

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Modern US History Analysis for 9th Grade

Geopolitical synthesis, domestic policy evaluation, and technological disruption — students analyze the complex shifts defining America's role in the 21st-century global landscape.

1. How did the 1978 Camp David Accords fundamentally alter the geopolitical landscape of the Middle East during the Carter administration?

Answer: B) They produced the first peace treaty between Israel and an Arab nation (Egypt).

Brokered by President Jimmy Carter, the Accords led to the 1979 Egypt–Israel Peace Treaty, a landmark shift in regional diplomacy through normalized relations.

2. The concept of 'Stagflation' in the 1970s challenged traditional Keynesian economics because it combined high unemployment with high inflation simultaneously.

Answer: A) True

Stagflation was a unique economic crisis where prices rose while the economy remained stagnant, contradicting the idea that inflation and unemployment move in opposite directions.

3. What was the primary objective of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), implemented in 1994, regarding US domestic industry?

Answer: C) To eliminate trade barriers to stimulate continental move of goods and services.

NAFTA aimed to increase economic integration by removing tariffs between the US, Canada, and Mexico, though it remains debated for its impact on domestic manufacturing jobs.

4. The ____ Doctrine, emerging after 2001, emphasized 'preemptive strikes' against perceived threats to national security, marking a shift from Cold War-era containment.

Answer: C) Bush

The George W. Bush Doctrine justified the use of force against nations harboring terrorists or posing an imminent threat, specifically seen in the justification for the Iraq War.

5. Evaluate the 1992 Los Angeles Riots: Which event served as the immediate catalyst for the civil unrest, highlighting deep-seated racial tensions in the justice system?

Answer: B) The acquittal of officers involved in the Rodney King beating.

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The 'not guilty' verdicts for four white LAPD officers, despite video evidence of the beating, triggered widespread riots and a national conversation on systemic racism.

6. The 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) granted legal status to millions of undocumented immigrants while also introducing penalties for employers who hired them.

Answer: A) True

Signed by Reagan, IRCA was a bipartisan attempt to solve illegal immigration through a 'carrot and stick' approach: amnesty for many residents and new enforcement for employers.

7. In the 21st century, the ____ movement (starting in 2011) protested economic inequality and the influence of corporations on government, using the slogan 'We are the 99%.'

Answer: B) Occupy Wall Street

Occupy Wall Street began in Zuccotti Park, NYC, and successfully shifted the national political discourse toward wealth distribution and the 2008 financial crisis recovery.

8. How did the 1996 Telecommunications Act change the American media landscape, according to critics of corporate consolidation?

Answer: C) It deregulated ownership, allowing a few large companies to control many media outlets.

By easing ownership restrictions, the act led to massive media mergers, reducing the number of independent voices in radio, television, and newspaper industries.

9. Under the concept of 'New Federalism,' the Nixon and Reagan administrations sought to transfer more power and funding from the states back to the federal government.

Answer: B) False

New Federalism actually sought the opposite: devolution, or the transfer of power and responsibility from the federal government back to the states.

10. The ____ Protocol, though not ratified by the US Senate under the Clinton or Bush administrations, was an early international attempt to combat global climate change.

Answer: C) Kyoto

The 1997 Kyoto Protocol set binding targets for greenhouse gas emissions, but the US government famously resisted participation due to concerns over domestic economic impacts.