

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Barack Obama: The Inspirational Leader

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Barack Obama's background made his election as president significant in American history because he was the first African American to be elected as the President of the United States. This broke a long-standing barrier, showing that anyone, regardless of their racial background, could achieve the highest office in the land.
2. One of the challenges Barack Obama faced while trying to pass the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) was strong opposition from some members of Congress and the healthcare industry. Many Republicans were against the legislation, and there were disagreements about how to reform healthcare. Additionally, some insurance companies and healthcare providers were concerned about potential changes to their business models and revenue streams.
3. Addressing immigration reform was a complex issue during Barack Obama's presidency because it involved finding a solution that balanced border security, the needs of undocumented immigrants, and the desires of various stakeholders. There were differing opinions on how to handle immigration, including concerns about border security, the fate of undocumented individuals already in the country, and the need for comprehensive immigration reform. This complexity made it challenging to pass meaningful immigration legislation.
4. Some key points in Barack Obama's economic policy during the economic crisis of 2008 included implementing stimulus packages to boost the economy, providing financial support to struggling industries like the automotive sector, and introducing regulatory reforms to prevent a similar crisis in the future. Obama also worked to stabilize the banking and financial sectors, as well as promote job creation through infrastructure projects and other initiatives.

