

GLOSSARY AND CREDITS

Let's face it, if you mix a bunch of ingredients together in a pan and throw it into the oven, who knows what they will make? A little economic woes here. A lot of social turmoil there. Throw in a protracted war. Presto! Chaos.

Unit Nine covers the years 1968-1980 and provides basic details of Nixon's, Ford's, and Carter's presidencies. Each was plagued with significant economic problems. At the same time, each had to deal with unique problems. For Nixon, it was Watergate and impeachment. Ford dealt with the close of the Vietnam War and the aftermath of pardoning Nixon. Carter was heavily involved in major international issues culminating in the Iranian hostage crisis and Russia's invasion of Afghanistan.

Chapter 1 - The Nixon Years

In this first chapter, you will study how President Nixon expanded the Vietnam War for a brief time before scaling it back as he had promised. He would also change the way drafting military personnel was administered before doing away with it altogether. His second term saw the nation's economy begin to slide downward as the expense of war and inflation were met head on by the 1973 OPEC oil embargo. You will also learn about the Watergate scandal and how the mushrooming affair brought Nixon's presidency to an end.

Chapter 2 - The 1970s

This chapter covers the end of America's involvement in Vietnam and relates how the South Vietnamese government folded very quickly after the U.S. left. The scene around the U.S. embassy in Saigon was one of total chaos as thousands of South Vietnamese civilians tried desperately to leave the country before Communist troops took over.

Also during the '70s, the women's movement gained much ground with the Supreme Court decision of Roe v. Wade and the near-passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

The '70s also saw the creation of blockbuster movie hits even as rock music was splintered into many different genres. The decade saw the death of three music legends and the breakup of the Beatles.

Chapter 3 - The Carter Years

The nation's economy took a total nosedive during the Carter administration as he was forced to deal with the repercussions of war and disillusionment with big government. At the same time, many people were turning back to religion as several major organizations began, such as Focus on the Family and the Moral Majority.

The last part of Carter's administration saw significant headway made in Middle East affairs with a treaty by Egypt and Israel. At the same time, the situation in Central Asia became much worse with the Iranian Revolution, including the taking of American hostages and Russia's invasion of Afghanistan in 1979.

VOCABULARY

atheistic	not believing in the existence of God or other supernatural beings
concerted	a unified action by a group of people to achieve a goal
consummate	enable a business deal to reach a successful conclusion
contentious	to be argumentative or in extreme disagreement
decimate	to thoroughly destroy something
defiled	to have a damaged, dirty, or corrupted reputation
defoliant	an artificial chemical designed to kill plant life
deregulation	to remove or relax regulations or rules on something
destabilize	to make a nation lose face with its people, thereby causing its downfall
détente	a lessening of mistrust or hostility between two people or nations
detrimental	having a negative or harmful effect on something
doldrums	the condition of being without energy or inspiration
ecology	the relationship of organisms to one another and their environment

environmentalism	philosophy concerning the treatment of the earth as human development evolves; calls for human responsibility when using the earth's resources
evangelical	a Christian who emphasizes a belief in the Bible and salvation
fallible	not perfect; prone to making mistakes
fraught	full of danger or problems
inadvertent	something done by accident or without malice
incumbent	in politics, the current leader of an organization or government
inflation	an increase of currency in relation to the amount of goods available, resulting in higher prices
methodology	the approach or organization used to adhere to a principle
natal	having given birth
resonate	to impact or affect for a long time
rift	a breaking- or splitting-up between two friends
ruckus	overtly loud, obnoxious, or noisy disturbance
stagnant	to stand still or be unmoving
staple	a main or continuous part of something
stipulate	to make a condition for the signing of a legal document
subpoena	legal order to appear in court, which can apply to a person or a document
sustainability	the state of not being harmful to the environment or depleting natural resources
tentative	to be hesitant or uncertain in an action

volatile

a situation prone to violence, anger, or uncertainty