

APUSH TERMS 1261-1295

1261. Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START)

Proposed to cut the number of missiles on both sides. The Soviets walked out of the talks.

1262. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) or “Star Wars”

Called for development of defense weapons that could shoot down incoming nuclear missiles before they landed. Never developed due to lack of technology.

1263. Iran-Contra Scandal

The US sold arms to the Iranians, and then diverted funds from sale of arms to contra fighters in Nicaragua. Congress had banned the selling of arms to the rebel contras fighters. President Reagan knew of the sale of arms to Iran, but not the diversion of funds.

1264. Admiral Poindexter

Served 6 months in jail for his part of in the Iran Contra scandal.

1265. Colonel Oliver North

Aide to National Security Council who took the fall for the Iran-Contra Scandal. He admitted to covering up their actions and shredding documents. He received community service that later was pardoned.

1266. Sierra Club

An environment group formed in the 1970s and grew in strength after Secretary of Interior James Watt proposed development of federally protected lands.

1267. American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)

Very influential interest group that voted in large numbers. Senior citizens became a larger voting population as America aged. Lobbied against social security and Medicaid cuts.

1268. Invasion of Grenada, 1983

Code named Operation Urgent Fury; after a coup deposed and killed the Grenada President Maurice Bishop, President Reagan sent in an invasion force of 10,000 marines to restore order and protect American University students. The last major mission of the US was Vietnam and despite this mission lasting roughly 24 hours, it was highly popular.

1269. Sally Ride

First American female astronaut in space (1983).

1270. Geraldine Ferraro

First woman to run for vice-president of a major party. Ran on Democratic ticket with Walter Mondale in 1984.

1271. Capital gains tax

Proposal of taxes paid by businesses and investors when they sell or buy stocks or real estate for a

profit. Bush Sr. proposed a capital gains tax cut to stimulate the economy by encouraging businesses to expand and in turn create more jobs. Democrats defeated the tax proposal.

1272. Mikhail Gorbachev

Became a leader of the Soviet Union in 1985 and believed that the Soviet Union had to reform its economic system or it would soon crash.

1273. Christie McAuliffe

Female teacher that won the NASA Teacher in Space program out of 11,500 applicants; she trained with the astronauts and was going to teach several lessons to her class from outer space; she died with the six other Space Shuttle Challenger astronauts when the Challenger exploded 73 seconds after liftoff.

1274. Silicon Valley

Region in Northern California, known for making an integrated circuit on a single chip of silicon.

1275. Apple Computers

Computer company founded by Stephen Wozniak and Steven Jobs, to create small computers for personal use. In 1976, they produced Apple I. Apple II came out in 1977 and became the first affordable home computer. The Macintosh computer came out in 1984.

1276. International Business Machines (IBM)

In 1981, IBM introduced their own compact machine and called it a personal computer or PC.

1277. Love Canal, New York

In 1980, President Carter declared the entire town of Love Canal, NY as a federal disaster area and forced all the residents to evacuate. The entire city had been built over a toxic waste site that had begun to leak.

1278. Billy Graham

Christian evangelist that held rallies throughout the country from the 1950s through the 1990s. Preached the gospel to more people in the world than any other evangelist (2.2 billion). More than 2.2 million people have committed their lives to Christ because of his preaching.

1279. John Hinckley Jr.

Tried to assassinate President Ronald Reagan in 1981 as an attempt to impress actress Jodie Foster. Hinckley fired six rounds and injured three people and only hit Ronald Reagan when a bullet ricocheted off the President's limousine. Hinckley was found not-guilty by reason of insanity and has served time under psychiatric care to this day.

1280. Michael Jackson

(1958-2009) Singer that started with his four brothers and went solo in 1971; his music videos of "Beat It", "Billie Jean" and "Thriller" from his *Thriller* album set the standard for music videos and transformed it from a promotional tool into a serious media art form; his nickname is the King of Pop and is considered the Most Successful Entertainer of All Time; in 1993 he was accused of child abuse and settled out of court; in 2005 he was again charged with child abuse, but acquitted of all charges.

1281. Supreme Court: *Diamond v. Chakrabarty*, 1980

Ruled that a man-made life form (genetic engineering) could be patented.

1282. Conservative

Since the late 1970s people began to divide into two groups: liberals and conservatives. Conservatives tend to believe that the government should not control the economy and believe in free market forces (Adam Smith's invisible hand). A free market will create more wealth for everyone. They oppose high taxes that would discourage investment. Government programs would also discourage people's incentive to work and personal responsibility. They fear that if the free market is controlled by the government, the government would control all aspects of people's behavior. Religion should control behavior and most problems in society are a result of immoral behavior.

1283. Liberal

Since the late 1970s people began to divide into two groups: liberals and conservatives. Liberals tend to believe that the government should control the economy and large corporations. They want to help the poor through government programs and pay for it by taxing the wealthy. They are opposed to any attempt by the government to control civil rights (free speech, privacy, etc.) and are opposed to any endorsement of any religion by the government. Most problems in society are a result of economic inequality.

1284. AIDS (Auto Immune Deficiency Syndrome)

Disease that began spreading rapidly in the 1980s (first reported in 1981). The disease began spreading first among the gay community which caused the belief that it was only a gay disease and a great fear gripped the nation as no one knew how the disease was spread.

1285. Ryan White

A teenage boy who had AIDS and was expelled from school for the protection of the school community. School board members did not know how AIDS could be transferred and thus could not ensure the safety of the other children. Ryan White became a poster child for AIDS.

1286. ENIAC (Electronic Numerical Integrator And Computer)

The first general all-purpose electronic computer. It was announced in 1946, called the Giant Brain and performed functions thousands of times faster than any mechanical machine. The space that was needed for ENIAC was equal to a classroom.

1287. Microprocessor

Incorporates most or all of the functions of a central processing unit (CPU) into a single integrated circuit. First used for calculators and 4 bit words. By the mid-1970s 16 bit microprocessors were developed. 1000 bytes = 1 kilobyte, 1000 kilobyte = 1 megabyte, 1000 megabytes = 1 gigabyte, 1000 gigabytes = 1 terabyte

1288. Integrated circuit (microchip or silicon chip)

Invented by Jack Kilby of Texas Instruments and Robert Noyce of Fairchild Semiconductor in 1958. Semiconductor devices replaced vacuum tubes and were much smaller which led to greater efficiency when linked together with transistors. They became the foundation for the personal computer.

1289. Farm Aid

Country singer Willie Nelson led a series of concerts to raise money to help struggling small farmers. By 1999 nearly \$15 million had been raised by Farm Aid.

1290. MTV (Music Television)

Launched in 1981 on cable TV in the US, it revolutionized the music industry; anywhere that the TV station played, more music than they showed sold more than any music a radio station played in the same area; teens were immediately drawn to learning the dance steps they saw on MTV and the new music groups that were featured – mainly British groups which had been using music videos for nearly 25 years.

1291. Space Shuttle, *Challenger*

In 1986 the space shuttle *Challenger* exploded shortly after take-off killing all seven crew members.

1292. William Rehnquist

Conservative who became the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court after Warren Burger retired in 1986.

1293. Jesse Jackson

Civil Rights activist that worked with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and founded the Rainbow Coalition; he was a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1984 and 1988.

1294. S & L Scandal

The failure of 475 Savings and Loans associations in the late 1980s; An S&L is a banking institution that specifically focuses on saving accounts and offering loans; it does not deal with checking accounts, credit cards or the stock market.

1295. Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (Simpson-Mazzoli Act)

The law made it illegal to hire or recruit an illegal alien and forced employers to attest to workers immigration status. It also made it possible for certain farm laborers to gain citizenship.