led to a budget deficit. Answer the following Questions: First, if Reagan was for reducing government spending, why did he increase spending in the department of defense? Second, what was Reagan's plan dubbed “Trickledown Economics?” How did Regan strategize to attempt to make the “Trickledown Economics” plan occur?
Answers:

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**Option A:** What was the policy of Realpolitik? Who advised President Ford to follow this policy? Why would some people support the policy or Realpolitik? Why would some people stand against the policy of Realpolitik? Explain.

The policy of Realpolitik was a policy that Henry Kissinger urged the USA to follow under Richard Nixon and continue under Gerald Ford. Prior to this, the USA had avoided an in-depth diplomacy with nations that practiced Communism. Kissinger asserted that China was too powerful to not interact with and the USA was losing out on trade and other advantages if the nation continued the policy of virtually ignoring Communist nations. Some would support this policy because they believed the USA had more to gain by interacting with powerful Communist nations than ignoring them for the sake of principal. Others would have not liked this policy because they believed the USA should send a strong message that, in their opinion, Communism was a tyrannical form of government that oppressed people.

**Option B:** President Ronald Reagan believed America’s government budget needed reduced to bring tax relief to many Americans. If the government funded less programs, then Americans would pay less in taxes. Yet, Ronald Reagan heavily funded defense while in office. In fact, he funded defense so heavily that it led to a budget deficit. Answer the following Questions: First, if Reagan was for reducing government spending, why did he increase spending in the department of defense? Second, what was Reagan’s plan dubbed “Trickledown Economics?” How did Regan strategize to attempt to make the “Trickledown Economics” plan occur?

President Ronald Reagan, a Republican, elected in 1980, supported an economic theory dubbed Trickledown Economics. This meant he wanted to lower taxes and reduce funding for government programs. His concept was that, when the government heavily taxed citizens, to pay for social programs, it meant less money was being used in the economy to purchase services and goods. Reagan believed that, if the government reduced taxes, especially on the rich, the money people were then allowed to keep would be spent and create an economic boom. Likewise, the rich would invest more and start businesses that would create jobs. Then the wealth of the rich would “trickle down” to the Middle Class and Poor through job creation. Reagan cut funding to programs such as cheap student loans to college students, free school lunches, welfare, food stamps, job training, Medicaid, and other social programs. Reagan cut funding to many social programs that provided economic assistance to the middle class and poor. Yet, the Cold War was still a focus for the USA. Reagan pumped huge amounts of money into defense spending to ensure the USA remained more powerful than the Soviet Union of Russia, in terms of military might. He was willing to spend a lot in this area to be more powerful than the USSR, even if it created a budget deficit.