EOC Test Prep

7th Grade Civics
Benchmark #1
PSST.....Memorize the Dates of the Following Documents...it will help you on the test!!
Magna Carta 1215

- First Document to **Limit** the power of the King
- Declared that nobody could deprive you of **Life, Liberty, and Property.** Unless by **lawful** judgment of peers.
- Signed by King John
English Bill of Rights 1689

- This took power away from the King and gave it to Parliament and the people!
- Right to a Fair Trial
- Freedom from Cruel and Unusual Punishment
- Do these sound familiar?
Mayflower Compact 1620

- This agreement was signed by 41 pilgrim men who came to the New World on the ship called the “Mayflower.”
- A “compact” is an agreement.
- Was the first example of SELF-GOVERNEMENT.
Thomas Paine’s Common Sense

- Paine wrote this pamphlet and said it was “common sense” to become our own country
- He called the King a “Royal Brute”
- Common Sense promoted American Independence.
- Changed the viewpoints of many Americans
Enlightenment

- Was a period in time where people started to think differently about Society, *Government*, and Religion
- Locke and Montesquieu
Montesquieu thought *Liberty* would be threatened if one branch became too powerful. *Separation of Powers* is the idea of dividing up the power of the gov.

-(Legislative, Executive, Judicial)
“Separation of Powers”

The 3 “branches” of government are: on the test you will need to know what each of these branches do!!

- **Legislative Branch** – make the laws
- **Executive Branch** – enforce the laws
- **Judicial Branch** – interpret the laws
John Locke

Government should be created in order to protect you 3 Basic Natural Rights:

- Life, **Liberty,** Property
- If a government doesn’t **protect** these things you can **overthrow** it!
- This is called a **Social Contract.**
Social Contract

- We need Social Contracts "Agreements" to get along
- This is known as a government.
- Without an agreement with others it is considered a State of Nature where there are no Laws! AKA Chaos!!!
Natural Law and Natural Rights

- **Natural Laws** are things that people automatically follow as human beings.
  - Not Killing
  - No Cheating
  - No Stealing
- **Natural Rights** are basic rights you have just because you are a human being!
Founding Fathers

- Were political leaders from many states who had participated in the signing of the Declaration of Independence
- Also known as “FRAMERS”, they helped to create the Constitution
“No Taxation Without Representation”

- American colonists resented these new taxes by the British.
- Since they had no representation in the British Parliament, they felt they should not have to pay taxes.
- Their slogan no taxation without representation! Embodied this!
American Boycotts

- In protest, many Americans began to "boycott" or refuse to buy British goods.
- As a result, the British government "repealed" or cancelled many acts.
“Boston Tea Party”
Declaration of Independence

- Was created by Thomas Jefferson and signed July 4, 1776.
- It stated that the Colonies were no longer part of Great Britain and therefore Independent States!
- Was influenced by Locke and Montesquieu when writing.
- (Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness)
Articles of Confederation

- **First** Government of our Country
- Was an agreement among the **13** states.
- Said they would establish a firm **friendship** (friend zone ladies and gentleman)
- Proved to be a really bad government because each state made its **own** rules and regulations.
### Articles of Confederation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A weak national government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Congress could not tax or regulate commerce among states</td>
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<tr>
<td>No common currency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Just one vote per state, size didn’t matter</td>
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<tr>
<td>No executive or judicial branch</td>
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Shays Rebellion

- Was an *uprising* of farmers who were upset about high state taxes led by Daniel Shay.
- Proved that there were many problems with the Articles of Confederation and that our Government needed to be United.
The U.S. Constitution

Created in 1787.

- This new government helped to correct the problems under the Articles of Confederation.
- Created Checks and Balances, Separation of Powers, taxes, as well as a President!
Checks and Balances

- Was created to **limited** the Branches of the Government.
- Stops each branch from becoming too **powerful**
- Example: President can Veto Acts of Congress
“Checks & Balances”
Preamble

- Very first part of the Constitution. Lists the **6 goals** and **purpose** of the Constitution
- Form a more perfect Union
- Establish Justice
- Insure Domestic tranquility
- Provide for the Common Defense
- Promote General Welfare
- Secure Blessings of Liberty.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHp7sMqPL0g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHp7sMqPL0g)
“Preamble”

“We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”
When creating the Constitution this group of people supported a strong National Government.

Thought we *didn’t* need a Bill of Rights.

Similar to Democrats today.
Anti-Federalist

- Didn't even want a New Constitution!
- Supported a Bill of Rights
- Wanted a small Federal Government and more power given to the States.
- Similar to Republicans today.
Federalists:
- Favored ratification of the Constitution
- Favored a powerful federal government
- Argued a Bill of Rights was not needed, as federal power was limited
- “The Federalist Papers”

Anti-Federalists:
- Opposed ratification of the Constitution
- Wanted a weak federal government that would not threaten states rights
- Wanted a Bill of Rights to declare and protect the rights of the people

Ratification:
- Federalists promise addition of a Bill of Rights
- Ratification succeeded, new government formed 1789
- James Madison drafts 10 amendments to the Constitution, these become the U.S. Bill of Rights
Ratification

In **Article 7** of the Constitution it said that 9/13 states had to ratify the Constitution in order for it to be passed as our new government. This happened on June 21, 1788.
Bill of Rights “Your Basic Freedoms”

- The First 10 Amendments of the Constitution
- Anti-Federalists pushed for this to be added in the Constitution
“Popular Sovereignty”

❖ “...” is the belief that power lies with the “people” (right of the people to rule)
❖ “We the People...” - Power comes from the “consent of the governed”...
Everyone is subject and must follow the rules of our government even the president of the United States.

No matter who you are you must follow the rules!
Benchmark #2
What is a citizen?

• The 14th Amendment defines a citizen as anyone born or naturalized in the US.

Responsibilities – Things you should do!

• Voting, attending civic meetings, petitioning the government, running for office
Obligations/Duties of Citizens

Theses are things that you **MUST DO**!
- Paying Taxes
- Obeying the Law
- Serving on juries
- **Defending the nation (when asked) – selective service**
Law of Soil v Law of Blood

- Both mean you are a natural born citizen (native).
- Law of Soil- Born in the U.S. or U.S. Territories
- Law of Blood- Child to a parent who is a U.S. citizen.
Naturalization

It’s the process of becoming a citizen if you are not natural born!

1. Apply to become a permanent resident (resident alien). You must be a permanent resident of the United States for 5 years before applying for naturalization/citizenship.
2. Apply to become naturalized.
3. Be fingerprinted and interviewed.
4. Be of good moral character.
5. Demonstrate the ability to read, write, and speak English.
6. Successfully complete a civics exam.
7. You must also pay a fee to become a Naturalized citizen. (approximately $700)
8. Take an Oath of Allegiance to the United States.
Amendments

- Amendments are Laws that are **added** to the Constitution
- Example: 13\textsuperscript{th} Amendment Ended Slavery
- Proposed by \(\frac{2}{3}\) of Congress or States
- Passed by \(\frac{3}{4}\) of states saying YES!
Amendments 1-10 (Bill of rights)

I. Freedom of Speech, religion, press, petition, and assembly (peaceful protest)
II. Right to bear arms and militia
III. Quartering of soldiers (soldiers living in your house)
IV. Warrants and searches (right to privacy)
V. Individual debt and double jeopardy (can’t be tried twice for the same crime)
Amendments 1-10 (Bill of rights)

VI. *Speedy* trial, right to call witnesses and hear accusations made against you.

VII. Right for a jury trial

VIII. No excessive bail or fines. No cruel or unusual punishment.

IX. *Enumerated* powers (powers not listed specifically in the U.S. Constitution, like voting)

X. *Powers* not listed in the U.S. Constitution are given to the states.
13th Amendment 1865

- **Abolished** slavery in the United States
- "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, shall exist within the United States ..."
14th Amendment 1868

Stated All people born in the United States are Citizens!

Also explained how you cannot restrict the basic rights of a citizen

Everyone is EQUAL under the law
15th Amendment 1870

- State governments cannot deny a citizen the right to vote based on that citizen's "race, color, or previous condition of servitude".
19th Amendment 1920

This amendment gave **women** the right to vote!

This movement was called “Women’s Suffrage”

**Suffrage:** Right to vote.
24th Amendment 1964

Prohibits Congress and States from requiring voters to pay a poll tax before they are allowed to vote!
26th Amendment 1971

The federal government stopped the states from raising the voting age over 18
Civil Rights Act of 1964

Was a law supported by President Lyndon B. Johnson. Authorized the use federal action “military” against the **segregation** of the public schools, separate facilities, and workplaces.
Political Parties

Are groups of individuals with similar opinions or ideas.

The United States has a two Party System: Democrat and Republican.

**Platform** – Where candidates stand on certain issues.

Democrats *(Liberal)* and want More Government.

Republicans *(Conservative)* and want Less Government.
Elections

- Elections are secret and determined by popular vote (non presidential)
- Elections are a two-part process

1. First is the **Primary** Election – helps narrow the field of candidates
2. Next comes the **General** Election – where the votes select the one final candidate to win
Electoral College

- Presidents are not chosen by direct popular vote but by the Electoral College.
- Voters vote in November for the candidates they best like – this is to let the Electors know who to vote for.
- Electors then meet in December to cast the state’s electoral votes for the President and Vice President.
- The votes are then sent to Congress, who counts them.
- The candidate who receives the majority (270 or more) of the 538 votes – wins the election.
The Media = Watchdog

The media is any type of mass communication like the news, facebook, or internet.
The media often acts like a watchdog to alert us when the government is doing something wrong.
Propaganda

- These are tactics used to influence peoples opinions
- **Bandwagon** - Everyone is doing it!
- Glittering Generalities - Vague Statements “Incredible!”
- **Name Calling** - Mean statements
- Plain Folks - Looking like a” average Joe”
- Testimonial - Statement from a person about product
Bias and Symbolism

Bias - an unfair preference for or dislike of something (showing one side)

Symbolism – the use of something to represent something else (i.e., Flag represents the USA)
Interest Groups – Influence Gov’t

interest group – a group of people who share a point of view about an issue.

By their very nature, interest groups are biased – supporting a particular viewpoint.

Interest groups are NOT part of the government – they just try to influence the government!!!

biased
Benchmark #3
Direct Democracy

- This is a type of government where people vote directly on Laws and other Policies.

- The people vote **“DIRECTLY”** on things
Representative Democracy

- This is a type of government where you **elect** someone who then makes **decisions** for you.
- The United States is a Representative Democracy
Socialism

- Socialism is a type of government where everything is *shared* in the community.
- Everyone has equal pay, duties, and responsibilities.
- Does not support individualism.
Communism

Similar to Socialism, this is a type of government where property is owned by the *government*.

This government is usually controlled by one person or a very small group.
Monarchy

A form of government where a *King* or Queen controls the country.

Kingship is passed down from family to family.

An *absolute monarchy* exercises ultimate governing authority as head of state and head of government; his or her powers are not limited by a constitution or by the law.
Oligarchy

- Is a form of government run by just a few People or *small* group.
Autocracy/Dictatorship

Is a type of government where one person has complete control and power.
Tyranny

Means cruel and oppressive government rule over the people.

For example: King George was though to be cruel and unfair to the Colonists.
Parliamentary Government

This is the type of government in **Great Britain**.
A group of elected officials who make executive decisions instead of a President.
These people come from the legislative branch of government and their leader is called the **Prime Minister**.
Federal Government
A government that has strong central powers.
Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches
The United States has a Federal Gov.
Confederal

Is a union or agreement among states or political groups.
This was our first type of government “Articles of Confederation”

States acted as their own countries.
Unitary Government

In a Unitary government the **central** government holds *all* the control and power.

Only 1 set of Laws and Rules that comes from this group.
Article I of U.S Constitution

- Describes the **Legislative Branch** and its powers.
- Legislative branch makes the **Laws**.
- This group is called Congress and is made up of the **House of Representatives** and the **Senate**
  - **435** members
  - **25** years old
  - **2** year term
  - Can impeach President!
Senate

- 100 members
- 2 members per state
- 30 years old
- 6 year term
- Serve as the jury during Impeachment trial
Article II of US Constitution

• Article II describes the Executive Branch
• AKA the President
• This Branch Enforces the Laws
• Can Veto Congress
• 35 years old
• 4 year term with a 2 term limit
• Appointed Cabinet, approved by the Senate
Article III of US Constitution

- Discusses the **Judicial** Branch.
- The Judicial Branch is also known as the **Supreme Court**.
- They decide if laws are **Fair and Constitutional**
- **8 Justices**
- **1 Chief Justice**
- **8+1= 9 Justices total**
- U.S. Supreme court justices serve for **life** or until they retire
Article IV of the U.S Constitution

- *Article IV* establishes the relations of the states and the rights of citizens.
- It establishes “good will” among states.
- Promises *U.S. protection* of the states.
Article V of the U.S. Constitution

• *Article V* discusses the *Amending* the Constitution
• To amend (or *change*) allows the Constitution to *change* with the times.
• *We currently have 27 Amendments*
• *“Bill of Rights”* are the *first 10 amendments*
Amending the Constitution Step 1-Propose

• All amendments must begin by being “proposed”
• To propose an amendment, it requires either a (1) vote of \(\frac{2}{3}\) of both houses of Congress
Amending the Constitution Step 2 - Ratify

• All amendments must end by being “ratified”
• To ratify an amendment, it requires either a \( \frac{3}{4} \) of states

“\( \frac{2}{3} \) of the Congress, \( \frac{3}{4} \) that’s what makes America Great!!” - Mr. Raymond
Article IV Of U.S. Constitution

The Constitution is the highest authority in the land. If state law contradicts the Constitution, the Constitution wins.

“supremacy”
Article IIIV of U.S. Constitution

- **Article VII** discusses the “**ratification**” of the Constitution.

  - **To Ratify means to Approve**

  - It required **9** out of **13** states to ratify before the Constitution would go into effect.

  - The **Federalist and the Anti-Federalist** disagreed on Ratification -
    - The Anti-Federalist demanded a **Bill of Rights** before they would ratify it
    - The Federalist wanted a stronger central government and liked the Constitution
“Federalism”

“Federalism” means that the states and federal gov’t share power. States give up some of their powers to the national government.

National and state governments share powers – this limits the power of the federal government by giving power to the states.
Powers are Divided

**ENUMERATED POWERS**
(Powers given to the federal government)
- Pass all laws necessary and proper to carry out its powers
- Regulate trade with other countries and among the states
- Conduct foreign affairs
- Raise and support an army
- Coin and print money
- Establish a postal system
- Govern U.S. territories, admit new states, and regulate immigration

**CONCURRENT POWERS**
(Powers shared by state and federal governments)
- Enforce the laws
- Establish courts
- Collect taxes
- Borrow money
- Provide for the general welfare

**RESERVED POWERS**
(Powers given to state governments)
- Provide for the public safety, health, and welfare within the state
- Regulate trade and commerce within the state
- Establish local governments
- Conduct elections, determine qualifications of voters
- Establish a public school system
“Delegated- National Government Powers

- Regulating all trade
- Conducting foreign affairs
- Raise & support armies
- Coin or print money
- Create postal system
- Govern U.S. territories
- Regulate immigration
“Reserved” – *State Powers*

- These are powers that are *NOT* specifically mentioned in the U.S. Constitution.
- Education
- Issue Drivers Licenses
- Elections
- Birth Certificates/Marriage Certificates
“Concurrent” Powers shared by both the state and national government.

- Enforce the laws
- Establish courts
- Collect taxes
- Borrow money
- Provide for the general welfare
Implied Powers

- **Implied powers** are not specifically listed for Congress but are understood according to **Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18**.
- This is often called the “elastic clause” because it gives Congress authority to stretch its power and do whatever is “necessary and proper” to do their job.
Implied Powers

Examples of Implied Powers are:

- To raise and support an army implies Congress can implement a draft (require all 18 year old males to register for *Selective Service*)
- Collecting taxes implies that Congress could use the money to support programs
- Establishing naturalization rules implies that Congress can limit the number of immigrants.
Limits to Congressional Powers

- Congress can **not** pass “**bills of attainder**” (laws that punish a person without a jury trial)

- Congress can **not** suspend the “**writ of habeas corpus**” (court order requiring police to bring a prisoner to court to explain why they are holding that person).

- Congress can **not** pass “**ex post facto laws**” (or laws that make an act a crime AFTER it has been committed)
Types of Laws

- There are several different types of law that affect Americans directly today that help maintain a peaceful and orderly society.
  - “Military” Law
  - “Constitutional” Law
  - “Criminal” Law
  - “Civil” Law
  - “Statutory” Law
  - “Common” Law
Federal Court System

U.S. Supreme Court
(Justices/No Jury)
Jurisdiction: Limited original jurisdiction and appellate jurisdiction

U.S. Courts of Appeals
(Judges/No Jury)
Jurisdiction: Appellate

U.S. District Courts
(Judges and Juries)
Jurisdiction: Original
Florida has a four-tiered court system. The lowest courts in Florida are the County Courts, if appealed cases move up a level to the Circuit Courts, the next level of appeals is the District Courts of Appeals, and the highest court is the Florida Supreme Court.
Marbury v. Madison

- This Supreme Court Case helped to establish *Judicial Review*

- **Judicial Review** is where the Supreme Court looks over rules, laws, and situations to decide whether or not they violate the Constitution.
Miranda v Arizona

Ernesto Miranda was Charged with kidnapping and assault, could serve up to 60 years in Prison. *Confessed* without understanding his *rights*
Gideon v Wainwright

- Clarence Earl Gideon was charged with breaking and entering.

- The poor man had no money for a lawyer, had to defend himself, so he lost the court case!
Korematsu v United States

- Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor
- As a result, Japanese-Americans are placed in internment camps so the government can keep an eye on them.
- Government felt it was a time of war and it was necessary.
In Re Gault

- A young kid named Geral Gault is accused of making obscene phone calls and is taken to trial without an attorney, being notified of charges, and had no chance to confront witnesses.
• An African American man named Plessy sued a railroad over having to use a *separate* railcar because of his skin color. This decision upheld the doctrine, that separated facilities for blacks and whites *satisfied* the as long as they are “equal”. 
Brown v Board of Education

- Schools were segregated by race. The Brown’s wanted to go to a white school near their house because it was a long dangerous trip to walk to their school.
- This case ended school segregation.
United States v Nixon

- Hearing about President Nixon’s Watergate break-in scandal revealed secret recording in the Oval Office.
- The prosecutor in charge of the case wanted access to these taped discussions.
- This case upheld the rule of law—”No one is above the rule of law.”—including the president of the United States.
Bush v Gore

- In Florida during the 2000 election there were many issues with voting and the counting of votes leaving the real winner unknown.
- The Supreme Court ruled 5-4 saying that the recount violated the 14th Amendment and needed to stop.
Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier

- Stated that school newspapers not solely based on student expression, could be changed and edited by the schools.
- Limited Freedom of Speech and Press for kids in Public Schools
Tinker v. Des Moines

- Established Constitutional Rights for kids in the Public Schools
- Supreme Court ruled they had freedom of speech and expression!
- Students wearing black armbands were trying to promote a true in the Vietnam War
New Jersey v. T.L.O.

The majority concluded that school officials do not need a warrant to justify a search as long as the search was reasonable under the circumstances.

School officials are only required to have a “reasonable suspicion” that a student has violated school rules in order to search that student.
D.C. v. Heller

- The 2nd Amendment protects an individual’s right to have a firearm unconnected with service in a militia and to use that weapon for traditionally lawful purposes such as self defense within the home.
Determined that the burning of the American flag was protected under the 1st amendment as part of the right to freedom of expression.
Forced Internment

- The act of gathering up people and detaining them during wartime.
- During WWII our country though many Japanese Americans were a threat so we forced them into Internment Camps in the Western United States.
What are some of the Differences between the Florida Constitution and the National Constitution?

**Florida Constitution:**
- The lengthier of the two.
- **12** Articles
- 80 pages
- MANY Amendments!
- *Easy* to Amend

**National Constitution:**
- The *shorter* of the two.
- 7 Articles
- **5** pages
- 27 Amendments
- Very tough to Amend
“Local” government

Closest to the people and provides most services
what services/obligations does this level provide???

• Build and Maintain roads and schools
• Collects Trash
• Enforces local laws
• Fire and police departments
• Maintain local courts
Benchmark #4
NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) is perhaps the most important military security alliance formed by the U.S. and its allies.

Peace Corps utilizes volunteers to provide assistance and promote cultural understanding between the US and other countries.

United Nations (UN) works to promote peaceful coexistence and worldwide cooperation among nations.

WTO (World Trade Organization)- Supervises international trade

WHO (World Health Organization) – keep track of health and medical situations around the world.

International Court of Justice (World Court) – serve as the judicial component of the UN; hear and try cases
Domestic and Foreign Policy

- **Domestic Policy** – is policy (laws/decisions) for situations inside the US borders (think “at home” or “inside our nation”)

- **Foreign Policy** – is policy (laws/decisions) for situations that involve other nations or events happening outside the US borders (think “away”)

![NATO](https://example.com/nato.png)
How has the US dealt with international conflict?

- Wars – no formal declaration of war since 1941; this is a last resort
- Foreign Aid – offering money, military assistance, and support to countries in need
The war was *Germany*, Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire (the so-called Central Powers) against Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy and Japan (the Allied Powers). The Allies were joined after 1917 by the United States. By the time World War I ended in the defeat of the Central Powers in November 1918, more than 9 million soldiers had been killed and 21 million more wounded.

The United States led by Woodrow *Wilson* joined as a result of German sinking of American and British ships as well as an intercepted message from Germany to Mexico, promising them help against the U.S. if they would join the war!
World War II (1939-1945)

- Coming just two decades after the last great global conflict, the Second World War was the most widespread and deadliest war in history, involving more than 30 countries and resulting in more than 50 million military and civilian deaths (with some estimates as high as 85 million dead). Sparked by Adolf Hitler's invasion of Poland in 1939, the war would drag on for six deadly years until the final Allied defeat of both Nazi Germany and Japan in 1945.
The Korean War began as a civil war between North and South Korea, but the conflict soon became international when, under U.S. leadership, the United Nations joined to support South Korea and the People’s Republic of China (PRC) entered to aid North Korea.
Cold War

During World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union fought together as allies against the Axis powers. However, the relationship between the two nations was a tense one. Americans had long been wary of Soviet communism and did not treat the Soviet Union as an important power in the world. This led to mistrust between the nations and a battle to make new technological advancements.
On August 13, 1961, the Communist government of East German began to build a barbed wire and concrete wall between East and West Berlin. The official purpose of this Berlin Wall was to keep Western Democracy from coming to the Soviet Union controlled East. The Berlin Wall stood until November 9, 1989, when the head of the East German Communist Party announced that could cross the border whenever they pleased. That night, ecstatic crowds swarmed the wall. Some crossed freely into West Berlin, while others brought hammers and picks and began to chip away at the wall itself. To this day, the Berlin Wall remains one of the most powerful and enduring symbols of the Cold War.

The tearing down of the wall symbolized the End of the Cold War and most tensions between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.
Bay of Pigs 1961

- Was a **CIA** sponsored attack on the Communist Leader Fidel Castro and **Cuba**.
- The U.S. was afraid of the growing threat of communism and the Soviet Union so they tried to take out Fidel Castro by using Cuban exiles. Failed Invasion later led to Cuban Missile Crisis

President: Eisenhower and John F. **Kennedy**
Leaders of the U.S. and the Soviet Union engaged in a tense, political and military standoff in October 1962 over the installation of nuclear-armed Soviet missiles in Cuba. President John Kennedy notified Americans about the presence of the missiles, and made it clear the U.S. was prepared to use military force if necessary to neutralize this perceived threat to national security. Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev made a deal with Kennedy to remove missiles.
The Vietnam War was a long, costly armed conflict that pitted the communist regime of North Vietnam and its southern allies, known as the Viet Cong, against South Vietnam and its principal ally, the United States. The war, increasingly unpopular at home, ended with the withdrawal of U.S. forces in 1973 and the unification of Vietnam under Communist control two years later. More than 3 million people, including 58,000 Americans, were killed in the conflict.
Iran Hostage Crisis 1979

An angry mob of young Islamic revolutionaries overran the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, taking more than 60 Americans hostage. "From the moment the hostages were seized until they were released minutes after Ronald Reagan took the oath of office as president 444 days later. President Carter felt the plight of the hostages deeply, and considered their safe return his personal responsibility. On November 11, he embargoed Iranian oil and led a failed mission to bring them home safely."
Gulf War I 1990

When Saddam Hussein invaded his small, oil-rich neighbor in the summer of 1990, Bush’s foreign policy team forged an international coalition consisting of the NATO allies and the Middle Eastern countries of Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Egypt to oppose Iraqi aggression. The Department of State orchestrated the diplomacy for this air campaign in January 1991, which was followed by “Operation Desert Storm,” a 100-hour land war, which expelled Iraqi forces from Kuwait.
A series of four coordinated terrorist attacks by the Islamic terrorist group al-Qaeda on the United States in New York City and the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The attacks killed 2,996 people (including 19 hijackers).

The United States responded to 9/11 by launching the War on Terror and invading Afghanistan to depose the Taliban, which had harbored al-Qaeda as well as Osama bin Laden.
Also known as the **Iraq War**, this armed conflict that began with the 2003 invasion of Iraq led by the United States. The invasion toppled the government of **Saddam Hussein**. The Bush Administration saw Hussein as an immediate threat to the U.S. because they were **thought** to have had access to Nuclear Weapons.