

Nixon as U.S. Dictator

Predict what would have happened if Nixon became dictator in textbook written in 2045 A.D.

Detailed Description

Each student writes chapter for history textbook written in 2045 A.D. as if Nixon had become dictator instead of resigning. Chapter must include:

1. Graphic organizer outline of events in Nixon’s real political career and events student imagines in takeover and dictatorship.
2. Summary of real events that led to his resignation.
3. Outline of process student imagines Nixon used to takeover government.
4. Summary of how student thinks U.S. government and average citizen were impacted.
5. 2-4 helpful graphics and graphic organizers.

Student also writes description of what textbook will be like in 2045.

Students graded on: text book chapter, description of textbook

Time to complete: 1 week

Specific Grading Criteria

- Clearly, correctly, briefly summarized Nixon’s career and events leading to resignation.
- Clearly, briefly explained likely process to seize control and impact on government, citizens.
- 3-5 clear, attractive, neat, organized, helpful graphics or graphic organizers.
- Clearly, briefly explained likely events in dictatorship.
- Clearly, briefly explained likely form of textbook in 2045.

General Grading Criteria

- Followed directions (on time, as assigned).
- Correct mechanics (spelling, punctuation, capitalization).
- Sentences and word choice correct.
- Sentences complete.
- Organized (logical and clear) and easy to follow.
- Complete (included all details).
- Work neatly done.
- Artwork effectively done.
- Used care in producing products.

Productivity Skills

- Stays focused on completing responsibilities.
- Uses common sense in making decisions.
- Possesses idea processing skills.

Main Standard Assessed

Modern United States History

Standard 2: Be able to apply social studies knowledge and skills to a variety of purposes.

Performance Indicators

- B. Relate social studies to your life: use past and present to predict future.

Other Standard Assessed

Modern United States History

Standard 3: Understand key influences which shaped U.S.

Performance Indicators

- D. Know about key people in modern U.S. history.

Difficulty: .5

District Code: _____

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Specific Grading Criteria	12	9	6	3	0
• Clearly, correctly, briefly summarized Nixon’s career and events leading to resignation.					
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General Grading Criteria	4	3	2	1	0
• Followed directions (on time, as assigned).					
• Correct mechanics (spelling, punctuation, capitalization).					
• Sentences and word choice correct.					
• Sentences complete.					
• Organized (logical and clear) and easy to follow.					
• Complete (included all details).					
• Work neatly done.					
• Artwork effectively done.					
• Used care in producing products.					

Productivity Skills	Yes	No
• Stays focused on completing responsibilities.		
• Uses common sense in making decisions.		
• Possesses idea processing skills.		

“Goes Beyond” Criteria	12	9	6	3	0
Creativity, extra effort, depth, higher thinking, understanding (Specify)					

Total Points					
