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1970's

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***Creative Activities for Teaching  
Critical Thinking & Writing***

**U. S. History: The 1970's**



**Stevens & Shea Publishers**

# 1970's

## Introduction

This unit emphasizes writing and critical thinking. There are three types of activities. The news stories, writing exercises and telegrams require students to evaluate, prioritize and write about historical events.

The chronology and data analysis activities require students to detect trends and draw conclusions.

The viewpoints and issues activities present different views of the same event. The critical thinking exercises that accompany these units require the students to evaluate the information.

Many of the activities deal with popular news stories of the decade that are usually not covered in textbooks.

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## Creative Activities for Teaching Critical Thinking and Writing U.S. History: The 20th Century

There are nine units in this series.

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SS141 1910's  
SS142 1920's  
SS143 1930's  
SS144 1940's  
SS145 1950's  
SS146 1960's  
SS147 1970's  
SS148 1980's



SS 147

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# 1970's

## Directions

### Chronology Logic

Events must be placed in chronological order. Each event has internal clues which place it between other events. Students must read carefully and evaluate what they read.

### Chronology

The major events of the decade are listed year by year. Students must categorize events, detect trends and decide on the ten most important events of the decade.

### Decisions

Major decisions of the decade are presented and students are to discuss and decide the best possible choice.

### People and Terms

Students can categorize the people and decide who was the most important or influential in each category.

### Crosswords

Puzzles reinforce the items on the people and terms lists.

### Viewpoints

Events and personalities are viewed from two different points of view. There are questions and activities that emphasize critical thinking that accompanies the viewpoints. Students should discuss and compare answers.

### News Stories

The facts of major news stories of the decade are presented in random order. The students must write a news story using the inverted pyramid—mention the most important facts at the beginning of the story and the least important facts at the end. The stories should be limited in the number of words, e.g., 75 words. Students must prioritize information. Students can read and compare their stories.

### Issues

Major issues are presented from two points of view. Students decide which they agree with most. Students can write short essays stating their positions.

### News Writing

Several primary resources are provided for students to write a story. The sources and events are fictional but are typical of the decade. The student must assess the information and write a news report. Students should be reminded to cover who, what, when, where, why and how. They should also write the story placing the important facts first and the least important last.

### Telegrams

Major news stories are described and students must condense the information into telegrams of no more than 10 words. Complete sentences are not required. Emphasis is upon selecting the important details.

## Data Analysis

Data is presented for students to interpret and graph.

## Critical Thinking

Students must critically evaluate statements about the decade, select the most precise and general statements, detect emotional words and write generalizations.

## Answers

### Page

4

### Chronology Logic

1. H 2. I 3. E 4. C 5. A 6. F 7. D 8. G 9. B.

7-8

### Decisions

Have students research what actually happened.

11

### Crossword: People

**Across:** 4. Kissinger 5. Haldeman 6. Cox 8. Spiro Agnew 12. Nader 13. Betty Friedan 14. Calley 15. Mondale 16. Chavez. **Down:** 1. Ford 2. Mitchell 7. Jimmy Carter 9. George McGovern 10. Burger 11. John Dean 12. Nixon.

12

### Crossword: Terms

**Across:** 4. Three Mile Island 8. ERA 9. Iran 12. Vietnam 13. Pentagon 14. abortion 17. cover-up 19. Watergate 21. NOW 22. oil. **Down:** 1. thirteen 2. Viking 3. Camp David 5. EPA 6. Amendment 7. bicentennial 10. Energy 11. SALT 15. boycott 16. OPEC 18. plumbers 20. ecology.

13-18

### Viewpoints

Students should compare and discuss answers.

19-23

### News Stories

Students should compare reports.

24-26

### Issues

Students should compare reports.

27-28

### Telegrams

Students should compare telegrams.

29-30

### News Writing

Students should compare reports.

31

### Data Analysis

Students should discuss and compare answers.

32-33

### Critical Thinking

Students should discuss and vote on correct answers. There are not always correct answers to these items.

**Directions**

Below are some of the major events of the 1970's. Read them carefully, and using the clues offered, arrange them in chronological order beginning with the earliest. The first and last events of the decade are answered.

A. President Nixon, facing impeachment charges, becomes the first president to resign. His place is taken by Gerald Ford.

B. The Soviet Union invades Afghanistan. The U.S. is not powerless in this case as it was in the case of the Iranian hostages. In response President Carter refuses to sell any more wheat to the Soviet Union. This angers U.S. farmers.

C. Nixon easily defeats George McGovern in his second election. Nixon's popularity is at a high point for his successes in foreign policy. His visits to China and Moscow and his withdrawal of U.S. forces from Vietnam have been well-received by the American people.

D. Jimmy Carter, former governor of Georgia, defeats Gerald Ford for the presidency. Ford blames his pardon of Richard Nixon as a factor in his defeat.

E. Five burglars are caught in the offices of the Democratic National Headquarters where they are planting "bugs" and stealing documents to find out what the Democrats are up to in preparation for the next presidential election. A cover-up begins so that Nixon is not damaged in the upcoming election against George McGovern.

F. President Ford orders the evacuation of U.S. civilians from Saigon, Vietnam as the North Vietnamese complete their conquest of South Vietnam. U.S. troops had been withdrawn earlier by President Nixon.

G. Iranian revolutionaries take 63 Americans hostage in the U.S. Embassy in Teheran, Iran. President Carter is powerless to act. He later tries a military rescue which fails.

H. Shortly after his first election, Nixon begins peace talks with North Vietnam and begins a gradual withdrawal of U.S. troops. He plans to turn the conduct of the war over to the South Vietnamese.

I. After beginning withdrawal from Vietnam, Nixon becomes the first president to visit both China and Moscow. He promises recognition of Communist China and signs a strategic arms limitation agreement with the Soviets. He also begins the sale of U.S. wheat to the Soviets.

**Answers**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **H** \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_ **B** \_\_\_\_\_

## 1970

- First Earth Day celebrated on April 22.
- U.S. forces invade Cambodia.
- Four students killed in anti-Vietnam War protest at Kent State, Ohio.
- First two women are appointed generals in the military.

## 1971

- Voting age lowered to 18 by 26th Amendment.
- Amtrak rail system started.
- Publication of Pentagon Papers.
- Nixon imposes 90 day wage, price and rent freeze.
- U.S. forces in Vietnam down to 140,000.

## 1972

- Nixon visits China. He is first U.S. president ever to visit China. Pledges recognition of Communist China.
- Senate approves constitutional amendment to prohibit sex discrimination.
- Last U.S. combat troops withdrawn from Vietnam.
- George Wallace shot by Arthur Bremer while campaigning for president.
- Nixon visits Moscow. The first president to visit Moscow. Arranges Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT).
- Environmental Protection Agency bans DDT.
- Five people arrested for Watergate break-in of National Democratic Headquarters.
- U.S. sells wheat to Russia.

## Directions

Use the chronology for the following activities.

1. Put the events into groups. Decide what categories you would put them into. For example, Watergate, Vietnam, energy, etc.

2. What general trends do you see in the 1970's? Write a report. For example, What is the trend in Vietnam?

3. Decide what are the ten most important events of the 1970's. Tell why.

## 1973

- Watergate five are convicted for break-in.
- Supreme Court declares women have a right to abortion if they so choose.
- Four party peace pact signed to end Vietnam War. 590 U.S. prisoners released. Last U.S. troops leave on March 24.
- Military draft ended.
- China and U.S. set up liaison offices.
- 200 to 300 members of the American Indian Movement seize Wounded Knee.
- Haldeman, Ehrlichman, Dean and Kleindienst, Nixon advisors, resign because of Watergate.
- Leonid Brezhnev visit U.S. Nine cooperation agreements signed.
- Federal Trade Commission charge eight oil companies with monopoly.
- John Dean tells Senate committee that President Nixon is involved in Watergate cover-up.

# 1970's

# Chronology

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## 1973 (cont'd)

- Spiro Agnew, Vice-President, resigns.
- Oil exports from Arab countries are banned.
- Eliot Richardson, Attorney General, resigns and special Watergate prosecutor, Archibald Cox, is fired by President Nixon.
- Congress overrides Nixon's veto of the War Powers Act.

- Alaska oil pipeline signed.

## 1974

- impeachment hearings opened in Congress against President Nixon.
- U.S. Supreme Court rules that Nixon has to release 64 White House tapes to Watergate Special Prosecutor, Leon Jaworski.
- House Judiciary Committee recommends three articles of impeachment against Nixon.
- Nixon resigns on August 9.
- President Gerald Ford gives Nixon unconditional pardon on Sept. 8.

## 1975

- Haldeman, Ehrlichman and ex-Attorney General John Mitchell found guilty in Watergate cover-up.
- U.S. civilians are evacuated from Saigon on April 29 as N. Vietnamese communists complete take-over of South Vietnam.
- U.S. merchant ship Mayaguez and crew seized by Cambodian communists. U.S. Marines rescue ship and crew.
- Congress votes \$405 million for Vietnamese refugees. 140,000 flown to U.S.

- "Blueribbon panel" reveals CIA engaged in illegal operations including records on 300,000 Americans and infiltration into American political groups.

- Patty Hearst caught by FBI.

## 1976

- Lockheed Corp. admits paying \$22 million in bribes to foreign officials to sell planes.
- U.S. celebrates 200th anniversary of country.
- "Legionnaire's Disease" kills 29 people at American Legion convention.
- Viking I and II space probes set down on Mars.
- J. Carter elected President over Gerald Ford.

## 1977

- Jimmy Carter gives amnesty to 10,000 Vietnam War evaders.
- Convicted murderer Gary Gilmore executed. First execution since 1967.
- President Carter creates new cabinet-level department – Energy Department.

## 1978

- U.S. Senate approves of treaty to turn over Panama Canal to Panama in 1999.
- California voters approve Proposition 13 which limits property taxes. The first measure of its kind.

## 1979

- Major nuclear accident at Three Mile Island.
- Federal government provides \$1.5 billion loan to bail out Chrysler.
- 63 Americans are taken hostage in U.S. Embassy in Iran. Iranians had overthrown the U.S.-backed Shah (king) of Iran.

**Directions**

These are some of the important decisions faced by Presidents Nixon and Carter during the 1970's. If you were president how would you have decided? Check a reference book to find what decisions were made and why.

**Relations With China**

Richard Nixon had made his national reputation as a strong anti-communist. When the communists took control of China in 1949 the U.S. refused to recognize them as the government of China. The nationalist Chinese had escaped to the island of Taiwan and the U.S. continued to recognize them as the legitimate government of China. The Nationalist Chinese had a strong political lobby in the U.S. and the support of many anti-communist politicians such as Richard Nixon.

Henry Kissinger, President Nixon's National Security advisor, recommended that Nixon recognize communist China as the official government of China. China had the largest population of any country in the world and it was impossible for the Nationalist Chinese to ever overthrow the government which now had been in power for over 20 years. What would you do?

- A. Recognize Communist China.
- B. Continue to support the Nationalists.

**Watergate**

In 1971 employees of the Committee to Re-elect the President (CREEP) broke into the Democratic National Headquarters in the Watergate office building. They wanted to place listening devices to eavesdrop on the Democrats. The burglars were operating under orders from Nixon's closest advisors. Nixon discovered this when one of the burglars asked for money to keep his mouth shut.

Nixon faced a choice. Either turn his closest advisors over to the police and risk bad publicity that might result in his losing the election in 1972, or secretly raise the "hush" money and pay the burglars.



**Richard Nixon**

- A. Give the money to the burglars in return for silence.
- B. Tell the police everything.

**Nixon's Tapes**

While Congress was investigating Watergate it was revealed that President Nixon recorded conversations in his White House Office. He had a secret tape recorder concealed in his office. The Congressional investigators wanted the tapes. Nixon refused to deliver them claiming "executive privilege." A court order was obtained requiring Nixon to turn over the tapes. Nixon still refused. Nixon denied that he had done anything wrong and appointed a special prosecutor to investigate the case. Archibald Cox, the special prosecutor, insisted that Nixon release the tapes and threatened to get a judicial ruling that Nixon was violating the court order to release the tapes. Special prosecutors serve at the discretion of the president. What do you think Nixon should have done?

- A. Turn over the tapes.
- B. Fire the special prosecutor
- C. Erase the tapes



**Amnesty for Vietnam protestors**

Many young people did not approve of the Vietnam War during the 1960's. A large number left the country to evade the draft. Many denounced these young people as "traitors." Since they evaded the draft they could not return to the U.S. without facing 5 years in jail and a large fine. Millions of young Americans were drafted and served in Vietnam. Over 50,000 Americans were killed in the war. Others urged, since the war was over, that the draft evaders be forgiven and the serious division between those who supported and those who opposed the war be healed. Should President Carter give amnesty to the 10,000 young men who went to Canada to escape the draft? What would you do?

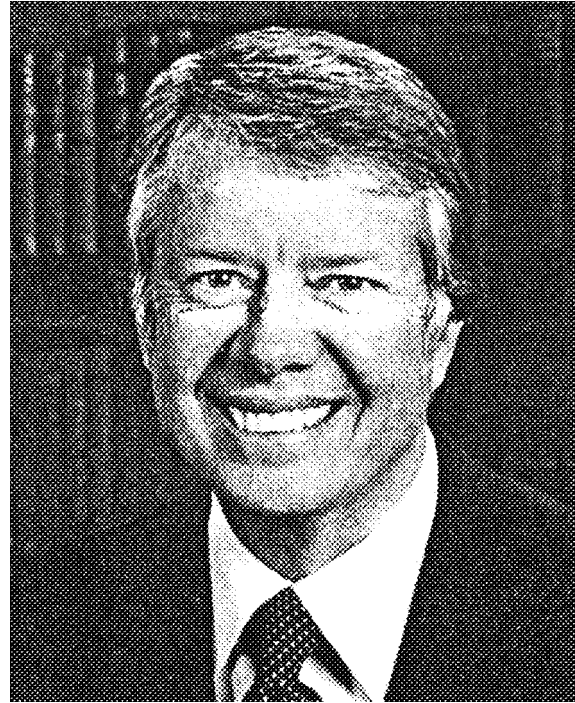
- A. Grant the amnesty
- B. Not grant the amnesty

**Iran hostages**

In 1979 the Shah of Iran, whom the U.S. had supported, was forced out by revolt. On November 4, 1979, Iranian students invaded the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and took 62 Americans hostage. The Iranians refused to release them. The shah had escaped the country and fled to the U.S. The Iranians wanted him returned to stand trial.

A special force, the Delta Force, had been trained to rescue hostages. The problem with using such force in this case is that Teheran is over 1,000 miles from the nearest ocean. The U.S. could only reach the embassy where the hostages were being held by refueling helicopters in the middle of the Iranian desert, a tricky operation at best. A failed rescue operation could result in the death of the hostages. Carter was facing an election in 1980 and seemed powerless. What would you do?

- A. Return the shah in exchange for the hostages.
- B. Use Delta Force.
- C. Do nothing.



**Jimmy Carter**

**Russian grain embargo**

In 1979 The Russians invaded Afghanistan to overthrow a government they did not like. Jimmy Carter, elected president in 1976, had to decide what to do about it. Many Americans were outraged by the Russians' actions. It was impossible to send military aid to the Afghans. Afghanistan is landlocked and thousands of miles from the United States.

Some thought it would be a good idea to refuse to sell the Russians wheat. After years of poor harvests Russia was buying large quantities of U.S. wheat. Farmers were opposed to the idea and argued that if the Russians didn't buy their wheat from the U.S. they would buy it from some other country. An election was coming up in 1980 and Carter wanted to look like a strong president. What would you do?

- A. Stop the sale of wheat to Russia.
- B. Do nothing.

**Spiro Agnew**

Vice-president under Nixon and former mayor of Baltimore. Forced to resign because of bribes he took as mayor of Baltimore.

**Warren Burger**

Appointed by Nixon to be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. He replaced Earl Warren.

**William L. Calley**

An army officer convicted and sentenced to 20 years for the My Lai Massacre in Vietnam, in which women and children were killed.

**Rachel Carson**

She wrote the book *Silent Spring* which alerted the nation to the dangers of pollution.

**Jimmy Carter**

Elected president in 1976 defeating Gerald Ford. Lost to Ronald Reagan in 1980. A Democrat.

**Cesar Chavez**

A California farmworker who successfully organized a farmworker's union. He became the best known of Mexican-American leaders.

**John Dean**

President Nixon's chief counsel. He was key figure in exposing the White House cover-up of Watergate. He was the first to say that Nixon knew of the cover-up.

**Archibald Cox**

A special prosecutor appointed by Nixon to investigate the Watergate break-in. Fired by Nixon when he insisted that Nixon turn over documents to the court.

**Gerald Ford**

Speaker of the House. He became president when Nixon and Agnew resigned. He later pardoned Nixon. He lost the next election to Jimmy Carter.

**Betty Friedan**

Wrote *The Feminine Mystique*, which sparked nationwide interest in discrimination against women.

**Bob Haldeman**

Nixon's chief-of-staff. Helped in the Watergate cover-up. Forced to resign for his participation in the cover-up.

**Patty Hearst**

Daughter of a famous newspaper publisher. While a college student, she was kidnapped by a radical group, the SLA, brainwashed and participated in a bank robbery.

**Henry Kissinger**

Richard Nixon's Secretary of State. He helped bring about the strategic arms agreement with Russia, the end of the Vietnam War, and recognition of communist China.

**George McGovern**

Senator from South Dakota who opposed Nixon in the election of 1972.

**John Mitchell**

Nixon's Attorney General who was forced to resign because of the Watergate cover-up.

**Walter Mondale**

Democratic senator from Minnesota who was vice-president under Jimmy Carter. He was defeated by Ronald Reagan in 1980.

**Ralph Nader**

Focused the nation's attention on consumer fraud by the auto industry. Created an organization to protect the average American from powerful economic interests.

**Richard Nixon**

Elected president in 1968 and again in 1972. Resigned because he attempted to cover up illegal activities in the White House (Watergate.)

**Eliot Richardson**

Attorney General appointed after John Mitchell resigned. Richardson resigned when Nixon fired Archibald Cox, the special prosecutor investigating the Watergate cover-up.

**William Ruckelshaus**

Appointed the first director of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by Richard Nixon who created the agency.

## **26th Amendment 1971**

A constitutional amendment is ratified allowing 18 year olds to vote.

## **Arab oil boycott 1973**

Arab oil producing nations refuse to sell oil to the United States because of U.S. support for Israel.

## **Bicentennial 1976**

The 200th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence is celebrated.

## **Camp David Peace Accords**

President Jimmy Carter helps long-time enemies, Israel and Egypt, sign a peace agreement.

## **Ecology 1970**

Ecology became a popular concern. First Earth Day is celebrated.

## **Energy Department 1977**

President Jimmy Carter created a cabinet level department to deal with energy matters.

## **EPA**

President Nixon creates the Environmental Protection Agency.

## **ERA 1972**

Senate approved the equal rights amendment which ended discrimination based upon sex. Sent to the states for ratification. Not enough states ratified the amendment.

## **Iran hostages 1979**

The Shah of Iran is overthrown and U.S. Embassy employees are taken hostage by Iranian militants. They are released after Reagan becomes president.

## **Journey for Peace 1972**

President Nixon went to Peking, China, to open relations with the country. The U.S. had not recognized communist China since the communists took control in 1949.

## **NOW**

National Organization of Women promotes the Equal Rights Amendment.

## **OPEC**

Oil Producing and Exporting Cartel. A group of oil producing countries organized to control production and the price of oil.

## **Pentagon Papers 1971**

Classified documents explaining how the U.S. became involved in Vietnam are published in the *New York Times*.

## **Proposition 13 1978**

A California law that severely limited the use of the property tax by local governments. Other states copied the California law and the ability of local governments to raise taxes was curtailed.

## **Roe v. Wade 1973**

The Supreme Court rules that abortions are legal.

## **SALT 1972**

Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty. Nixon is the first U.S. president to visit Moscow. A treaty is signed to limit nuclear weapons.

## **Three Mile Island 1979**

A nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania allows radioactive gases to escape.

## **Watergate 1972**

The name of the office building where the Democratic Party had its national headquarters.

## **White House plumbers**

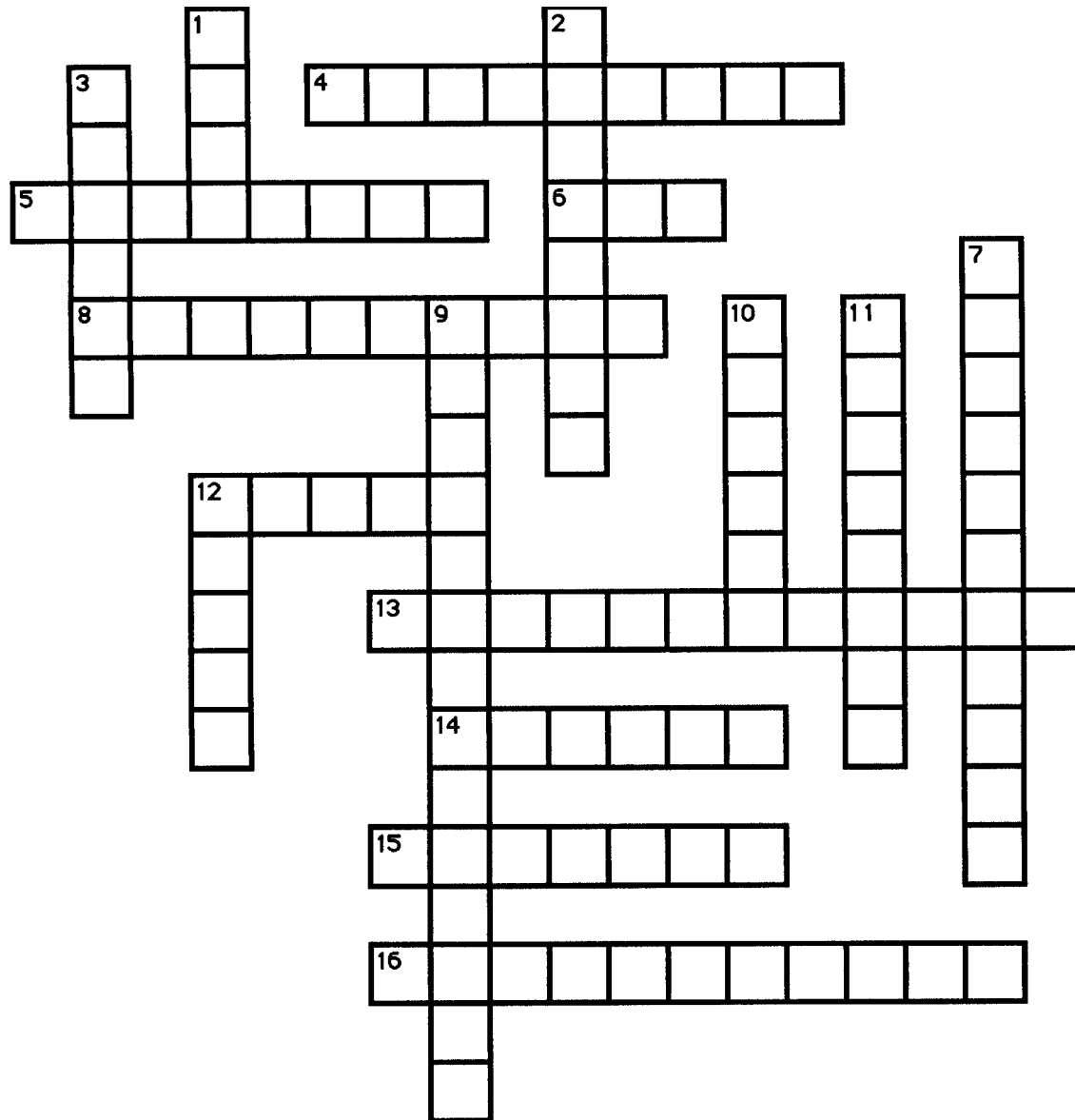
The group of White House employees working for Nixon who broke into the Democratic National Headquarters.

## **Vietnamization**

President Nixon's program of withdrawing U.S. forces from Vietnam and turning the war over to the South Vietnamese government.

## **Viking Lander 1976**

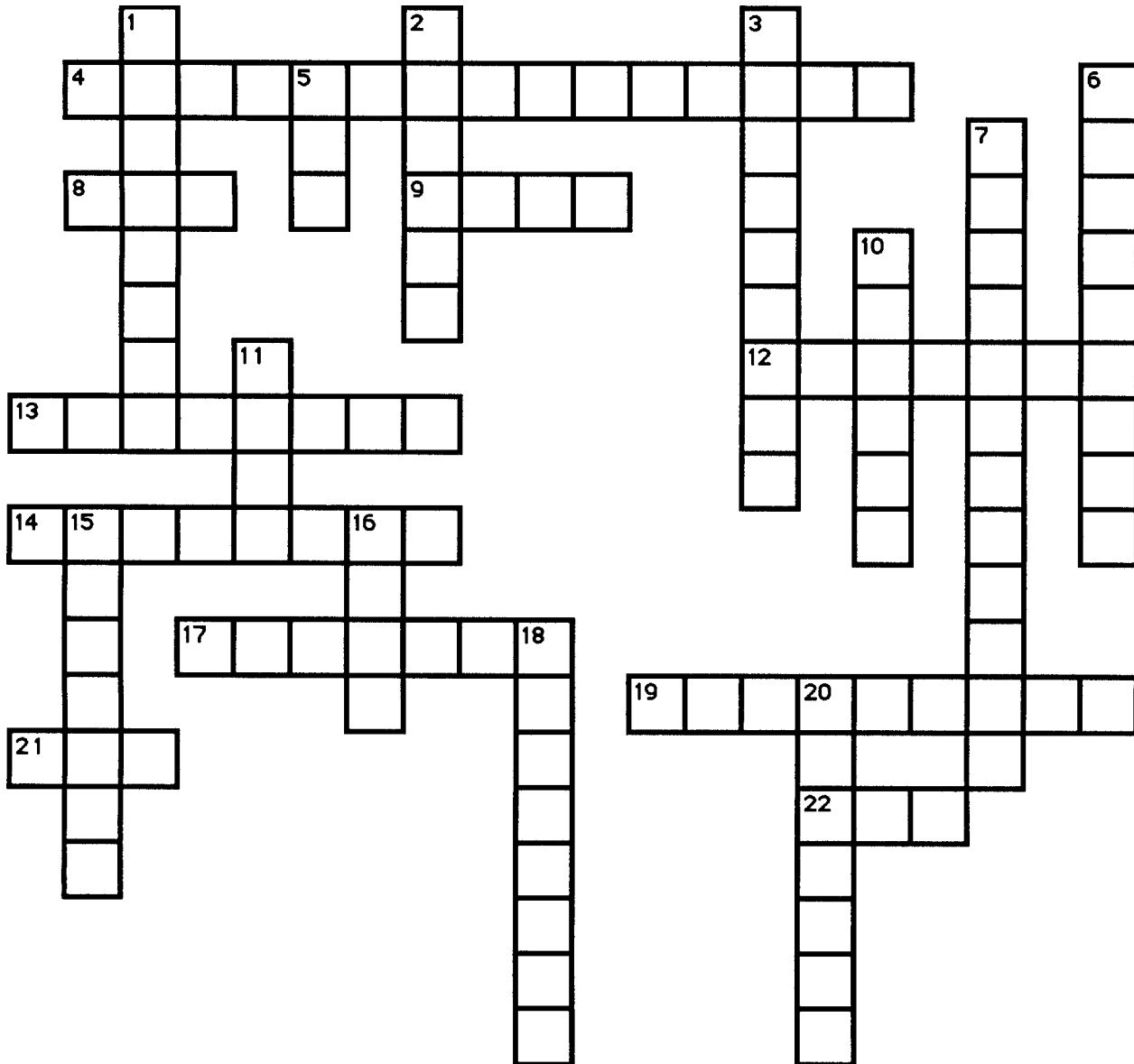
Two space vehicles land on Mars.

**Across**

4. Nixon's advisor on foreign affairs.
5. Nixon's chief of staff who resigned because of Watergate.
6. A special prosecutor fired by Nixon.
8. Nixon's Vice-President (2 words).
12. Famous consumer advocate.
13. Wrote *Feminine Mystique* (2 words).
14. Convicted for Mylai Massacre.
15. Carter's Vice-President.
16. Leader of farmworkers (2 words).

**Down**

1. Became president when Nixon re-signed.
2. Nixon's Attorney General who resigned because of Watergate.
3. Famous heiress who was kidnapped by radical group.
7. Elected president in 1976 (2 words).
9. Democratic candidate in 1972 (2 words).
10. Appointed by Nixon to head the Supreme Court.
11. Presidential advisor who revealed Watergate secrets (2 words).
12. Resigned his job in 1974.

**Across**

4. A nuclear accident took place here (3 words).
8. Equal Rights Amendment (initials).
9. U.S. Embassy employees were taken hostage here.
12. This war ended in 1975.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ papers revealed the U.S. government lied.
14. Roe v. Wade established the right to this.
17. Nixon resigned because he knew about this in regard to Watergate. (2-wds.)
19. An office building where Nixon employees were caught in a break-in.
21. Promotes women's rights (initials).
22. The U.S. depends upon this fossil fuel.

**Down**

1. Proposition \_\_\_\_\_ limited property taxes in Calif.
2. This space probe landed on Mars.
3. The presidential retreat where a peace agreement was made (2 words).
5. Protects the environment (initials)
6. The 26th \_\_\_\_\_ gave 18 year olds the right to vote.
7. The U.S. celebrated this in 1976.
10. A new cabinet department.
11. An acronym for disarmament talks.
15. In the Arab oil \_\_\_\_\_ in 1973 the U.S. could not buy Arab oil.
16. The oil producing countries have this to fix prices (initials).
18. The White House \_\_\_\_\_ broke into a Watergate office.
20. This became a popular concern during the 70's.

1970's

Nixon Viewpoint Questions

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Richard Nixon took office in 1968 during a time of great turmoil. Nixon was defeated for president in 1960 by John F. Kennedy. He won the election of 1968 easily because the Democratic Party was torn by conflict. At the Democratic Convention in Chicago there were televised riots as young people protested in the streets. President Johnson chose not to run in 1968 leaving the nomination open. Hubert Humphrey, the Vice-President, was challenged by two liberals who opposed the Vietnam War, Bobby Kennedy and Eugene McCarthy. During the California primary Bobby Kennedy was assassinated. Young people were strong supporters of Eugene McCarthy while the old-line politicians supported Humphrey. After the riots, the Democrats had little chance to defeat Nixon.

Nixon appointed two key advisors. Daniel Moynihan and Henry Kissinger. Moynihan, a Democrat, was concerned about the negative impact that welfare had on poor families. Nixon proposed a dramatic change in the welfare program. The Family Assistance Program guaranteed a minimum income for families. If their income from work failed to meet the standard the government would make up the difference. The program required those receiving aid to work or to get job training. Both liberals and conservatives in Congress opposed the program and it failed to win approval.

Nixon had greater success with another dramatic new program, revenue sharing. Rather than telling local governments how to spend money, Nixon proposed that block grants be given to cities to spend as they saw fit. In 1972 Congress approved a program that would give \$30.1 billion over a five year period. This was of tremendous assistance to cities.

It was during the Nixon administration that the Federal government took up two important roles. The Environmental Protection Agency was created and put under the competent leadership of William Ruckelshaus. The EPA established standards for air and water quality that local and state governments must adhere to. A

Consumer Protection Agency was created to protect consumers from fraud.

Nixon's most outstanding success took place in foreign policy. Nixon and his chief policy advisor Henry Kissinger were constantly on the move throughout the world. A withdrawal of U.S. forces from Vietnam War was negotiated. The last U.S. combat troops were withdrawn in August of 1972.

Nixon was the first president to travel to Communist China. The U.S. had not recognized China since the communists took over in 1949. China contains one-fourth of the world's population. Nixon and the Chinese leaders agreed to eventually "normalize" relations.

Nixon was equally successful in dealing with the Soviet Union. Nixon and Kissinger negotiated a Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT). The two countries agreed to "freeze" for a period of five years the number of missiles they had and to prohibit the building of anti-ballistic missile systems. In addition the leaders agreed to establish joint commissions to study environmental problems, carry out joint space projects, cooperate in science and technology and solve trade problems. The U.S. also agreed to sell surplus wheat to Russia.

To control mounting inflation and unemployment in the economy Nixon took the most drastic action since the New Deal. He imposed price, wage and rent controls which helped slow inflation.

Nixon's success at both home and abroad led to an easy re-election in 1972. He did not finish his term because of the Watergate scandal. He resigned on August 9, 1974.

### Questions

1. What is the main point of the article?
2. What evidence does the author use to support her main point?

Early in his political career Richard Nixon acquired the nickname "Tricky Dick" because he unfairly accused his opponents of being sympathetic with communists. During his presidency he did little to change his reputation.

Nixon was elected in 1968 when the anti-war protests were in full tide. Nixon proceeded to withdraw from the war, but in the process expanded the war.

In April 1970 U.S. and Vietnamese forces secretly invaded Cambodia. Cambodia was not a party to the war and Nixon should have asked Congress for permission to invade. Rather than risk being turned down by Congress the invasion was ordered in secret. The purpose of the invasion was to attack communist bases. North Vietnamese used neutral Cambodia as its base for launching operations in South Vietnam.

Nixon, to appeal to conservative voters, promised to appoint conservatives to the Supreme Court. Conservatives were unhappy with Supreme Court decisions that seemed to protect the rights of criminals.

Nixon also appealed to conservatives by opposing busing as a means of integrating schools. Many African Americans still attended segregated schools that were inferior and busing was one way of eliminating this injustice. Instead of busing Nixon proposed spending more money on ghetto schools to improve them.

Nixon also proposed a change in welfare that required recipients to work or take job training. The problem with his proposal was that there were not enough jobs available. His proposal failed. Nixon was opposed to social legislation. He vetoed increased appropriations to the Health, Education and Welfare Department, more money for hospitals, child care and environmental protection.

When the economy began to falter in the early 1970's because of inflation, rising unemployment and increasing imports, Nixon took the strongest action since the New Deal to control the problem. George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO, called it "Robin Hood in reverse

because it robs from the poor and gives to the rich." He froze all wages, prices and rents for 90 days, put a 10% tax on many imported goods, granted a 10% tax cut on new investment and repealed a 7% excise tax on cars. Nixon's policy was not a great success. The overall inflation rate dropped but the price of food continued to go up which was harmful to the poor.

Nixon also took a pro-business stance on the environment. His Secretary of the Interior was Walter Hickel. Hickel turned out to be an environmentalist. He fined oil companies responsible for oil spills on the California and Gulf of Mexico coasts. Nixon fired him in November 1970 and appointed a secretary that was more interested in protecting the interests of the large corporations that were big contributors to the Republican Party.

While Nixon was preparing to run for re-election in 1972 a group employed by the Committee to Re-elect the President broke into the Democratic National Headquarters to plant wiretaps and steal documents. They were caught by a security guard. Congress began to investigate.

John Dean, former White House counsel, informed the U.S. Senate that Nixon, his staff, and the Department of Justice had conspired to cover up the Watergate break in. Many other violations were revealed during the investigation including other break-ins into offices of Nixon's critics, a secret "hit list" of people Nixon didn't like and illegal campaign contributions.

Nixon continued to deny any involvement. When a minor official revealed that Nixon had tapes of White House conversations, a special prosecutor, who had been appointed by Nixon to investigate the charges of cover-up, wanted the tapes. Nixon refused to turn them over and fired the special prosecutor. Many Nixon associates were tried and convicted for illegal activities including Vice-President Agnew and Attorney General Mitchell and several members of Nixon's personal staff. Nixon suddenly resigned from office on August 9, 1974.



**Directions**

Read both viewpoints on the following pages and answer the questions below.

**General questions for both viewpoints**

1. Which Viewpoint favors Jimmy Carter?
2. What evidence or arguments are used to indicate Carter was a good president?
3. Which Viewpoint is critical of Carter?
4. What evidence or arguments are used to indicate Carter was not a good president?
5. What facts are mentioned in the favorable Viewpoint that are not mentioned in the unfavorable Viewpoint?
6. What facts are mentioned in the unfavorable Viewpoint that are not mentioned in the favorable Viewpoint?
7. Are there any opinions and facts which are agreed upon by both Viewpoints? If any, what are they?

**Factual statements and generalizations**

Which statements are statements of fact and which are generalizations? Mark (F) for facts and (G) for generalizations.

- 1.\_\_\_\_\_Carter tried to be everything to everybody.
- 2.\_\_\_\_\_Carter was easily defeated.
- 3.\_\_\_\_\_He could not put his ideals to work in a practical way.
- 4.\_\_\_\_\_Carter doubled the nation's national park system.

- 5.\_\_\_\_\_Carter helped Egypt and Israel negotiate a peace agreement.

**Viewpoint A author's biases and assumptions**

Which statements would the author of Viewpoint A agree with? Mark (A) for those that you think the author would agree with and (D) for those you think the author would disagree with. Use (CT) if you can't tell.

- 1.\_\_\_\_\_It is good for the government to protect the environment.
- 2.\_\_\_\_\_It is good to have minorities and women in government.
- 3.\_\_\_\_\_The federal government should be run by competent employees.
- 4.\_\_\_\_\_The government should use military force to get its way with other countries.
- 5.\_\_\_\_\_Carter would have been a better president if Congress was more cooperative.

**Emotional words**

Certain words are used to influence the reader's feelings. Identify these words in the statements below. Underline or write the words.

1. Carter was a crafty politician.
2. Countries did not like Carter preaching about how they should carry on their affairs.
3. Carter was a skillful politician.
4. He presented himself to the public as a highly moral person.
5. Carter was naive in dealing with Latin American countries.

Jimmy Carter was elected in 1976. Carter, the former governor of Georgia, seem to come out of nowhere to win the Democratic nomination. He proved himself a skillful politician.

Carter included many women, civil rights leaders and consumer advocates to the 500 appointees he made as president. Carter appointed Andrew Young as Ambassador to the United Nations. Young, a civil rights leader, was the first African American to hold a cabinet-level position.

Carter tried to bring efficiency to the federal bureaucracy by proposing the first major reform in the civil service system since it was created by President Arthur. His reforms made it easier to fire incompetent employees and encouraged advancement by merit.

Carter created two new cabinet level positions to respond to new problems. One was the Department of Energy in 1977. The U.S. had become worried about its energy supplies when the Arabs refused to sell oil to the United States in the early 1970's. He also created the Department of Education in 1979. The old Department of Health, Education and Welfare now became the Department of Health and Human Services.

Carter had trouble getting his legislation passed by Congress. Carter later admitted that this was his greatest failure as president. The economy was faltering with rising inflation and unemployment. Carter proposed a tax cut to stimulate the economy in May 1977. The \$25 billion tax cut helped low income people. Again in 1978 Carter proposed another \$25 billion cut. This time Congress balked and approved only a \$18.7 billion cut.

Congress refused to approve a large-scale program to deal with the energy crisis. The rising price of oil was helping to drive inflation upward. Carter wanted to reduce U.S. dependence upon oil. He proposed a 50 cent a gallon tax on gasoline to discourage consumption, a "windfall" profits tax on oil companies, the development of synthetic fuels and a Department of

Energy. Congress approved the Department of Energy but refused to pass his other proposals. Later Congress approved the Energy Security Act with huge amounts of money to develop alternative sources of energy.

Carter was also a leader in environmental legislation. In 1980 he doubled the nation's national park and wildlife refuge system, adding 104 million acres of Alaska's wilderness areas. He also created the \$1.6 billion "superfund" to clean up dangerous chemicals that had been dumped in toxic waste dumps and was contaminating water supplies.

Carter emphasized peace and human rights in his foreign policy. He was openly critical of countries including the Soviet Union which abused the rights of their own people through political imprisonment and torture. His chief success was bringing peace to the Middle East. He brought the president of Egypt, Anwar Sadat, and the prime minister of Israel, Manachem Begin, together at Camp David. The two countries had been at war since 1948. In April 1979 the peace treaty went into effect.

Carter also reached a new SALT II treaty with the Soviet Union. However, The Senate refused to ratify the treaty because of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Carter was hurt by two events that he had no control over. First, the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan. In protest Carter cut off the sale of wheat to the Soviet Union and boycotted the 1980 Olympics which were held in Moscow. These measures were not enough to stop the Soviet invasion. In Iran a group of revolutionaries took a group of Americans hostage. Carter ordered a military rescue which failed.

Carter was hurt by these events in his bid for re-election in 1980 when he was defeated by Ronald Reagan.

Jimmy Carter won the election of 1976 by defeating Gerald Ford. Ford, the Republican candidate, was hurt by his pardon of Richard Nixon in 1975. Ford had become president when Nixon resigned in 1974 because of possible crimes he committed during Watergate.

Carter, an unknown before he became president, was a crafty politician who shifted position easily to pick up support. He presented himself to the American people as a highly moral person. In his first year of office it was revealed that Bert Lance, his director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) had questionable financial dealings. When he took office the U.S. Senate required that he sell his 207,000 shares of stock in a Georgia bank to avoid conflict of interest. Jimmy Carter asked the Senate to free Lance from the deadline of the stock sale because Lance would lose money because of the declining value of the stock. Senators accused Lance of many other wrongdoings. Carter stood by his appointment. Lance resigned. Charges filed by the Department of Justice were dropped two years later.

Carter created a "nice guy" image, a president who was concerned about the welfare of everyone – women, blacks, the poor, and political minorities in other countries. He could not put his ideals to work in a practical way. Carter was never able to work effectively with a Democratically controlled Congress. Carter was faced with rising inflation and unemployment. He wanted to give tax cuts to lower income groups. After one large tax cut for the poor, the economy did not improve. When he wanted another tax cut for the poor, Congress balked. They wanted a cut in taxes for higher income groups which would produce more investment in factories and create new jobs.

Carter emphasized human rights in his foreign policy. He publicly criticized countries that violated human rights by arresting and torturing political prisoners. Many countries did not like Carter preaching to other countries about how they should carry on their affairs even

if they were democratic. Carter's own appointment to the United Nations, former civil rights activist Andrew Young, publicly criticized U.S. treatment of African Americans. Carter fired him.

Carter was naive in dealing with Latin American countries. In an effort to improve relations with communist Cuba Carter took steps to recognize the government. The U.S. had refused to recognize the government when Fidel Castro became dictator of the country in 1961. Carter negotiated the release of 125,000 political refugees. Castro emptied his jails of several thousand criminals and insane and sent them to the U.S. as refugees.

Carter was also slow to respond to international crises. In spite of months of warnings about a Soviet invasion of Afghanistan Carter did nothing to persuade the Soviets not to do it. Instead he was attempting to persuade the Soviets to ratify another SALT treaty and promised to sell them wheat. When the Soviets invaded, Carter responded by cutting off wheat sales, which hurt American farmers, and boycotted the Olympics held in Moscow.

The same was true of the Iranian hostage situation. Carter ignored warnings that the new Iranian revolutionary government would take drastic action against the U.S. if the former ruler was allowed to enter the U.S. Carter should have withdrawn all U.S. personnel from the U.S. Embassy in Teheran. Instead, Carter tried to negotiate with Iran. Iranian militants took the U.S. Embassy personnel hostage and held them for over a year.

Carter tried to be everything to everybody. He wound up being totally ineffective. At the end of his presidency the economy was in a shambles with high inflation, unemployment and interest rates. The U.S. was embarrassed in international affairs with its inability to stop the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and with Americans being held hostage. Carter was easily defeated in his bid for re-election.

**Directions**

Write a news story using the facts below. Write the story using the inverted pyramid. Decide which facts are the most important and put them at the beginning of the story. Place the least important facts at the end of the story. You may combine facts into one sentence and you may rewrite sentences.

Write the story in a journalistic style. Put no more than five sentences in a paragraph and limit the sentences to 20 words or less.

**Facts: Watergate Break-in**

- Frank Wills discovered a door unlocked to the Democratic National Headquarters office.
- Wills was a custodian at the Watergate office complex in Washington, D.C.
- Lawrence "Larry" O'Brien was the chairman of the Democratic Party.
- Wills phoned the police department which sent a patrol car. The police caught five men inside the office.
- Wills made his discovery at 2 A.M. on a Saturday morning, June 17, 1972.
- The police found a notebook on one of the burglars listing the name of E. Howard Hunt.
- James McCord was one of the burglars. He was the security chief of CREEP, The Committee to Reelect the President.
- Hunt was an employee of the White House.
- The office was on the sixth floor of the Watergate building.
- When the police entered the office the burglars said, "Don't shoot, we give up."
- Also arrested are Bernard Barker, Frank Sturgis, Virgilio Gonzalez, and Eugenio Martinez.
- Police charge the five men with second degree burglary.
- Barker is a wealthy Florida real estate man who has been active in the Republican Party.

**Directions**

Write a news story using the facts below. Write the story using the inverted pyramid. Decide which facts are the most important and put them at the beginning of the story. Place the least important facts at the end of the story. You may combine facts into one sentence and you may rewrite sentences.

Write the story in a journalistic style. Put no more than five sentences in a paragraph and limit the sentences to 20 words or less.

**Facts: Cox's Dismissal**

- Archibald Cox was appointed Special Prosecutor to investigate the Watergate break-in.
- Cox's dismissal and the resignations of Richardson and William Ruckelshaus were announced at 8 P.M., October 20, 1973, Saturday evening by Ronald Ziegler, White House Press Secretary.
- The Court of Appeals had ordered the President to release secret tapes that he had made of conversations in his office.
- The week before Nixon had offered to provide summaries of the tapes to Congress and ordered Cox not to make any further attempts in court to obtain the tapes.
- Archibald Cox announced Saturday afternoon on Oct. 20 that he would continue to seek the tapes in court.
- Nixon refused to comply with the Court of Appeals' order to release the tapes.
- Robert Bork fired Cox.
- Cox was fired on October 20th, 1973. It was a Saturday.
- Robert Bork was appointed acting Attorney General.
- William Ruckelshaus, assistant Attorney General, also resigned when he refused to fire Cox.
- Attorney General Eliot Richardson was ordered to fire Cox by Nixon but refused to do so. He resigned his position.
- President Richard Nixon fired the Special Prosecutor appointed by the Attorney General to investigate the Watergate break-in on October 20, 1973.

**Directions**

Write a news story using the facts below. Write the story using the inverted pyramid. Decide which facts are the most important and put them at the beginning of the story. Place the least important facts at the end of the story. You may combine facts into one sentence and you may rewrite sentences.

Write the story in a journalistic style. Put no more than five sentences in a paragraph and limit the sentences to 20 words or less.

**Facts: Supreme Court Decision**

- The Supreme Court denied Nixon's appeal of Federal Judge John J. Sirica's decision ordering Nixon to release documents that were needed in judging several of the Watergate cases now in court.
- The Court issued its decision on July 24, 1974 at 11:20 A.M.
- Chief Justice Burger presided. Burger was a Nixon appointee to the court.
- The president's lawyers argued that the documents should not be released because of presidential privilege. The president had the right to keep some things secret.
- The documents had been sought by the Special Prosecutor, Leon Jaworski, who was prosecuting several of Nixon's aides.
- Jaworski had been appointed to the Special Prosecutor post after he had fired Archibald Cox.
- The documents that the Special Prosecutor wanted introduced into court were tapes that Nixon had secretly made in the Oval Office of the White House.
- All eight judges decided to uphold Sirica's order. William Rehnquist, a Nixon appointee to the Court, abstained.
- James D. St. Clair said that Nixon "would comply with the Court's decision."
- St. Clair is the President's chief counsel.
- Leon Jaworski is from Texas.
- It is suspected by many that the documents that the President is attempting to conceal will reveal that the President knew about the break-in of the Democratic Party National Headquarters at the Watergate office building in 1972.
- The President has denied any knowledge of the break-in or a cover-up.

**Directions**

Write a news story using the facts below. Write the story using the inverted pyramid. Decide which facts are the most important and put them at the beginning of the story. Place the least important facts at the end of the story. You may combine facts into one sentence and you may rewrite sentences.

Write the story in a journalistic style. Put no more than five sentences in a paragraph and limit the sentences to 20 words or less.

**Facts: Nixon Impeachment**

- Peter Rodino, a Congressman from New Jersey, was the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee. Rodino is a Democrat.
- On Saturday evening, July 27th, 1974, the House Judiciary Committee voted 27 to 11 for the first article of impeachment.
- John Doar, Special Counsel to the committee, presented 38 books of evidence.
- Six Republicans and twenty-one Democrats voted for impeachment.
- The impeachment article charged that the President engaged in a course of conduct designed to obstruct justice.
- Gerald Ford describes the article of impeachment a "travesty", given the lack of specific charges against the President.
- On July 24 the Judiciary Committee rejected a proposal by Rep. Robert McClory to delay debate on the articles of impeachment ten days if the President gives the committee the 64 tapes the Supreme Court said Nixon would have to turn over to the special prosecutor.
- On July 19 John Doar and Albert E. Jenner, chief minority counsel to the House Judiciary Committee, announced that they thought that "reasonable men acting reasonably would find the President guilty."
- Jenner was replaced as minority council to the House Judiciary committee on July 21.
- On July 24 Rep. Harold Donohue moved the adoption of two impeachment articles. Donohue is from Massachusetts.
- On July 29 the House Judiciary Committee adopts the second article of impeachment charging the President with abuse of power.
- The vote on the second article of impeachment is 28 to 10. Rep. McClory, a Republican who voted against the first article, voted for the second article of impeachment.

**Directions**

Write a news story using the facts below. Write the story using the inverted pyramid. Decide which facts are the most important and put them at the beginning of the story. Place the least important facts at the end of the story. You may combine facts into one sentence and you may rewrite sentences.

Write the story in a journalistic style. Put no more than five sentences in a paragraph and limit the sentences to 20 words or less.

**Facts: Nixon Resignation**

- Gerald Ford will become President.
- Nixon said, "In all the decisions I have made in my public life, I have always tried to do what was best for the nation . . . It has become evident to me that I no longer have a strong enough political base in the Congress to justify continuing..."
- Nixon gave his resignation speech at 9 P.M. EST on August 8, 1974. It was a Thursday.
- Nixon wore a blue suit and a blue tie.
- Nixon did not admit any guilt in his resignation speech.
- Nixon said, "I shall resign the presidency effective at noon tomorrow."
- Nixon had met earlier at 7:00 P.M. with five Congressional leaders to say goodbye. Later he met with a larger group of Congressmen.
- Gerald Ford was appointed Vice-President when Spiro Agnew resigned in the face of corruption charges.
- Ford is from Michigan and was the leader of the Republicans in the House of Representatives.
- Nixon became the first president ever to resign.
- The House of Representatives had already voted impeachment charges against Nixon in late July.
- Nixon has been charged with covering up the White House involvement in the Watergate break-in.



**Directions**

Read the background information below and the pro and con statements. Decide which you agree with the most.

The issue is, should women try to maintain both careers and a family?

**Background: Sexism**

The role of women as subordinate to men and not having the same rights began to change with rapid industrialization. More and more women became wage earners. As more women entered the labor force there was an increasing demand for the right to vote. World War I also changed the role of women by putting greater numbers in the work force. Women won the right to vote in 1919.

The 1920's saw a more liberated woman. Women wore short dresses, cut their hair short, and smoked. Divorce increased.

World War II saw large numbers of women enter defense industries. After the war women returned to their roles as homemakers. The ideal family was pictured as a father who worked and a mother who stayed home to raise the children. This ideal image began to change in the 1960's.

The 1960's emphasized equal rights and liberation of all groups including women. Betty Friedan wrote *The Feminine Mystique* in 1963. It advocated that women should not give up their careers to raise a family. Friedan became the first president of the National Organization of Women which was formed in 1963. NOW wanted full equality for women. NOW undertook a number of legal cases in the late 60's to battle gender discrimination. By the 1970's they realized that a constitutional amendment was needed to eliminate gender discrimination.

The Equal Rights Amendment was introduced in Congress in 1972. The amendment eliminated any discrimination based upon one's sex. The amendment quickly passed Congress and was soon approved by several states. The ERA sparked opposition led by Phyllis Schafley. Progress toward ratification slowed. The amendment did not receive the required three fourths approval by the states. Schafley wanted to maintain the traditional role of women as that of homemaker and mother.

Gloria Steinem started *MS.* magazine in 1972 and became a leader of feminism which advocated that women should have careers. *MS.* reached a circulation of 500,000 by the end of the decade.

**Pro**

The traditional role of women at home raising children has been unrealistic for decades. Women have always worked to help support families. Failure to realize this has put an additional burden on the woman. The woman must work at a job and also take care of household duties.

**Con**

A woman cannot maintain a career and raise a family all at the same time. Child rearing is one of the most important jobs in society. It should not be turned over to day care centers. The woman's movement is actually eroding traditional family values.

**Directions**

Read the background information and the pro and con views. Decide which you agree with the most.

The issue is, should the government force companies to pay for toxic waste cleanup and require the testing of all chemicals before they are used?

**Background: Toxic Wastes**

Theodore Roosevelt was the first to make the environment an issue in national politics. Roosevelt supported the expansion of national forests and parks. He created new national monuments and parks. He supported the multiple use of the national forests allowing for the development of resources. He also created the Bureau of Reclamation which developed the water resources of the western United States.

The modern environmental movement began with the publication of Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* in 1962. Carson described the damaging effects of pesticides upon the environment. The modern environmentalist movement has concentrated on the pollution of the environment, water, air and soil, by modern chemicals.

The Environmental Protection Agency was created 1969. The first Earth Day was held April 22, 1970. There are 70,000 chemicals in use, most of which have not been tested for their adverse effects upon the environment.

For years chemicals had simply been dumped without regard to their toxic effects. In most cases the companies had little idea that there were toxic effects. There had been virtually no testing.

With the advent of the EPA there was an increase in testing. In 1975 Congress created the toxic waste clean-up "Superfund." A tax on chemical companies provided the \$1.5 billion to clean up toxic waste dumps.

**Pro**

The government must take a more active role in regulating the environment. It must require the testing of all chemicals.

Many chemicals are dangerous to human beings and if dumped carelessly can find their way into underground water supplies.

**Con**

The government must work in cooperation with businesses to regulate the environment. Aggressive laws and enforcement will only hurt business. It will discourage the development of new chemicals and increase costs to the consumer.

Tests of toxicity are often misleading because small animals are used and are given much heavier doses of the chemicals than a human would normally receive.

**Directions**

Read the background and the pro and con arguments. Decide which you agree with the most.

The issue is, should the U.S. switch from oil to some other energy source?

**Background: Arab Oil Embargo**

In October 1973 Arab oil-producing countries banned oil exports to the U.S. because the U.S. supported Israel during the 1973 Arab-Israeli War. The oil embargo lasted until March 1974. The U.S. suffered a serious shortage of gasoline.

Oil became the chief source of fuel in the 20th century. In the early part of the century coal provided for our energy needs and the U.S. has an abundance of coal. Until World War II coal provided over one-half of the country's energy needs. World War II and a huge increase in car ownership after the war changed that. By 1952 oil provided two-thirds of the nation's energy.

The United States became increasingly dependent upon foreign oil, particularly Middle Eastern oil. One of the reasons for this dependency on foreign oil is that the oil industry is dominated by the "seven sisters," seven large oil companies that own most of the non-communist world's oil and refineries. The Seven Sisters control most of the low cost oil in the Middle East developed in the late 1930's and 1940's. This oil is cheaper to produce and provides for greater profits.

In the 1950's and '60's oil-producing countries insisted on a greater share of the profits from oil. Until this time the oil companies were getting the lion's share of the profits. They formed the Organization of Oil Producing and Exporting Countries (OPEC). OPEC attempts to regulate the price of oil by controlling production and creating artificial scarcity.

**Pro**

The United States has become increasingly dependent upon imported oil. This puts the U.S. at the mercy of other countries. The U.S. could be a victim of international blackmail such as the Arab Oil Boycott.

Oil will eventually run out and as it does the price of oil will increase.

The Germans developed synthetic fuels during World War II. The U.S. should do the same. The U.S. has enough coal, which can be converted to gasoline, to last 500 years.

The price of oil is artificially manipulated by the large oil companies and the OPEC countries.

**Con**

Oil companies have the most advanced technology in the world. While the price of oil may go up and down it is still much cheaper than other sources of energy.

The reason the U.S. must import oil is that the U.S. oil reserves are declining and the cost of exploration and production makes the oil much more expensive than imported oil.

One of the reasons for the high cost of production in the U.S. is the environmental restrictions on oil companies which limit their ability to explore for oil.

**Directions**

Read the news stories and pretend that you are a reporter who has to relay the story to your paper. You only have enough money to send a ten-word telegram. Summarize each story in ten words.

**Attica 1971**

Prisoners at Attica State Correctional Facility in New York state rioted and took 38 guards hostage. 1,200 inmates participated. The prison was surrounded by 1,000 state troopers and police. The rebellion at the prison lasted for four days. An attack on September 13 ended the rebellion. Nine hostages and twenty-eight convicts were killed in the attack.

**Peking 1972**

President Richard Nixon became the first president to visit China. Nixon arrived in Peking on February 21 for an eight-day visit. Nixon called his trip a "Journey for Peace." The U.S. had not recognized communist China since the communists assumed control in 1949. In 1950 the U.S. fought the Chinese in the Korean War. After the visit Nixon and the Chinese leaders, Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai, issued a joint communique promising a "normalization of relations."

**Wounded Knee 1973**

The American Indian Movement (AIM) seized a trading post and church at Wounded Knee on the Oglala Sioux Indian Reservation in South Dakota. There were 200 to 300 members of AIM involved. Wounded Knee was the site of a famous massacre one hundred years before where U.S. soldiers massacred Indians. AIM demanded that the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee hold hearings on treaties made with Indians.



**Gerald R. Ford**

**Spiro Agnew Resigns 1973**

Vice-President Spiro T. Agnew resigned his post on October 10. He pleaded *nolo contendere* (no contest) to charges that he evaded taxes and took bribes from contractors when he was mayor of Baltimore. He was sentenced to three years probation and a \$10,000 fine. Gerald Rudolph Ford was appointed Vice-President on October 12. He was the first appointed vice-president under the 25th Amendment. Ford was the House Minority Leader.

**Nixon's Impeachment 1974**

The House Judiciary Committee delivered the third article of impeachment against President Richard Nixon on July 30. The third article of impeachment accused Nixon of unconstitutional defiance of committee subpoenas. It was approved by a vote of 27 to 17. The Committee on a vote of 28-10 on July 29 charged that Nixon had failed to carry out his constitutional oath of office and on July 28, by a vote of 27 to 11, charged that Nixon had taken part in a criminal conspiracy to obstruct justice. The entire House of Representatives voted on August 20 by a vote of 412 to 3 to accept the articles of impeachment.

## **Karen Ann Quinlan 1976**

The New Jersey Supreme Court ruled on March 31 that a mechanical respirator that had been keeping Karen Ann Quinlan alive for eleven months could be turned off. Quinlan was considered "brain dead." The parents of Quinlan asked for the ruling so that their daughter could die "with grace and dignity." The respirator was turned off but she did not die.

## **Viking Lander 1977**

The Viking II Lander set down on Mars on September 3. The space probe took pictures which were sent back to earth. The pictures showed rocks, reddish soil and light blue skies. There was evidence that there was once biological activity on the planet and that it appeared that the north polar ice cap was frozen water. The Lander landed on the Utopia Plains. Viking II followed an earlier landing by Viking I on July 20.

## **Bakke Case 1978**

The Supreme Court decided by a 5 to 4 vote that it was unconstitutional for the University of California to use a quota system in admitting people to medical school. Alan Bakke, a white man, had applied for admission to the U.C. Davis Medical School and was refused. Bakke claimed that he was the victim of reverse discrimination. By a vote of 5 to 4 the Supreme Court upheld affirmative action, and also held that Bakke should be admitted to medical school.

## **Three Mile Island 1979**

A nuclear reactor at Three Mile Island had a major accident on March 28. Three Mile Island is near Middletown, Pennsylvania. Radioactive gasses escaped through the plant's ventilation system. There were no fatalities. The reactor was shut down. A large hydrogen bubble formed at the top of the reactor's containment vessel.

**Directions**

During the 1970's affirmative action became a crucial issue. Schools, governments and some private businesses created a system to correct the previous effects of discrimination. The system, called affirmative action, gave preferential treatment to minorities in hiring and, in case of schools, in admission.

The issue was as controversial in the 1970's as it is now, drawing strong feelings from both those opposed and in favor.

Using the information below, write a news story about the event. Use the inverted pyramid approach putting the most important information first and the least important last. If you quote someone use quotation marks and identify the source. The events described below are fictional but typical of the time.

**Press Release**

**Island State College, May 17, 1974.**

**From the Office of the President**

Island State College will implement a new minority admissions policy for the Fall term. The new admissions policy will allow minority students to enroll with a 2.5 grade point average and a minimum SAT score of 700. The normal requirements of a 3.0 grade point average and a score of 850 on the SAT will remain in effect for other students.

College president Raymond Schubert said that the new policy was designed to increase minority enrollment in the college. The policy will remain in effect until the college enrollment reflects the percentage of minorities in the community served by the college.

**Interview with student Jeremy Bentham**

**Interviewer:** What do you think about the college's new affirmative action policy?

**Bentham:** I don't like it. It discriminates against whites. Its kind of discrimination in reverse.

**Interviewer:** What difference does it really make to you? It doesn't affect you.

**Bentham:** Yeah, but look at it this way. They take only 1,000 freshmen. Maybe 2,000 who qualify apply and only 1,000 of them get in. Now you are going to be taking in people who don't qualify and keep out those who do. It doesn't make sense, and it's not fair.

**Interviewer:** But you are already a student so it doesn't affect you.

**Bentham:** Well, I don't want to sit in class with someone who doesn't belong here. They'll eventually have to start watering down the classes if they don't want them to flunk out the first semester.

**Interview with leader of the Afro-American Club, Letha Jones**

**Interviewer:** What do you think of the college's new policy?

**Jones:** It's a great breakthrough. It's about time the college did something to help blacks.

**Interviewer:** Do you think students admitted under the program will be able to do the work ?

**Jones:** Let's face it. These SAT tests and the grades you get are racist. They discriminate against minorities.

**Interviewer:** That doesn't answer the question.

**Jones:** Sure, black people are just as smart as white people. I have a 3.5 GPA.

**Interviewer:** But you enrolled under the old admissions policy.

**Jones:** I know a lot of black kids out there who can do the work but just don't have the grades.

Interview with Raymond Watts, Dean of Admissions

**Interviewer:** Do you think the new policy will work?

**Watts:** If we are going to break the cycle of poverty and discrimination that blacks suffer it will have to work.

**Interviewer:** What I mean is do you think that students who don't meet the normal requirements will be able to do college level work?

**Watts:** We also intend to provide tutoring services for them.

**Interviewer:** Many of the white students are complaining that it is unfair to them.

**Watts:** We're talking about a group of people that has been treated unfairly for its entire history. The policy is just a small step to make up for past discrimination. Whites have never had to suffer like minorities.

**Interviewer:** What about excluding qualified students to take in students who are not qualified?

**Watts:** We don't intend to take in students who are not capable of doing college level work. It is just that some perfectly intelligent minority kids, usually because of a background of deprivation, don't do as well in school and on admissions tests as whites.

Interview with Dr. Harold Ennis, President of the Faculty Senate

**Interviewer:** Is the faculty behind this new admissions policy?

**Ennis:** I think most are, with qualifications.

**Interviewer:** What qualifications?

**Ennis:** Well, some are concerned that they might not be able to do college level work.

**Interviewer:** Dr. Watts seems to think they can.

**Ennis:** Well, you have to really ask yourself why they have lower SAT scores. It could be they don't have the vocabulary to do well and that in turn means they have trouble reading college level books.

**Interviewer:** The college will provide tutoring. Won't that help?

**Ennis:** It certainly won't hurt. We'll have to see how it works out. We think in principle the idea is desirable. The question is, is it practical?

## 1970's

## Data Analysis

**Consumer Price Index  
(100=1982-1984)**

	1970	1975	1980	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
All items	38.8	53.8	82.4	103.9	107.6	109.6	113.6	118.3
Food	40.1	60.2	86.7	103.2	105.6	109.1	113.5	118.2
Housing	36.4	50.7	81.1	103.6	107.7	110.9	114.2	118.5
Apparel	59.2	72.5	90.9	102.1	105.0	105.9	110.6	115.4
Transportation	37.5	50.1	83.1	103.7	106.4	102.3	105.4	108.7
Medical care	34.0	47.5	74.9	106.8	113.5	122.0	130.1	138.6
Entertainment	47.5	62.0	83.6	103.8	107.9	111.6	115.3	120.3

**Activities**

1. What are the general trends of consumer prices? Which item(s) have increased the most? Which the least? What time period had the greatest increase in prices?
2. Make a line graph showing the change in the Consumer Price Index.

**Immigration  
(Thousands)**

	Total 1820-1988	Total 1961-1970	Total 1971-1980
Europe	36,876	1,123	800
Asia	5,406	428	1,588
Americas (South, Central, & Mexico)	11,340	1,716	1,982

**Activities**

1. What changes do you see in the pattern of immigration over the last 30 years?
2. Make a bar graph showing where immigrants come from.
3. Why do you suppose there has been a shift away from European immigration?
4. Calculate the percentage of European, Asian and American immigrants for the decades of 1961-1970 and 1971-1980. Make a bar graph showing the percentages for the two decades.



**Directions**

Below is a series of statements. There are four types of statements: 1. True facts which are well-documented. 2. Arguable facts which are not well-documented but can be proven true or false with further research. 3. Purely opinion which are statements judging the facts. 4. Mixed fact and opinion in which the facts are interpreted with a person's opinion. Indicate which statements are factual and which are opinions. Mark an (F) for truly factual statements, (AF) for an arguable fact, (O) for opinion and (FO) for statements that contain an interpreted fact.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Nixon was a crook.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Nixon did nothing more than previous presidents had done.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Jimmy Carter was a phony.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Jimmy Carter manipulated public opinion by effectively using symbols.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Carter began the program of deregulation of business.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ The House of Representatives voted to put Nixon on trial.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ The House made a mistake in voting for the impeachment of Nixon.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Nixon was the first president to resign.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Nixon will go down in history as one of the great presidents.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ The U.S. was morally obligated to take refugees from Southeast Asia.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Carter should have bombed the Iranians.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Affirmative action is one way to correct the inequities of our society.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Affirmative action is the only effective way to correct the inequities of our society.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Carter was the first southerner elected president for decades.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ Many expected the ERA to be easily approved by the states.
16. \_\_\_\_\_ Opening relations with China was a big breakthrough.
17. \_\_\_\_\_ Many world leaders did not like Carter criticizing other countries for human rights abuses.
18. \_\_\_\_\_ Carter would have been more effective as president if he had better relations with Congress.
19. \_\_\_\_\_ Gerald Ford was probably not elected president in 1976 because of his pardon of Nixon.
20. \_\_\_\_\_ Nixon surrounded himself with people who believed that winning was more important than honesty.
21. \_\_\_\_\_ Nixon is a Republican.
22. \_\_\_\_\_ Republicans don't do anything to help the poor.

**Directions**

Below is a series of statements. Select the statement that you think is most precise.

**Group 1**

- A. Nixon did a lot of good things.
- B. Nixon was very effective in foreign policy.
- C. Nixon was willing to work with communist nations.
- D. Nixon worked out a SALT agreement with the Russians.

**Group 2**

- A. Nixon maintained a "hit list" of opponents.
- B. Nixon did not like his critics.
- C. Nixon was paranoid.

**Group 3**

- A. Carter didn't have much success.
- B. Carter wanted to do something about the energy crisis.
- C. Congress refused to approve most of his energy program.
- D. Congress refused to approve any of his energy program except for the creation of the Department of Energy

**Directions**

From the statements below select the most general statement .

**Group 1**

- A. Carter criticized Argentina for human rights abuses.
- B. Carter was concerned about the welfare of all people.
- C. Carter emphasized human rights in his foreign policy.
- D. Carter refused to sell wheat to the Russians.

**Group 2**

- A. Carter showed a great deal of courage.
- B. Carter brought Israel and Egypt together for peace talks.

- C. Carter ordered the Olympic boycott even though it was unpopular.
- D. Carter embargoed wheat sales to Russia even though farmers didn't like it.

**Directions**

Write a general statement that is supported by all of the facts in each group.

**Group 1**

- A. Carter negotiated a SALT II agreement.
- B. Carter persuaded Israel and Egypt to make peace.
- C. Carter gave amnesty to Vietnam War draft protestors.
- D. Carter criticized countries for human rights abuses.

**Group 2**

- A. Nixon proposed a change in welfare.
- B. Nixon wanted people to work in order to receive welfare.
- C. Nixon wanted a guaranteed minimum income for families.
- D. Congress refused to pass Nixon's program.

**Directions**

Emotional words are used to influence how people think about events. They also are used to distort reality. Select what you think might be the emotional word in each of the statements below.

1. Vietnam protestors were traitors and should never have been given amnesty.
2. Carter was a phony.
3. Carter wanted to heal the wounds of the Vietnam War.
4. Nixon's welfare reform package was brilliant.