

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key: Modern Warfare: Your Mission to Decode the New American Era for 10th Grade

Examine the Iran Hostage Crisis, NAFTA's economic impact, and the Patriot Act's role in shifting civil liberties. Analyze how these events reshaped the U.S.

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**1. The 1979 Iran Hostage Crisis significantly damaged the presidency of Jimmy Carter. What was the primary motivation behind the seizure of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran?**

**Answer:** A) Protest against the U.S. allowing the former Shah to receive medical treatment

Revolutionaries were outraged that the United States allowed the exiled Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi into the country for cancer treatment, seeing it as a sign of continued imperial support.

**2. Passed in 1993, the \_\_\_\_ was a trade agreement intended to eliminate barriers between the United States, Canada, and Mexico.**

**Answer:** C) NAFTA

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was a landmark piece of legislation that integrated the economies of North America, sparking intense debate over job outsourcing and consumer prices.

**3. The 'Contract with America' was a legislative agenda released by the Republican Party during the 1994 midterm elections to promote smaller government.**

**Answer:** A) True

Led by Newt Gingrich, the 'Contract with America' promised specific conservative reforms and led to the first Republican majority in the House in 40 years.

**4. How did the Patriot Act of 2001 represent a shift in the balance between national security and individual privacy?**

**Answer:** B) It expanded government surveillance powers, allowing for easier access to personal data

In response to 9/11, the Patriot Act gave law enforcement broader agencies to monitor communications, which sparked long-standing debates over Fourth Amendment rights.

**5. In the 1980s, the \_\_\_\_ scandal involved the secret sale of weapons to a foreign nation to fund anti-communist rebels in Nicaragua.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer:** B) Iran-Contra

The Iran-Contra affair bypassed Congressional authority by using funds from secret arms deals with Iran to support the Contras in Nicaragua.

**6. Sandra Day O'Connor became the first woman to serve on the United States Supreme Court after being appointed by Ronald Reagan in 1981.**

**Answer:** A) True

O'Connor's appointment was a historical milestone for the judiciary, marking a shift in the gender composition of the nation's highest court.

**7. What was a primary environmental consequence of the 1989 Exxon Valdez incident in Alaska?**

**Answer:** B) A massive oil spill that led to stricter maritime pollution regulations

The Exxon Valdez spill was one of the worst human-caused environmental disasters, leading to the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

**8. The US-led intervention in the Balkans during the 1990s was primarily focused on stopping ethnic cleansing in \_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** C) Kosovo

Under the Clinton administration, the U.S. and NATO intervened in Kosovo to prevent human rights abuses and stabilize the region after the breakup of Yugoslavia.

**9. Which 1990s event is often cited as the first major domestic terrorism attack on a U.S. federal building by an American citizen?**

**Answer:** B) The Oklahoma City Bombing

The 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building by Timothy McVeigh highlighted the threat of domestic extremism within the U.S.

**10. The 'No Child Left Behind' Act of 2001 decreased the federal government's role in public education by removing standardized testing requirements.**

**Answer:** B) False

The act actually increased federal oversight by requiring states to implement standardized testing to receive federal funding.

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