

Name: _____ Date: _____

Silicon, Scandals, and Slumps: The Ultimate College Historian Challenge

Develop critical synthesis skills by analyzing the geopolitical shifts, bipartisan policy evolutions, and technological disruptions that defined the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

1. The 1978 Camp David Accords, a landmark of Jimmy Carter's foreign policy, primarily mediated a peace treaty between which two nations?

- A. Israel and Jordan
- B. Egypt and Israel
- C. Lebanon and Syria
- D. Iran and Iraq

2. The 'Contract with America,' led by Newt Gingrich in 1994, was a legislative agenda that successfully helped the Republican party gain control of both houses of Congress for the first time in 40 years.

- A. True
- B. False

3. In 1979, the United States economy faced a period of stagnant growth coupled with high inflation, a phenomenon economists termed ____.

- A. The Great Compression
- B. Deflationary Spiral
- C. Stagflation
- D. Supply-Side Economics

4. What was the primary significance of the 1992 Los Angeles Riots in terms of modern social discourse?

- A. They led to the immediate passage of the Civil Rights Act.
- B. They were the first major riots sparked by social media organization.
- C. They exposed deep-seated racial tensions and systemic issues within urban policing.
- D. They marked the end of the Cold War domestic consensus.

5. The 1997 North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was designed to increase trade barriers between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico to protect domestic manufacturing.

- A. True
- B. False

6. The _____, passed in 2001, significantly expanded the government's authority to conduct surveillance and wiretapping in the name of national security.

- A. War Powers Act
- B. USA PATRIOT Act
- C. Homeland Security Act
- D. Defense of Marriage Act

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7. How did the 1973 'War Powers Resolution' seek to limit the authority of the executive branch?

- A. By requiring the President to consult Congress before committing troops to combat.
- B. By giving the Supreme Court veto power over military declarations.
- C. By banning all covert CIA operations in South America.
- D. By mandating a balanced federal budget during wartime.

8. The 'Iran-Contra Affair' involved the Reagan administration illegally selling weapons to Iran to fund anti-communist rebels in Nicaragua.

- A. True
- B. False

9. The Supreme Court case _____ (2010) fundamentally changed campaign finance by allowing corporations to spend unlimited funds on independent political broadcasts.

- A. Roe v. Wade
- B. Obergefell v. Hodges
- C. Citizens United v. FEC
- D. Shelby County v. Holder

10. In the context of the early 2000s, what was the primary driver of the 'Subprime Mortgage Crisis'?

- A. A sudden increase in the federal minimum wage.
- B. The deregulation of financial institutions and high-risk lending practices.
- C. The transition from an industrial to a service-based economy.
- D. Hyperinflation caused by the abandonment of the Gold Standard.