

CHAPTER
15
SECTION 1

Note Taking Study Guide

KENNEDY AND THE COLD WAR

Focus Question: How did Kennedy respond to the continuing challenges of the Cold War?

As you read, list the Cold War crises Kennedy faced and the effects of each event.

Cold War Crisis	Result
Bay of Pigs Invasion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • •
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • •
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • • •

CHAPTER
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SECTION 1

Section Summary

KENNEDY AND THE COLD WAR

The 1960 election featured Democrat **John F. Kennedy** and Republican **Richard M. Nixon**. Both were young, energetic, and intelligent. Kennedy won the election narrowly, in part due to an impressive performance in a televised debate.

As President, Kennedy worked to build up the country's armed forces. He wanted a "**flexible response**" defense policy to prepare the United States to fight any size or any type of conflict. He also wanted to prevent the spread of communism in poor nations around the globe. Like previous leaders, Kennedy believed that democracy combined with prosperity would contain or limit communism's spread. Therefore, he created programs like the **Peace Corps**, which sent American volunteers to help developing countries, to improve the Third World politically and economically.

Kennedy's first major challenge came in Cuba. The revolutionary Fidel Castro took over Cuba in 1959 and aligned Cuba with the Soviet Union. Eisenhower had planned an invasion of Cuba to overthrow Castro, and Kennedy executed this plan in 1961. A CIA-led force of Cuban exiles invaded Cuba at the **Bay of Pigs invasion**. The invasion failed and probably ended up strengthening Castro's position in Cuba.

Kennedy's next challenge involved the Soviet premier **Nikita Khrushchev**, who demanded that America remove its troops from West Berlin and recognize the divided city. Kennedy refused. Khrushchev then ordered the construction of a wall between East and West Berlin. The **Berlin Wall** became a symbol of the divide between communism and democracy.

When the Soviets began building nuclear missile sites in Cuba in range of East Coast cities, Kennedy faced his third challenge. During the **Cuban missile crisis**, Kennedy demanded that the Soviets remove the missiles. Nuclear war seemed possible. After several tense days, Khrushchev agreed to remove the missiles. The leaders agreed to install a "**hot line**" telephone system between Moscow and Washington, D.C., to improve communication. A year later, in 1963, the United States, Great Britain, and the Soviet Union signed the first nuclear-weapons agreement.

Review Questions

1. Why did the United States want to overthrow Fidel Castro?

2. Why did U.S. leaders feel threatened by missiles in Cuba?

READING CHECK

Who was the leader of the Soviet Union during the Cuban missile crisis?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *aligned* mean in the underlined sentence? Circle any words or phrases in the paragraph that help you figure out what *aligned* means.

READING SKILL

Understand Effects What effects did the Cuban missile crisis have on the Soviet Union and the United States?

CHAPTER
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SECTION 2

Note Taking Study Guide

KENNEDY'S NEW FRONTIER

Focus Question: What were the goals of Kennedy's New Frontier?

A. *List the characteristics of John F. Kennedy that appealed to the American people.*

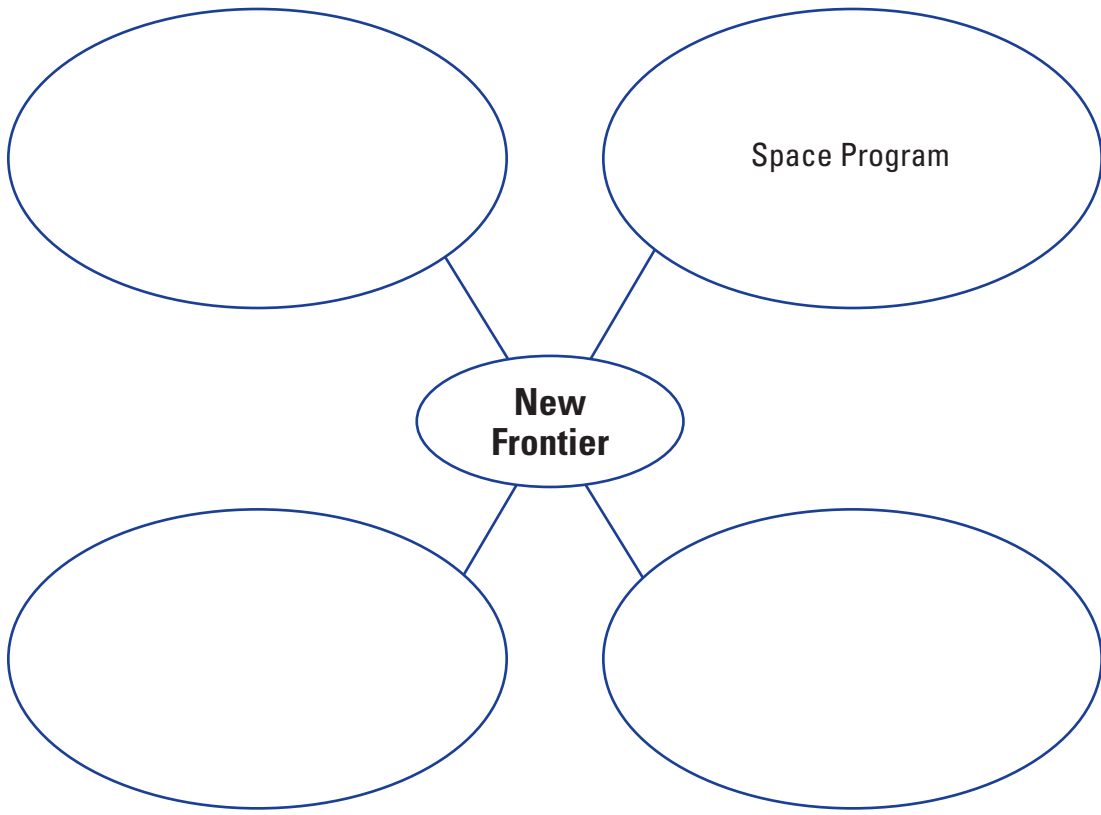
The Kennedy Image
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Youthful•••••

CHAPTER
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SECTION 2

Note Taking Study Guide
KENNEDY'S NEW FRONTIER

Focus Question: What were the goals of Kennedy's New Frontier?

B. As you read, identify details of Kennedy's New Frontier program.



CHAPTER 15
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SECTION 2
KENNEDY'S NEW FRONTIER

READING CHECK

What was the job of the Warren Commission?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *advocated* mean in the underlined sentence? The word *promoted* is a synonym of *advocated*. Use this synonym to help you figure out the meaning of *advocated*.

READING SKILL

Identify Main Ideas What was deficit spending and why did Kennedy support it?

President Kennedy promised Americans that his administration would blaze a “**New Frontier.**” The term described Kennedy’s proposals to improve the economy, education, healthcare, and civil rights. He used his charisma and a team of intelligent advisers to win support for his programs.

The high levels of poverty in America troubled Kennedy. Congress was hesitant to make reforms, but Kennedy did achieve an increase in the minimum wage and improvements in the welfare system. He also tried to make sure that women were paid equal wages for “equal work.” The **Equal Pay Act** required this. Although it contained various loopholes, the law was an important step on the road to fair and equal employment practices.

The economy was weak when Kennedy took office, and he thought that improving the economy would reduce poverty. Kennedy accepted the “new economics” of John Maynard Keynes that advocated **deficit spending** to stimulate the economy. Deficit spending is the government practice of borrowing money in order to spend more than is received from taxes.

At first, Kennedy moved slowly on civil rights, worried that he would lose the support of the conservatives in his party. By 1963, however, Kennedy realized that African Americans needed the federal government to protect their rights. He introduced a bill that used federal money to aid school desegregation and demanded other reforms.

Perhaps the most visual component of the New Frontier was the active space program. Americans were afraid of falling behind the Soviets in the “**space race.**” Kennedy called for a man to be landed on the moon in less than 10 years. The goal was met in 1969.

Kennedy’s term as President was ended by his assassination. Lee Harvey Oswald shot Kennedy while he was riding in a car in Dallas, Texas. Although many people questioned whether Oswald acted alone, the **Warren Commission**, which conducted the official investigation of the shooting, declared that Oswald acted alone. The senseless murder deeply saddened Americans across the nation. It seemed as if part of America’s innocence had died with Kennedy.

Review Questions

1. Why did Kennedy want a change in the minimum wage?

2. What did Kennedy do to advance the space program?

CHAPTER
15
SECTION 3

Note Taking Study Guide
JOHNSON'S GREAT SOCIETY

Focus Question: How did Johnson's Great Society programs change life for most Americans?

Identify details about the Great Society programs.

The Great Society			
Education	Healthcare	Immigration	Poverty
•	• Medicare	•	•
•	•		•
			•
			•

CHAPTER 15 SECTION 3	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Section Summary</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">JOHNSON'S GREAT SOCIETY</h3>
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READING CHECK

What programs did Johnson create to fight poverty?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *outcome* mean in the underlined sentence? Circle any words or phrases in the paragraph that help you figure out what *outcome* means.

READING SKILL

Identify Main Ideas What did the Civil Rights Act accomplish?

Lyndon B. Johnson, who became President after Kennedy's assassination, shared the same goals as his predecessor. Johnson's rise to the top was not easy. He was born in a small town in Texas. After attending a state college, he taught in a poor, segregated school for Mexican Americans. After teaching for several years, he was elected to Congress and began working his way up.

Johnson proved to be an excellent politician. One of his first successes after becoming President was ensuring that Congress passed the **Civil Rights Act**, an important bill introduced by President Kennedy. The outcome of this bill was an end to discrimination in voting, education, and public accommodations.

The **War on Poverty** was a big part of Johnson's plans. He wanted to provide more training, education, and healthcare to those who needed it. The **Economic Opportunity Act** began this process by creating agencies such as Job Corps, VISTA, and Head Start.

After being elected President in 1964, Johnson called his vision for America the **Great Society**. He said the Great Society demanded "an end to poverty and racial injustice." In 1965, Congress began to pass Johnson's Great Society legislation.

One area of reform was in healthcare insurance. Johnson created **Medicare**, a program that provided basic hospital insurance for older Americans. He also created **Medicaid**, which provided basic medical services to poor and disabled Americans.

Education and immigration policy also saw reforms. The 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act aided schools in poorer communities. The **Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965** relaxed the nation's immigration policies. Over the next two decades, millions of immigrants poured into the United States.

During the 1960s, the Supreme Court was also interested in reform. The court decided cases on controversial social, religious, and political issues. Led by Chief Justice Earl Warren—and often called the **Warren Court**—this liberal court supported civil rights, civil liberties, voting rights, and personal privacy.

Review Questions

1. What did Johnson say was necessary for America to be the Great Society?

2. What is Medicaid?
