

# RONALD REAGAN

## A P R E S I D E N T ' S V I S I O N

### IMAGE ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

This worksheet will help you examine and analyze the images on the Ronald Reagan “President’s Vision” poster. Carefully study the images featured on the poster. Then write your answers to the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

#### **RONALD REAGAN AT A WHITE HOUSE PRESS CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 1, 1981.**

1. At what point during Reagan’s presidency was this photograph taken?
2. How is Reagan portrayed in this photograph? What impression does it give of him as a leader?

#### **PRESIDENT REAGAN WITH BRITISH PRIME MINISTER MARGARET THATCHER AT CAMP DAVID, NOVEMBER 15, 1986.**

3. What do you think this photograph says about the relationship between the United States and Great Britain during Reagan’s presidency?
4. In some ways Margaret Thatcher’s vision for Great Britain mirrored Reagan’s vision for the United States. How does this photograph suggest that Reagan and Thatcher shared a common vision?

#### **PRESIDENT REAGAN MOMENTS BEFORE HE WAS SHOT IN AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT, MARCH 18, 1981.**

5. At what point during the Reagan presidency was this photograph taken?
6. Reagan was shot shortly after this photograph was taken. What events in the 1960s do you think this assassination attempt called to mind for many Americans?
7. After being shot, Reagan was rushed to the hospital. Despite being seriously wounded, he walked into the hospital without assistance. While there, he joked with doctors, saying, “I hope you are all Republicans,” and told his wife, Nancy, that he had been shot because he “forgot to duck.” Stories about Reagan’s behavior at the hospital made the national news. What do you think those stories suggested about Reagan’s character to many Americans?

#### **PRESIDENT REAGAN AND SOVIET LEADER MIKHAIL GORBACHEV, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, NOVEMBER 19, 1985, WITH A HANDWRITTEN DRAFT OF A LETTER FROM REAGAN TO GORBACHEV FROM NOVEMBER 28, 1985.**

8. Describe what is happening in this photograph.
9. What details in this photograph suggest that Reagan and Gorbachev began the process of seeking common ground between the United States and the Soviet Union?
10. In the handwritten draft of his letter to Gorbachev, Reagan states, “If I understood you correctly, you too are determined to take steps to see that our nations manage their relationships in a peaceful manner.” Describe Reagan’s tone in his note. What sort of relationship do you think he is trying to establish with Gorbachev?

#### **PRESIDENT REAGAN SPEAKING IN BERLIN, GERMANY, JUNE 12, 1987, WITH THE TEXT OF HIS REMARKS.**

11. Describe what you see in this photograph.
12. What is your reaction to the photograph?
13. In the text of his speech, President Reagan calls on Soviet leader Gorbachev to “come here to this gate! Mr. Gorbachev, open this gate! Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!” What wall is President Reagan asking to be torn down?
14. What was the significance of this wall? Consult your textbook and/or other secondary sources if necessary.
15. How do you think Reagan’s demand was central to his vision of his presidency?

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### **FIRST LADY NANCY REAGAN SPEAKING AT THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION, AUGUST 15, 1988.**

16. At what point in Reagan's administration is the first lady speaking?
17. Why might she be a featured speaker at this particular convention?

### **RESCUERS SEARCH THE DEBRIS AFTER A SUICIDE BOMBER DROVE A TRUCK FILLED WITH EXPLOSIVES INTO THE MARINE BARRACKS IN BEIRUT, LEBANON, ON OCTOBER 23, 1983, KILLING 241 AMERICAN SERVICEMEN.**

18. Describe what you see in the picture.
19. In what part of the world is Beirut, Lebanon? Consult your textbook or other outside sources if necessary.

### **ON JANUARY 28, 1986, THE SPACE SHUTTLE *CHALLENGER* AND ITS CREW WERE LOST WHEN A BOOSTER ROCKET EXPLODED SOON AFTER LAUNCH.**

### **PRESIDENT REAGAN AND HIS STAFF WATCH THE REPLAY OF THE *CHALLENGER* EXPLOSION WITH THE TEXT OF REAGAN'S REMARKS TO THE NATION, JANUARY 28, 1986.**

20. Describe the reaction of Reagan and his staff shown in the picture.
21. Read the text of Reagan's remarks to the nation. What message do you think he is trying to convey?

### **PRESIDENT REAGAN AND SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR, HIS NOMINEE TO THE SUPREME COURT, JULY 15, 1981, WITH REAGAN'S FORMAL TRANSMITTAL OF O'CONNOR'S NOMINATION, AUGUST 19, 1981.**

22. What was significant about Reagan's nomination of Sandra Day O'Connor to the Supreme Court?
23. Given this significance, what does the nomination say about Reagan's vision of his presidency and his view of American society?

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