

Unit 4 Individual Activity; Impeachment Decision Making Matrix

Directions; Attach this to back of your cartoon panels for turn-in. Use text sheets, notes, and the information on the back to record information about each of the the following presidential impeachment proceedings.

Decision Making Matrix

Impeachment Of;	Andrew Johnson	Richard Nixon	Bill Clinton
Which of the following grounds for impeachment does this case mostly relate to. (Treason, Bribery, High Crimes and Misdemeanors) Explain Why.			
If the actions constitute a high crime or a misdemeanor, how does the act of the President compare to the original meaning as defined by Blackstone?			
Compare how this Impeachment proceeding relates to Federalist 65.			
Should the President been impeached, give reason why?			
When presented with the statement of wrong doing, what do you think the outcome should have been and why?			

Unit 4 Individual Activity; Impeachment Decision Making Matrix

The following information relates to the impeachment of public officials:

High Crime and Misdemeanor:

- "High" in the legal parlance of the 18th century means "against the State".
- A "High Crime" is one which seeks the overthrow of the country, which gives aid or comfort to its enemies, or which injures the country to the profit of an individual or group. In democracies and similar societies it also includes crimes which attempt to alter the outcome of elections.
- "Misdemeanors"

Sir William Blackstone was an English jurist, judge and Tory politician of the eighteenth century. He is most noted for writing the *Commentaries on the Law of England*. Blackstone describes a number of offences as being high misdemeanors, for example: treasonable words, perjury, receiving stolen goods, prison break, maladministration (bad running of) of a high office, firing (setting fire to it) of one's house in a town

Impeachment of Richard Nixon

In 1974 a statement of wrong doing was presented to the House about the activities of President Richard Nixon. The statement of wrong doing was sent to the House Judiciary Committee which at first, had difficulties in their investigation, but the term quickly became synonymous with government corruption as one after another members of Nixon's Staff were tried and sent to jail. The investigation began with the Watergate break-in of the Democratic Party Headquarters, but it then led to and included other allegations of break-ins, illegal wire-taps, illegal campaign contributions, and money laundering. The House Judiciary Committee voted 16-4 to report it to the House recommending impeachment. This vote included 6 republicans. Many who voted to recommend impeachment did so after it was found that Nixon had recorded all the conversations in his office. The Supreme Court had to order Nixon to turn over the tapes, which included the "smoking gun" tape. Where he was trying to obstruct justice by interfering with the criminal investigation. Fearing that he would be impeached and removed Richard Nixon resigned. He was later pardon by his successor for all crimes he may have committed while in office thus sparing him criminal prosecution.

Impeachment of President Andrew Johnson

After Lincoln was assassinated, his Vice President, Andrew Johnson succeeded him to office. Lincoln believed that secession was not Constitutional therefore the southern states had not technically left the union. Because the southern states had not left the union, they didn't need Congress under Article 4 Section 3-1 to readmit them, and because it was Lincoln, the Congress did not challenge him. When Lincoln died, the Congress and Johnson came into conflict over this issue. To remove Johnson, Congress passed a law specifically infringing on the powers of the President. They did this to get him to violate the law, which he did believing the law to be unconstitutional (it later declared so by the Supreme Court), so they could impeach and remove him from office. When it was reported to the House that the President had broken the law, Johnson was not investigated, and despite this was impeached by the House anyway. He was tried in the Senate, but some Republican senators voted against removal. He stayed in office because they failed to get the required 2/3rds vote, by a single vote.

Impeachment of President Bill Clinton

Bill Clinton a democrat was elected President in 1992. When the Republicans took the House in 1994 they began to investigate him for a land deal called White Water that he was involved in while Governor of Arkansas. A special prosecutor, a person who is not an employee of the Department of Justice, was hired to investigate this one case. For the next 6 years and the spending of nearly 45 million dollars they investigated many charges against him. The only thing they could find, was a charge involving Clinton lying about having an extramarital affair. While lying under oath is a serious offense, it is not considered by many to be a high crime or high misdemeanor. Despite this an impeachment charge of wrong doing was brought forward and a trial was conducted in the Senate. The vote for removal fell far short of the 2/3rds (67) required to remove an official from office. Clinton stayed in office eventually serving for eight years.

Unit 4 Individual Project; Impeachment Cartoon Rubric/Panels (CG14a,b)

Directions; Write; Name, Date, and Class Period across the top and attach additional matrix to the back for turn in. Use your text sheet and notes, and any other information to complete the following:

- Using the panels on the back of this sheet, you will create a cartoon strip, that follows the impeachment proceedings steps highlighting the major events of the impeachment processes for either Andrew Johnson, Bill Clinton, or Richard Nixon.
- You will include the events under the steps as found in the Text Sheet: Step 1-Report of Wrong Doing, Step-2; Investigation by House Judiciary Committee, Step-3; Result of the Committee's Investigation, Step-4; House Debate and Vote, Step 5; Senate Trial, Step-6; Senate Vote.
- You will have at least six (6) panels with a label identifying which president you chose..

Cartoon Rubric

95(+) The cartoon is extremely clever and humorous. The cartoon does a remarkable job of combining the elements of design with the information in the message to communicate in a powerful way to intended audience.

90(+) The student has created a cartoon with a clear story line that flows from frame to frame. The character(s) is/are interesting and/or humorous. The dialogue contained in the speech and/or thought balloons provides humor and sends the appropriate message to the intended audience. The use of background context and color adds to the cartoon. The cartoon is neat and presentable. Overall the cartoon does an excellent job of catching the audience's attention and sending an appropriate message.

80(+) The cartoon is generally like those receiving a rating of 90, except there are some important elements that are not excellent. Therefore the cartoon is unevenly excellent.

70(+) The cartoon is generally like those receiving a rating of 80, except that there are some important elements that are well done.

65(+) The student has created a cartoon that has an unclear or uneven or confusing story line. The characters are either not interesting or humorous or are inappropriate for the subject and audience. The dialogue contained in the speech and/or thought balloons does not convey the message well and/or is inappropriate to the audience. The background does not add to and may even distract from the message of the cartoon. Color is not used well. The cartoon is not neat and presentable. Overall, the cartoon does not convey the message to the intended audience well.

64(-) The work is very poor.

Element	Points Lost
1. The cartoon has a clear theme supported by all its parts	
2. The story line is clear and interesting.	
3. There is a smooth flow from one frame to the next.	
4. The character(s) is/are interesting and/or humorous.	
5. The dialogue in speech or thought balloons supports the story line and uses appropriate vocabulary.	
6. The story line provides a clear message to the intended audience.	
7. The use of background context adds to the cartoon.	
8. The use of color enhances the cartoon.	
9. The cartoon is neat and presentable.	
10. All directions are followed	
Total	

Impeachment of President