Since the 1930’s, the powers of the Presidency had greatly expanded

- Became known as the Imperial Presidency

Expansion of **Presidential powers** peaked under Richard Nixon

- Failed to consult Congress about bombing Cambodia and Laos
- Used public funds to remodel private homes
- Used CIA and FBI to collect info about political enemies
- When Congress passed programs he didn’t like, he refused to spend the funds
First Amendment Rights

- **Tinker v. Des Moines**: John Tinker and his sister were suspended for attending school **wearing black armbands** to protest Vietnam War.

- **Wisconsin v. Yoder**: Wisconsin state law that Amish children must attend school past 8th Grade. Amish said this violated their religious freedoms since it violated their way of life.
1970s saw the rise of prices, trade deficit, and rising unemployment

To combat this, Nixon took drastic measures:

- Cut spending on social programs
- Programs weren’t working, so Nixon imposed first peacetime wage and price controls.
Nixon signed into law the EPA which was in charge of protecting the environment:
- Set air and water pollution standards for cities
- Monitors and enforces waste management
Also created the **Endangered Species Act of 1973**

Fish and Wildlife Service had to create a list of specific species of plants and animals that are threatened with extinction and then take steps to protect them.
In 1923, the Equal Rights Amendment was proposed:

- “Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.”

In 1972, the ERA was approved by Congress and sent to the states to be ratified

- Had to be passed by 1979, but then extended to 1982.
- Still did not pass
An outspoken critic of the ERA was Phyllis Schlafly

- She believed it would reduce the rights of wives and harm family life
- Claimed it would deprive women of the “right” to be “protected and supported by men”
- Amendment could lead to unisex restrooms and require women to serve in combat roles
Nixon’s Foreign Policy

Nixon believed a President’s most important role was direct foreign policy.

We already know that he started the withdrawal of troops from Vietnam, but what else did he do?
Ever since the Communist take over of China in **1949**, US leaders refused diplomatic relations with China.

- America officially recognized the defeated Chinese nationalists in Taiwan as the official government of China.

- **Nixon re-opened ties with Communists** as a way to **put pressure on North Korea**.

- It would be **Nixon’s greatest foreign policy achievement**.
DETENTE WITH THE SOVIET UNION

- Nixon believed in détente: a relaxing of tensions with Russia
  - He particularly wanted to stop the build-up of nuclear weapons
- Signed SALT (Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty) which limited the development of defensive missile systems
- US and Soviet Union cooperated in 1973 to bring about a cease-fire between Israel and Arab states
According to the Domino Theory, if South Vietnam fell to communism then—

a. neighboring countries would soon follow
b. large numbers of refugees would seek U.S. entry

c. anti-communist forces would win it back
d. the United Nations would be forced to intervene
The purpose of the Interstate Commerce Act (1887), the Sherman Antitrust Act (1890), and the Clayton Antitrust Act (1914) was to

A. eliminate unfair business practices
B. reduce imports from foreign nations
C. reduce the power of the unions
D. increase the power of local governments
In the late 1800s, free and unlimited coinage of silver was supported by farmers primarily because they hoped this policy would—

a. Make foreign crop prices less competitive
b. Allow farmers to grow a greater variety of crops
c. Increase crop prices and make it easier to repay loans
d. Bring about political equality between rural and urban residents
WHICH LEGISLATION WAS PASSED OVER OBJECTIONS OF SOUTHERN DEMOCRATS IN ORDER TO PREVENT RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN BUSINESSES AFFECTING INTERSTATE COMMERCE, SUCH AS RESTAURANTS?

a. Civil Rights Act of 1964
b. Voting Rights Act of 1965
c. Equal Rights Amendment
d. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
In his election campaign, Nixon promised a return to “law and order”

- However, his own government was very corrupt

In 1973, Vice President Spiro Agnew resigned after it was discovered he had taken bribes while serving as Governor of Maryland

- Under the 25th Amendment, Gerald Ford became Vice President

Gerald Ford was the first President to never be elected (VP or P)
Nixon was extremely paranoid about keeping his power.

In 1972, a group of former CIA agents working for Nixon were arrested after they broke into the Watergate complex in D.C.
President Nixon tried to cover-up the break in stating that it involved national security.

In Senate hearings, Presidential aids stated that Nixon had participated in the cover-up.

Nixon claimed Executive Privilege and refused to turn over the tapes.

- Conversations between a President and high-ranking officials can remain secret.
Nixon Resigns

- In *United States v. Nixon 1974*, Nixon argued that if he turned over the tapes, it would violate the separation of powers in the Constitution.
- Court addresses executive privilege; however, did not believe it applied to Watergate.
- Supreme Court upheld that he must turn over the tapes, however, there were 18 ½ minutes of missing audio.
- Nixon eventually resigned and Ford became president.
IMPACT OF WATERGATE

- Lowered public confidence in government
- Congress passed laws to curb Presidential power
- Checks and balances!!
- Limited Government!! (no one is above the law)
- Our Government works...
Fill in chart with accomplishments and problems/crises during Nixon’s presidency.

Answer the following questions on the back...

- What impact do you believe the Watergate Scandal had on not only Nixon’s presidency, but our government and people?

- Nixon’s presidency typically is defined by the Watergate Scandal, do you think a President’s term should be defined by one mistake or should his other policies be taken in to account?

- Would you put Nixon on the Hall of Fame or the Hall of Shame? Explain.
Why did Imperialists like Alfred T. Mahan and Theodore Roosevelt believe it was important for the US to build a canal through Panama?

- A. the canal would help mid-western farmers ship their goods into the Gulf of Mexico
- B. the canal would allow prospectors to reach the Klondike more easily
- C. the canal would provide a shorter route between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans
- D. the canal would make transporting troops to Europe easier in wartime
In the United States, the Red Scare of 1919 and the McCarthy Era of the early 1950’s were periods of:

- A. severe economic depression
- B. widespread support for groups promoting international anarchy
- C. great growth in art, literature, and music
- D. persecution of people suspected of holding anti-American political views
The Harlem Renaissance of the 1920’s was a period when African Americans

- A. left the United States in large numbers to settle in Nigeria
- B. created noteworthy works of art and literature
- C. migrated to the West in search of land and jobs
- D. used civil disobedience to fight segregation in the Armed Forces