

# America as a Hyperpower

## *Part Two*



Part One

Part Two

Part Three

## Thematic Icons



Economics



Geography



Historical concepts



Government

## Icons



Flash activity (these activities are not editable)



Teacher notes included in the Notes page

For more instructions, see the *User Guide*.





# Clinton the “New Democrat”



Following his election in 1992, one of President Clinton’s main goals was to create a new, moderate Democratic Party that promoted both liberal and conservative programs.

Clinton cut government spending and taxes while creating child welfare and health programs. He also imposed new limits on welfare benefits and put welfare in the hands of the states.



These changes coincided with rising stock market prices. Unprecedented economic expansion during this time softened the blow of welfare cuts.





Economic prosperity in the 1990s created millions of new jobs.

However, most new jobs were in the minimum wage service industry. The farm and manufacturing industries shrank as technological advances made millions of jobs unnecessary.



These changes lowered the spending power of average Americans. As a result, many companies were forced to **downsize**, or cut permanent staff with benefits and replace them with lower-paid, temporary workers.





# Globalizing the economy





# Globalization debate





President Clinton worked to implement many domestic policies within the United States.

- Gun control: the **Columbine High School massacre** in 1999 horrified the American public and as a response Clinton banned certain assault weapons from being sold.
- Health care: One of Clinton's key goals was to create a national health care plan for **universal health care**.
- Economy: The 1990s saw the longest period of uninterrupted economic expansion in the nation's history. Reforms helped to bring poverty and unemployment rates to their lowest point in 30 years.





During his second term, Clinton was accused of misusing funds from the Whitewater Development Company.

He was further accused of lying under oath regarding improper relations with a White House intern.



In 1998, Clinton was **impeached** on charges of perjury and obstruction of justice. However, he was acquitted of all charges and remained in office.









Between 1970 and 2010, the population of the United States rose from 204 million to 308 million. Much of this growth was due to immigration.

Nearly half of these immigrants came from Mexico, Central and South America, and Asia. By 2010, Latinos had become the nation's largest ethnic minority.



Not all immigrants entered the U.S. legally. In 2001, an estimated 5–6 million illegal immigrants lived in the United States.



Most illegal immigrants take jobs that American citizens do not want. These jobs generally pay less than minimum wage and have no benefits.

Yet many Americans are concerned about the impact of illegal immigrants on the economy.



Backlash against immigration has taken many forms. In 1994, Californians passed **Proposition 187**, which cut funding for education and non-emergency health care to illegal immigrants. The Supreme Court ruled Proposition 187 unconstitutional in 1998.

How should the U.S. deal with illegal immigration?

