Period 8: 1945-1980

AP United States History · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
Cold War /kəʊld wɔː/	The **Cold War** set the USA against the Soviet Union. USA
containment /kənˈteɪnmənt/	**Containment** tried to stop communism spreading.
Truman Doctrine /ˈtruːmən ˈdɒktrɪn/	The **Truman Doctrine** promised to help countries resist communism.
Marshall Plan /ˈmɑːʃl plæn/	The **Marshall Plan** gave US money to rebuild Europe.
NATO /ˈneɪtəʊ/	**NATO** is a military alliance of western countries.
Berlin Airlift	The **Berlin Airlift** flew supplies into Berlin.
Korean War /kəˈriːən wɔː/	The **Korean War** began in 1950. 1950
arms race /ɑːmz reɪs/	In the **arms race**, each side built more weapons.
space race /speɪs reɪs/	The **space race** ended with Americans on the Moon.
domino theory	The **domino theory** said one country falling to communism would make others fall.
Cuban Missile Crisis	The **Cuban Missile Crisis** nearly caused nuclear war.
détente	**Détente** was a time of calmer relations.
Loyalty programmes /ˈlɔɪəlti ˈprəʊgræmz/	**Loyalty programmes** checked government workers for communist links.

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Word	Example
McCarthyism /məˈkɑːðiɪzəm/	**McCarthyism** accused people of being communists without proof.
cost to civil liberties /kɒst tə ˈsɪvl ˈlɪbətiz/	The Red Scare had a **cost to civil liberties**.
GI Bill /ˌdʒiː ˈaɪ bɪl/	The **GI Bill** paid for soldiers to go to college.
suburbs /ˈsʌbɜːbz/	Families moved to the **suburbs**.
Sun Belt /sʌn belt/	People moved to the warm **Sun Belt**.
baby boom /ˈbeɪbi buːm/	After 1945, a **baby boom** brought many births. 1945
Rust Belt	Factories closed in the **Rust Belt**.
youth culture /juːθ ˈkʌltʃə/	Rock music shaped **youth culture**.
redlining	**Redlining** denied home loans in Black areas.
poverty /ˈpɒvəti/	To measure **poverty**, look at food, housing and schooling.
counterculture	The **counterculture** rejected mainstream values.
courts /kɔːts/	Activists used the **courts** to fight segregation.
direct action /daɪˈrekt ˈækʃn/	**Direct action** included marches and sit-ins.
nonviolent protest /ˌnɒnˈvaɪələnt ˈprəʊtest/	King believed in **nonviolent protest**.

Word	Example
Brown v. Board of Education	**Brown v. Board of Education** ended school segregation.
Montgomery bus boycott	The **Montgomery bus boycott** began with Rosa Parks.
Martin Luther King Jr. /ˈmɑːtɪn ˈluːðə kɪŋ ˌdʒɛɪˈɑː/	**Martin Luther King Jr.** gave the “I Have a Dream” speech.
sit-in	Students held a **sit-in** at a lunch counter.
legislation /ˌledʒɪˈsleɪʃn/	New **legislation** protected voting rights.
expanded /ekˈspændɪd/	The government **expanded** its role in society.
Black Power /blæk ˈpaʊə/	**Black Power** stressed pride and self-reliance.
César Chávez	**César Chávez** led farm workers.
American Indian Movement	The **American Indian Movement** fought for Native rights.
Stonewall	The **Stonewall** riots began the gay rights movement.
Title IX	**Title IX** gave girls equal chances in school sports.
Great Society /greɪt səˈsaɪəti/	Johnson’s **Great Society** fought poverty.
War on Poverty /wɔː ɒn ˈpɒvəti/	The **War on Poverty** created programs for the poor.
Vietnam War /ˌviːətˈnɑːm wɔː/	The **Vietnam War** divided the country.

“I Have a Dream”

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Word	Example
antiwar movement /ˌæntɪˈwɔː ˈmuːvmənt/	The **antiwar movement** protested the war.
credibility gap /ˌkredɪˈbɪlɪti gæp/	The **credibility gap** meant people did not trust the government.
Gulf of Tonkin Resolution	The **Gulf of Tonkin Resolution** let Johnson expand the war.
Tet Offensive	The **Tet Offensive** shocked Americans in 1968.
Vietnamization	**Vietnamization** handed the fighting to South Vietnam.
War Powers Act	The **War Powers Act** limited the president’s power to make war.
women’s movement /ˈwɪmɪnz ˈmuːvmənt/	The **women’s movement** fought for equal pay.
Equal Rights Amendment /ˈiːkwl raɪts əˈmendmənt/	The **Equal Rights Amendment** was never passed.
Environmental /enˌvaɪrənˈmentl/	**Environmental** laws cleaned up air and water.
Conservatism /kənˈsɜːvətɪzəm/	**Conservatism** grew strong in the 1980s.
inflation /ɪnˈfleɪʃn/	**Inflation** means prices in general are rising.
Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965	The **Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965** ended quotas based on country.
stagflation /stægˈfleɪʃn/	**Stagflation** is high inflation together with high unemployment.

1968

Word	Example
Watergate	The **Watergate** scandal made Nixon resign.
Civil Rights Act of 1964 /ˈsɪvl raɪts ækt ɒv ˈnaɪntiːnhʌndrɪdn ˈsɪksti fɔː/	The **Civil Rights Act of 1964** banned discrimination.
Voting Rights Act of 1965 /ˈvəʊtɪŋ raɪts ækt ɒv ˈnaɪntiːnhʌndrɪdn ˈsɪksti faɪv/	The **Voting Rights Act of 1965** protected Black voters.

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