
TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY: AMERICA AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

After you finish reading and studying this chapter, you should be able to

1. Describe the diverse American population in 1990.
2. Explain the election of Bill Clinton in 1992.
3. Discuss the achievements and failures in domestic policy during the Clinton administration.
4. Understand the foreign policies and actions of President Clinton.
5. Analyze the controversy surrounding the 2000 election.
6. Explain the rise of terrorism and its impact on the United States.

CHAPTER OUTLINE

- I. The nation in the 1990s
 - A. Demographic changes
 1. Aging population
 2. Growth of Sunbelt
 3. Metropolitan growth
 4. Working women
 5. Decline of family unit
 6. African-American poverty
 - B. New immigrants
 1. Non-European
 2. Resurgent nativism
 - C. Computer revolution

1. First-generation computers
 2. Postwar developments
 - a. Private corporations
 - b. The transistor
 3. Third generation
 - a. Microprocessor
 - b. Personal computer
 - c. Bill Gates
 4. Internet
- II. Cultural conservatism
- A. Attack on liberal agenda
 1. For decency and propriety
 2. Against affirmative action
 - B. Religious right
 1. Christian Coalition
 2. Traditional family values
 3. Political activism
- III. Bush to Clinton
- A. Background to 1992 election
 1. New international scene
 - a. Gulf War
 - b. Collapse of Soviet Union
 2. The economy
 - a. Recession
 - b. Declining standard of living
 3. Nomination of Clarence Thomas
 - a. Sexual harassment charges
 - b. Confirmation
 - c. Gender gap
 4. Republican divisions
 - a. Tax increase
 - b. Christian Right
- B. Democratic nomination
1. Clinton's background
 2. Primary contests
- C. Election of 1992
1. Economic issues
 2. H. Ross Perot
 3. Results
- IV. Domestic affairs in Clinton's first term
- A. Initial inconsistencies and problems
 - B. The economy
 1. Stimulus package approved
 2. NAFTA

- C. Health care reform
 - 1. Background
 - 2. Universal medical coverage
 - 3. Opposition successful
 - D. Passage of Brady Bill
 - E. Spread of militia movement
 - 1. Hatred of federal authority
 - 2. Siege at Waco
 - 3. Oklahoma City bombing
 - V. Domestic policies
 - A. Election of 1994
 - 1. GOP wins control of Congress
 - 2. Repudiation of Clinton
 - 3. Republican initiative
 - B. "Contract with America"
 - 1. Newton Leroy Gingrich
 - 2. Assault on welfare state
 - 3. Ten-point program
 - 4. Legislative program
 - 5. Limited success
 - C. Legislative breakthroughs in 1996
 - 1. Minimum wage and health insurance
 - 2. Welfare reform
 - D. 1996 election
 - 1. Bob Dole
 - a. Background
 - b. Liabilities
 - 2. Campaign
 - 3. Results
 - a. Clinton reelected
 - b. GOP majority in Congress
 - VI. Economic and social trends
 - A. The new economy
 - 1. Prosperity
 - 2. Globalization
 - 3. Effects on white-collar workers
 - B. The courts and race
 - 1. Limitations on progress for minorities
 - 2. Adarand Construction case
 - 3. *Hopwood v. Texas*
 - 4. Proposition 209
 - VII. Foreign affairs
 - A. Low priority
 - B. Somalia
 - C. Haiti
 - 1. Support for Aristide
 - 2. Negotiations and troops
 - D. Middle East
 - 1. Inclusion of PLO in talks
 - 2. Israel-PLO agreement
 - 3. Assassination of Rubin
 - 4. 1998 agreement among Arafat, Clinton, and Netanyahu
 - E. Yugoslavia
 - 1. Ethnic conflict
 - 2. Peace Plan
 - 3. Kosovo
 - a. 1998 flare-up
 - b. Ethnic cleansing
 - c. NATO air strikes
- VIII. Bush presidency
- A. Election of 2000
 - 1. Candidates for president
 - a. Major parties
 - b. Independents
 - 2. Controversial result
 - a. Florida
 - b. *Bush v. Gore*
 - 3. Even partisan divisions
 - B. Early Bush presidency
 - 1. Experienced cabinet
 - 2. Stock market collapse
 - 3. Tax cut
 - 4. Loss of control in Senate
 - C. Terrorism
 - 1. Rise of global terrorism
 - a. America's dominance
 - b. Clash over religion, ethnicity, and cultural values
 - 2. September 11, 2001
 - a. Aerial attacks
 - b. Effects and reactions
 - c. Al-Qaeda and Osama bin Laden
 - i. Earlier actions
 - ii. Collaboration of Taliban
 - iii. Objectives
 - 3. War on terrorism
 - a. Effects of terrorism on economy
 - b. International coalition
 - c. Operation Enduring Freedom

- i. Military attacks on Afghans
- ii. Collapse of Taliban
- iii. New Afghan government
- 4. Terrorism at home
 - a. Federal responses
 - i. Office of Homeland Security
 - ii. Patriot Act
 - b. Anthrax attacks
- D. Middle East
 - 1. More Palestinian-Israeli violence
 - 2. Election of Ariel Sharon
 - 3. Escalating violence
- E. Prolonged vulnerability and uncertainty

KEY ITEMS OF CHRONOLOGY

ENIAC created	1944
Transistor invented	1947
Microprocessor invented	1971
Pat Robertson organized the Christian Coalition	1989
Clarence Thomas named to the Supreme Court	1991
Bill Clinton elected president	1992
Family Medical Leave Act passed	1993
NAFTA approved	1993
Congress passed the Brady Bill	1993
Siege at Waco	1994
California approved Proposition 187	1994
Republicans won midterm elections	1994
Kenneth Starr appointed independent counsel	1994
American troops sent to Haiti	September 1994
<i>Adarand Constructors v. Pena</i>	1995
Oklahoma City bombing	1995
"Contract with America"	1995
<i>Hopwood v. Texas</i>	1996
Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act	1996
Bill Clinton reelected	1996
California passed Proposition 209	1996
House of Representatives impeached Bill Clinton	December 1998
Trial of Bill Clinton	January 7 to February 12, 1999
Senate acquitted Bill Clinton	February 12, 1999
NATO air strikes against Yugoslavia	1999
George W. Bush elected president	2000

Supreme Court ruled in <i>Bush v. Gore</i>	December 12, 2000
Stock market decline	2001
Tax cut enacted	2001
Terrorist attacks on United States	September 11, 2001
Anthrax attacks in United States	October 2001
Operation Enduring Freedom began	October 7, 2001

TERMS TO MASTER

Listed below are some important people or terms with which you should be familiar after your study of this chapter. Identify each name or term.

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|--|---|
| 1. Sunbelt | 21. Madeleine Albright |
| 2. postindustrial | 22. Alan Greenspan |
| 3. Proposition 187 | 23. <i>Adarand Constructors v. Pena</i> |
| 4. ENIAC | 24. <i>Hopwood v. Texas</i> |
| 5. Bill Gates | 25. Proposition 209 |
| 6. Pat Robertson | 26. Whitewater Development Corporation |
| 7. Christian Coalition | 27. Kenneth Starr |
| 8. downsizing | 28. high crimes and misdemeanors |
| 9. Clarence Thomas | 29. ethnic cleansing |
| 10. Bill Clinton | 30. George W. Bush |
| 11. Albert Gore, Jr. | 31. Patrick Buchanan |
| 12. H. Ross Perot | 32. Ralph Nader |
| 13. Family and Medical Leave Act | 33. <i>Bush v. Gore</i> |
| 14. NAFTA | 34. Richard Cheney |
| 15. Branch Dividians | 35. Al-Qaeda |
| 16. Waco, Texas | 36. Osama bin Laden |
| 17. Contract with America | 37. Taliban |
| 18. Newton Leroy Gingrich | 38. Operation Enduring Freedom |
| 19. Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act | 39. Office of Homeland Security |
| 20. Bob Dole | 40. Patriot Act |

VOCABULARY BUILDING

Listed below are some words or phrases used in this chapter. Look in the dictionary for the meaning of each term you do not know.

acerbic	bedrock
amok	behest
apocalyptic	berft

charade
 commandeer
 condolence
 constituent
 demographic
 disdain
 dismemberment
 fabricate
 feisty
 fester
 fractious
 grate (v.)
 incense (v.)
 indiscretion
 infamy
 irony
 jihad
 libertarian
 lure
 nebulous
 productivity
 rancor
 recant
 referendum
 renege
 sect
 shrapnel
 strident
 tawdry
 tout
 transfix
 transistor
 victimize
 zealot

EXERCISES FOR UNDERSTANDING

When you have finished reading the chapter, answer each of the following questions. If you have difficulty, go back and reread the section of the chapter related to the question.

Multiple-Choice Questions

Select the letter of the choice that best completes the statement.

- In a postindustrial economy most new jobs are in
 - agriculture.
 - manufacturing.
 - service industries.
 - none of the above—there are few new jobs.
- In 1994, Proposition 187 in California
 - outlawed the state tax on real estate.
 - denied social services to illegal immigrants.
 - prohibited the use of handguns in the state.
 - called for impeachment of President Clinton.
- The first digital computer was made in
 - 1944.
 - 1954.
 - 1964.
 - 1974.

- For the first Bush administration, the major problem in the early 1990s was
 - the rise of global terrorism.
 - an economic recession.
 - the end of the cold war.
 - the opposition of the religious right.
- Anita Hill accused Clarence Thomas of
 - favoring abortion and gun control.
 - improprieties in the savings and loan scandal.
 - sexual harassment.
 - being a homosexual.
- “Read my lips: no new taxes,” said
 - Ross Perot.
 - Ronald Reagan.
 - George H. W. Bush.
 - Bill Clinton.
- Bill Clinton’s major legislative accomplishments included
 - the Family Leave Act.
 - NAFTA.
 - the Brady Bill for gun control.
 - all of the above
- Exactly two years after the siege at Waco, Texas,
 - terrorists struck the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.
 - the federal office building in Oklahoma City was bombed.
 - the United States bombed Yugoslavia.
 - Osama bin Laden took American hostages in Afghanistan.
- The Contract with America was the program of
 - David Koresh, Timothy McVeigh, and Terry Nichols.
 - conservative Republicans.
 - Islamic terrorists.
 - Bill Clinton.
- The subject of the Supreme Court decision in *Hopwood v. Texas* (1996) was
 - affirmative action.
 - congressional districts.
 - rights of illegal immigrants.
 - the attack on the Branch Davidians at Waco, Texas.
- In the impeachment proceeding, Bill Clinton was charged with
 - profiting from the Whitewater development.
 - having an affair with Monica Lewinsky.
 - lying under oath to a grand jury.
 - all of the above

12. Clinton's most successful departure in foreign policy was in
- Chechnya.
 - Yugoslavia.
 - Israel.
 - Haiti.
13. In 1995 President Clinton sent 20,000 troops to maintain peace in
- Somalia.
 - Israel.
 - the former Soviet Union.
 - the former Yugoslavia.
14. The death toll in the September 11, 2001, attacks was approximately
- 2,000.
 - 4,000.
 - 8,000.
 - 10,000.
15. Within weeks of the September 11 attacks, the United States experienced
- the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City.
 - sniper attacks in the Washington, D.C. area.
 - an anthrax assault.
 - the militia uprising in Waco, Texas.
10. In the 1996 election, Bill Clinton defeated Bob Dole.
11. In the 1990s, the Supreme Court defended affirmative action programs in employment and education.
12. In the impeachment trial, the Supreme Court acquitted Bill Clinton.
13. In the 2000 election Al Gore won a majority of the popular vote.
14. Under Operation Enduring Freedom, the United States attacked Afghanistan.
15. One result of the rise of terrorism was the final peace settlement between Israel and the Palestinians.

Essay Questions

- By 1990 what were the major demographic trends at work in the United States?
- In domestic policy, what were the successes and setbacks of the Clinton administration?
- Compare Clinton's foreign policy to that of the first George Bush.
- What forces contributed to the Republican control of Congress when Clinton was elected and reelected president?
- What scandals occurred during the Clinton administration and how did they affect his presidency?
- Why was the election of 2000 controversial?
- What happened on September 11, 2001, and what were its causes?
- How did the Bush administration respond to terrorism?

ANSWERS TO MULTIPLE-CHOICE AND TRUE-FALSE QUESTIONS

Multiple-Choice Questions

1-C, 2-B, 3-A, 4-B, 5-C, 6-C, 7-D, 8-B, 9-B, 10-A, 11-C, 12-D, 13-D, 14-B, 15-C

True-False Questions

1-F, 2-T, 3-F, 4-F, 5-T, 6-F, 7-F, 8-T, 9-F, 10-T, 11-F, 12-F, 13-F, 14-T, 15-F

True-False Questions

Indicate whether each statement is true or false.

- In the 1990s, 25 percent of black males between twenty and twenty-nine years of age were pursuing education in some form.
- In the 1990s, for the first time in history most immigrants to the United States were not from Europe.
- The invention of the microprocessor made possible the creation of the transistor.
- The Christian Coalition chose to work politically through the Democratic party.
- About 20 percent of all workers were unemployed at some time during 1991.
- In the 1992 election, Bill Clinton won with about 50 percent of the vote.
- Bill Clinton's nomination of Clarence Thomas for the Supreme Court was eventually confirmed by the Senate.
- George Bush and Bill Clinton supported the passage of NAFTA.
- David Koresh and the Branch Davidians were key members of the Christian Coalition.