

Name: _____ Hour: _____

Ronald Reagan Video Clips Questions - Respond ON YOUR OWN PAPER. Staple this page to the top with your full name and correct hour filled in above.

"Here's Why Reaganomics Is So Controversial" -

https://youtu.be/EeyGdy_SdhQ?si=AA6NIVDjd3rxPaTA

1. When was Ronald Reagan elected President of the United States?
2. The 1970s were a time of "stagflation." What was "stagflation," according to this video?
3. "Reaganomics" = "trickle down economics." In your own words, explain "trickle down economics."
4. What were TWO major criticisms of Reaganomics by those who opposed it?
5. Reaganomics wasn't JUST about tax cuts. What were THREE other elements of Reaganomics?
6. If I wanted to argue that Reaganomics was successful in the 1980s, what's ONE thing I could point to?
7. What are THREE arguments I could make (according to this video) if I wanted to argue that Reaganomics was unsuccessful (or at least unnecessary) in the 1980s?

"Reagan and the 1980 Debates" - https://youtu.be/YgkDeQqFH-Y?si=O5X6S_jcUuoRWxy

8. Who were the two major candidates for president in 1980?
9. Which party did each represent? (You might have to look this one up.)
10. How often did they have a formal debate on national television?
11. What were Reagan's people concerned about going into the debate?
12. What were Carter's people concerned about going into the debate?
13. Based on these clips, what seemed to be the central issue of the debate (economic issues, social issues, political experience, foreign affairs, etc.)?
14. In the closing minutes of the debate, Reagan asked the audience and viewers at home a question which has become legendary (and which has been repeatedly used in elections ever since). What did Reagan ask?
15. Who won the Election of 1980 by a landslide?

*****KEEP GOING - THERE'S MORE ON THE BACK SIDE OF THIS PAGE*****

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“Presidential Ad: It’s Morning In America” (Reagan vs. Mondale, 1984) -

<https://youtu.be/pUMqic2IcWA?si=SsyYLzroVs2wPko>

16. Who was Reagan running against in 1984?

17. This ad is based on one central metaphor - “morning.” What does the repeated use of “morning” suggest? What sorts of things happen in the morning? (Try not to get too bogged down in how much you might hate to get up or go to school in the morning - the ad uses all POSITIVE associations with “morning.”)

18. Describe THREE separate images which are used in this ad to make people feel good about their lives, or how things are going, or Reagan, or America, etc.

19. Who do you think this ad is primarily targeting and why do you think so? What sorts of people would find it most appealing or comforting and why do you think so?

20. Who seems to be missing from this ad? Which people or groups are not represented as enjoying this “morning in America”? Any ideas why they’d have been left out?

“Reagan Jokes About Age During the 1984 Presidential Debates” -

<https://youtu.be/0RtXmnUe9s0?si=7KsJNmmPyQaaQGa9>

BONUS QUESTION: Write a 5-6 sentence paragraph responding to SOME or ALL of the prompts below.

Pretend I’m slow and explain the joke Reagan makes in this clip

Why is humor so effective at making us like or trust someone? What do we tend to assume about people who are able to make us laugh (other than that they’re “funny”)?

Humor can also be used to deflect - in this case, to avoid answering the actual question. What are some other ways politicians (or anyone) find ways to keep talking while avoiding real questions or issues?

Age is a big concern of many right now during the 2024 election season. What are some positives and/or negatives of older candidates or presidents? What are your concerns (if any) with the age of either of the two major candidates in 2024?