



## LESSON 9.1.5 | WATCH | Crash Course US History #44 George HW Bush and the End of the Cold War

### PURPOSE

In this video, you will learn about the presidency of George H.W. Bush. The end of the Cold War and US intervention in the Middle East through the Persian Gulf War, both occurring under Bush's watch, would mark major shifts in American foreign policy that will impact the rest of the unit.

### LINK

- [Crash Course US History #44 – George HW Bush and the End of the Cold War](#)

Watch the video on your own time, either at home, on your phone, or in the library.

### PREVIEW

In which John Green teaches you about the end of the Cold War and the presidency of George H.W. Bush. It was neither the best of times, nor the worst of times. On the domestic front, the first president Bush inherited the relative prosperity of the later Reagan years, and watched that prosperity evaporate. That was about all the interest Bush 41 had, domestically, so let's move to foreign policy, which was a bigger deal at this time. The biggie was the end of the Cold War, which is the title of the video, so you know it's important. The collapse of the Soviet Union was the biggest deal of Bush's term, and history has assigned the credit to Ronald Reagan. We give the guy a break, and say that he helped. He was certainly expert in foreign policy, having been an envoy to China, ambassador to the United Nations, and head of the CIA. Bush also oversaw the first Gulf War, which was something of a success, in that the primary mission was accomplished,

and the vast majority of the troops were home in short order. It didn't do much to address some of the other problems in the region, but we'll get to that. Along with all this, you'll learn about Bush's actions, or lack thereof, in Somalia and the Balkans, and you'll even be given an opportunity to read Bush's lips.

### PROCESS

Remember that John speaks very quickly, and you should watch the video with captions. Don't forget to pause and rewind when necessary. Before you watch the video, remember to look back at the central ideas of the Unit 9 Essential Questions and the Lesson 9.1 Essential Questions.



## LESSON 9.1.5 | WATCH | Key Ideas – Factual

Think about the following questions as you watch the video.

1. Why does John claim George H.W. Bush had the best resumé of any president ever?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Who was the leading contender for the Democratic primary? Who ended up becoming the nominee and why was his campaign flawed?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What does John claim is perhaps the most important thing that happened during the 1988 presidential election?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Why didn't the United States support Iraqi efforts to topple the Saddam Hussein regime?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Despite his 89% approval rating following the Gulf War, why was Bush's reelection campaign perhaps doomed?



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

COURSE \_\_\_\_\_

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6. What events led to the riots of Los Angeles?

7. Describe the economic struggle America faced under Bush's presidency.

8. What was George H.W. Bush's response to the bleak economic outlook?