

Name _____

Bill Clinton: The Charismatic Leader

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Bill Clinton's early life was marked by his birth in Hope, Arkansas, in 1946. He came from a modest family background. He excelled in academics and attended Georgetown University and later Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. He also studied law at Yale University, where he met his future wife, Hillary Rodham.
2. The Family and Medical Leave Act, signed into law by Bill Clinton, was significant as it allowed American workers to take unpaid leave for family and medical reasons without losing their jobs. This act helped workers balance their work and family responsibilities and provided job security during critical times.
3. During the Monica Lewinsky scandal, Bill Clinton faced accusations of perjury and obstruction of justice. The scandal led to impeachment proceedings in Congress, where he was impeached by the House of Representatives but acquitted by the Senate. Despite the turmoil, Clinton remained in office, but it had a lasting impact on his presidency and legacy.
4. Bill Clinton faced significant challenges in navigating international crises during his presidency, such as the Balkans crisis and the Rwandan genocide. In response to the Balkans crisis, he played a key role in negotiating peace agreements in the region and providing humanitarian aid. However, the genocide in Rwanda was a tragic event that the international community, including the United States, struggled to prevent and respond to effectively. Clinton faced criticism for not taking stronger action to intervene in the Rwandan genocide. These events showcased the complexities of international relations and humanitarian efforts during his time as President.

