FLASHFILE 12 Nixon on screen

ALL TEAMS Why Was President Nixon So Paranoid?

TB → p. 108

WAY 1

1. Before watching the video, **match** each word with its definition.

a. scandal •
b. resign •
c. paranoid •
d. crook •
e. corruption •

• **1.** dishonest political behaviour
• **2.** afraid and suspicious of others
• **3.** a political crisis
• **4.** leave an official position
• **5.** criminal

2. **Read** the *Culture spot*, **watch** the video and **take** notes.

.....

3. **Watch** again and tick the correct answers.

Richard Nixon is presented as: ❑ a perfect hero ❑ a complex president ❑ a weak politician ❑ a powerful leader ❑ a paranoid man

4. a. **Explain** what Nixon had to do in 1974.

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b. **Say** what the video reveals about his personality. **Use** at least 3 adjectives.

.....

5. **Identify** the comparison used by historian David Reynolds. **Use** it to complete the prompt below:

.....

6. **Sum up** the image of Nixon presented in the video using the following words:
brilliant • *flawed* • *president* • *deeply*

.....

WAY 2

1. **Read** the quotation and the *Culture spot*. **Observe** the photograph. **Take** notes.

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2. **Identify**:

a. the place: .....
b. the historical context: .....
c. the person: .....

3. **Explain** why the photograph is symbolic.

.....

.....

.....

4. **Explain** how the documents relate to the theme "Art and Power".

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TEAM 1 Script extract: *Nixon*

TB → p. 109

1. Read the text and **identify**:

a. the document type: .....
b. the people: .....
c. the topic: .....
d. the specific place: .....
e. the situation: .....

2. Read the text again and **identify**:

a. Julie's question: .....
b. Nixon's reaction: .....
.....

3. Use the stage directions to describe Julie's emotions.

.....
.....

4. Describe how Nixon seems in the scene.

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.....

TEAM 2 *All the President's Men* (45th Anniversary)

TB → p. 109

1. Observe the poster, **watch** the video and **take** notes.

.....

2. Identify:

a. the type of speaker: .....
b. the subject: .....
c. the tone: .....

3. Pick the word the speaker repeats and **explain** what he means by it.

❑ pressure ❑ president ❑ prescient ❑ present

.....

4. Using the video and the *Culture spot*, **number** these events in chronological order.

- ☐ President Nixon was forced to resign.
- ☐ Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein investigated.
- ☐ Alan J. Pakula adapted *All the President's Men* into a film.
- ☐ The *Washington Post* published the investigation, and it then became a book.
- ☐ Nixon's team planted listening devices in the Watergate Hotel.

5. Summarise the speaker's opinion about the film. You can use these words:
corruption • political • prescient • relevant • scandal • thriller

.....
.....

TEAM 3 50 years of Watergate in pop culture

TB → p. 109

1. Listen to the recording and **take notes**.

.....

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2. Identify:

a. the event: .....

b. the topic: .....

3. Identify the connection with the press.

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4. Pick out names and details of books, films or TV series mentioned.

.....

.....

5. Explain what the speakers mean by "legacy".

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TEAMWORK

1 2 3 Join your team, **choose** a document and **complete** the table comparing the documents.

TB → p. 108-109

	Nixon film script	*All the President's Men*	*50 years of Watergate in pop culture*
Similarities	.....	.....	.....
Differences	.....	.....	.....

YOUR PROJECT

Nixon on screen

1. Get ready. **Fill in** the table with your ideas.

The historical context	.....
The president's personality	.....
The scandal	....
The role of the media	.....

2. Choose a role to act out the scene. For example: a lawyer, a movie director, an actor playing Nixon, a journalist, A TV host…

3. Prepare the discussion

a. Choose the tone:

❑ polemical ❑ scholarly ❑ casual

b. Choose the topics you are going to agree or disagree on.

Agreement: .....

Disagreement: .....

c. Write a list of expressions to give your opinion, contradict ideas or qualify your speech.

• Opinion: .....

.....

• Contradiction: .....

.....

• Qualify your speech: .....

.....

d. Now **train** before acting out the discussion.