

Critical Thinking Skills

World Political Leaders

Skills For Critical Thinking		Reading Comprehension										Writing Tasks		
		Bush	Reagan	Castro	Fox	Peron	Thatcher	Gorbachev	Mandela	Gandhi	Arafat		Zemin	Dalai Lama
LEVEL 1 Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List Details/Facts Recall Information Match Vocabulary to Definitions Label Maps Recognize Validity (T/F) 	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
LEVEL 2 Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize State Main Idea Describe Interpret Compare/Contrast 		✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
LEVEL 3 Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize Facts Use Outside Research Tools Application to Own Life Apply Vocabulary Words in Sentences 	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
LEVEL 4 Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw Conclusions Identify Supporting Evidence Make Inferences Identify Relationships 			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
LEVEL 5 Synthesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Predict Imagine Self Interacting with Subject Suppose Create a Plan 	✓		✓					✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 6 Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State and Support an Opinion Evaluate Decisions Made by Subject 		✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			✓

Based on Bloom's Taxonomy

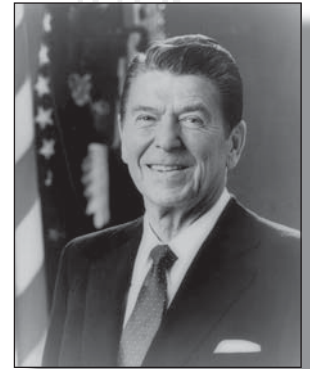
NAME: _____



Ronald Reagan



Ronald Reagan was the 40th President of the United States. Before he was elected, Reagan had two very different jobs. He was a very famous movie actor in Hollywood. After he stopped acting, Reagan was also the Governor of California.



Reagan earned the nickname "The Great Communicator" because he was able to deliver speeches in a personal manner even in formal settings. He was also known to have a quick sense of humor and a positive attitude.

Reagan was also a **formidable** world leader. His presidency occurred during the Cold War, a time in history when the U.S. and Russia were struggling to get along. He began his **term** by starting an **arms race** with Russia. He knew that Russia would run out of money before the U.S. When this happened, Reagan signed a series of arms **reduction** treaties with Russia. This was an important first step that helped end the Cold War.

How did the arms race help bring an end to the Cold War?



The presidents before Reagan were unsuccessful in ending the Cold War because they tried to ignore the problem. Reagan confronted Russia head-on, even working with Russia to find common ground. Towards the end of his presidency, Reagan visited Mikhail Gorbachev, the leader of Russia. In a very famous speech, Reagan told Gorbachev to "...tear down this wall", referring to the Berlin Wall, a symbol of the Cold War.

Reagan was a rare world leader who was **beloved** by many of the people he touched worldwide. He is remembered as a positive influence on the world.



Margaret Thatcher

1. Complete each sentence with a word from the list. Use a dictionary to help you.

allies	apartheid	published
negotiated	release	

- a) We watched the zookeeper _____ the lion from the cage.
- b) The book was _____ a year later.
- c) People were upset by _____ and wanted everyone to be treated equally.
- d) Canada and the United States are _____.
- e) A new deal was _____ between the two boys.

2. Using the resources in your classroom, list the *four countries* in the United Kingdom.

- a) _____
- _____
- b) _____
- _____
- c) _____
- _____
- d) _____
- _____

3. On the map below, *label* the four countries that are the United Kingdom.



NAME: _____



Jiang Zemin



1. List the **three** political jobs held by Jiang Zemin.

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____

2. Five changes are listed below. Four are changes made by Zemin. Circle the **four** changes by Jiang Zemin.

China will host the Summer Olympics.

Private business owners can participate in the Communist party.

The relationship between the US and China improves.

Hong Kong and Macao are turned over to European countries.

China becomes involved in the World Trade Organization

3. Jiang Zemin was one of the first Chinese leaders to talk with the media. Imagine you are a reporter. List **four questions** you would ask Zemin about his career.

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____

4. Think about the **changes** made by Jiang Zemin. Why did these changes make China a better, stronger country? Your answer should be two to three sentences.
