**Key Concept 9.1:** A newly ascendant conservative movement achieved several political and policy goals during the 1980s and continued to strongly influence public discourse in the following decades.

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| **Sub Concept I:** Conservative beliefs regarding the need for traditional social values and a reduced role for government advanced in U.S.  politics after 1980. |
| **Topics** | **Notes** |
| A) Ronald Reagan’s victory inthe presidential electionof 1980 represented animportant milestone, allowing conservatives to enact significant tax cuts andcontinue the deregulationof many industries. |  |
| B) Conservatives argued thatliberal programs werecounterproductive in fightingpoverty and stimulatingeconomic growth. Someof their efforts to reducethe size and scope ofgovernment met with inertiaand liberal opposition, asmany programs remainedpopular with voters.. |  |
| C) Policy debates continuedover free-trade agreements,the scope of the governmentsocial safety net, and calls to reform the U.S. financial system. |  |
| **Related Thematic Learning Objectives (Focus of Exam Questions)** | **POL-1.0:** Explain how and why political ideas, beliefs, institutions, party systems, and alignments have developed and changed.**POL-2.0:** Explain how popular movements, reform efforts, and activist groups have sought to change American society and institutions.**POL-3.0:** Explain how different beliefs about the federal government’s role in U.S. social and economic life have affected political debates and policies.**WXT-2.0:** Explain how patterns of exchange, markets, and private enterprise have developed, and analyze ways that governments have responded toeconomic issues. |

**Key Concept 9.2:** Moving into the 21st century, the nation experienced significant technological, economic, and demographic changes.

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| **Sub Concept II:** New developments in science and technology enhanced the economy and transformed society, while manufacturing  decreased |
| **Topics** | **Notes** |
| A) Economic productivityincreased as improvementsin digital communicationsenabled increased Americanparticipation in worldwideeconomic opportunities. |  |
| B) Technological innovationsin computing, digital mobile technology, and the Internet transformed daily life, increased access to information, and led to new social behaviors and networks. |  |
| C) Employment increasedin service sectors and decreased in manufacturing, and union membership declined. |  |
| D Real wages stagnated forthe working and middle class amid growing economic inequality. |  |
| **Related Thematic Learning Objectives (Focus of Exam Questions)** | **WXT-1.0:** Explain how different labor systems developed in North America and the United States, and explain their effects on workers’ livesand U.S. society.**WXT-2.0:** Explain how patterns of exchange, markets, and private enterprise have developed, and analyze ways that governments have responded toeconomic issues.**WXT-3.0:** Analyze how technological innovation has affected economic development and society. |

**Key Concept 9.2:** Moving into the 21st century, the nation experienced significant technological, economic, and demographic changes.

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| **Sub Concept II:** The U.S. population continued to undergo demographic shifts that had significant cultural and political consequences.. |
| **Topics** | **Notes** |
| A.) After 1980, the political,economic, and culturalinfluence of the AmericanSouth and West continuedto increase as populationshifted to those areas. |  |
| B) International migrationfrom Latin America andAsia increased dramatically.The new immigrants affected U.S. culture in many ways and supplied the economy with animportant labor force. |  |
| C) Intense political and cultural debates continued overissues such as immigrationpolicy, diversity, genderroles, and family structures. |  |
| **Related Thematic Learning Objectives (Focus of Exam Questions)** | **NAT-4.0:** Analyze relationships among different regional, social, ethnic, and racial groups, and explain how these groups’ experiences have related to U.S. national identity.**CUL-3.0:** Explain how ideas about women’s rights and gender roles have affected society and politics. **MIG-1.0:** Explain the causes of migration to colonial North America and, later, the United States, and analyze immigration’s effects on U.S. society.**MIG-2.0:** Analyze causes of internal migration and patterns of settlement in what would become the United States, and explain how migration has affected American life. |

**Key Concept 9.3:** The end of the Cold War and new challenges to U.S. leadership forced the nation to redefine its foreign policy and

role in the world.

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| **Sub Concept I:** The Reagan administration promoted an interventionist foreign policy that continued in later administrations, even after  the end of the Cold War. |
| **Topics** | **Notes** |
| A.) Reagan asserted U.S.opposition to communismthrough speeches, diplomatic efforts, limited military interventions, and a buildup of nuclear and conventional weapons. |  |
| B) Increased U.S. militaryspending, Reagan’s diplomatic initiatives, and political changes and economic problems in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Unionwere all important in ending the Cold War. |  |
| C) The end of the Cold Warled to new diplomaticrelationships but also new U.S. military and peacekeeping interventions,as well as continued debates over the appropriate use of American power in the world |  |
| **Related Thematic Learning Objectives (Focus of Exam Questions)** | **WOR-2.0:** Analyze the reasons for, and results of, U.S. diplomatic, economic, and military initiatives in North America and overseas |

**Key Concept 9.3:** The end of the Cold War and new challenges to U.S. leadership forced the nation to redefine its foreign policy and

role in the world.

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| **Sub Concept II:** Following the attacks of September 11, 2001, U.S. foreign policy efforts focused on fighting terrorism around the world. |
| **Topics** | **Notes** |
| A.) In the wake of attacks onthe World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the United States launched military efforts against terrorism and lengthy, controversial conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. |  |
| B) The war on terrorismsought to improve securitywithin the United Statesbut also raised questionsabout the protection of civilliberties and human rights. |  |
| C) Conflicts in the Middle East and concerns about climate change led to debates over U.S. dependence on fossil fuels and the impact ofeconomic consumptionon the environment. |  |
| D) Despite economic andforeign policy challenges,the United States continued as the world’s leading superpower in the 21st century. |  |
| **Related Thematic Learning Objectives (Focus of Exam Questions)** | **NAT-2.0:** Explain how interpretations of the Constitution and debates over rights, liberties, and definitions of citizenship have affected Americanvalues, politics, and society.**NAT-3.0:** Analyze how ideas about national identity changed in response to U.S. involvement in international conflicts and the growth of the United States.**GEO-1.0:** Explain how geographic and environmental factors shaped the development of various communities, and analyze how competition forand debates over natural resources have affected both interactions among different groups and the development of government policies.**WOR-2.0:** Analyze the reasons for, and results of, U.S. diplomatic, economic, and military initiatives in North America and overseas. |