

Paired Text Questions

Part 1: Use the article "A More Perfect Union? Barack Obama and the Politics of Unity" to answer the following questions:

1. According to this article, what did Obama's First Inaugural Address demonstrate the President's ideological and political commitment to?
2. Cite two quotations from Obama in this article that express his belief in the importance of finding common ground.

Part 2: Use the article "A More Perfect Union [abridged]" to answer the following questions:

3. In this speech, Obama expresses his belief that "we cannot solve the challenges of our time" unless we do what?
4. Based on the information in this article, what does Obama believe are "the challenges of our time"? Support your answer with evidence from the article.

Part 3: Use the articles "A More Perfect Union? Barack Obama and the Politics of Unity" & "A More Perfect Union [abridged]" to answer the following questions:

5. The essay "A More Perfect Union? Barack Obama and the Politics of Unity" states that Obama was committed to "finding common ground." What evidence from his speech "A More Perfect Union" supports this idea?
6. Why might finding common ground be important to the future of the United States? Use evidence from both texts to support your answer.