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AP US History
Unit 18 Notes

Bush Tax Cuts
(p. 915)

- People believed that **George W. Bush** was not prepared when he was elected president
 - Campaigned on the promise to use the surplus to cut taxes
 - Critics said the plan would disproportionately affect the wealthiest Americans
 - Bush relied on Republican domination of both houses of Congress to pass the largest tax cut in American history
 - Took increasingly conservative positions once in office
 - Didn't renew the ban on assault weapons
 - Proposed an amendment to make gay marriage illegal
 - Mobilized evangelical Christians in support of the Republican party

The Election of 2004
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- Bush was unopposed for the Republican presidential nomination
 - Ran against the Democratic nominee, **John Kerry** of MA
- The country was evenly divided in support of Bush and Kerry
 - Bush won 51 to 48
- Bush entered his second with the goal to change the social security pension program
 - Opponents argued that his plan hurt the economy

New Business Practices
(p. 916)

- American companies started making changes that increased inequality
 - Used more technology
 - Some became for energy efficient
 - Relied on low wage workers

“Technology Industries”
(p. 917)

- Digital technology allowed a new range of products to be introduced the market
 - Spawned its own stock exchange, the **NASDAQ**
- The Gross National Product increased
- The boom lasted from 1994 to 2000

- Economy had never been so strong in peacetime before
- Downturn
(p. 917)
- “Dot Com” internet businesses crashed in 2001
 - The nation’s economy went into a recession in late 2000
 - The economy couldn’t recover back its state in the 90s
- Rising Income Inequality
(p. 918)
- Foreign competitors took business away from America in the world market
 - The number of jobs and the size of wages decreased
- Growing Poverty Rates
(p. 918)
- The decline in poverty that had begun after WWII reversed in the 80s
 - By 2003, the poverty rate rose to what it had been twenty years before
- Costs of Globalization
(p. 919)
- **Globalization** provides American consumers with a wider range of products
 - However, industrial workers lost their jobs when production moved overseas
- The Personal Computer
(p. 919)
- The computer expanded with extraordinary speed starting in the 80s
 - By the 90s, most Americans did their baking on computers
- Development of the PC
(p. 919)
- Intel developed a **microprocessor** in 1971 which allowed computers to be much smaller
 - What was first known as the “minicomputer” evolved to be called the **personal computer**
 - The **Apple II** was the first personal computer to be sold widely to the public
 - **IBM** started a competitive company, **Microsoft**
 - The Microsoft PC borrowed many aspects from Apple’s computer but dominated the market
- Microsoft
(p. 920)
- New computer manufacturers popped up after the success of Microsoft and Apple
 - Microsoft had a virtual monopoly on the world market
- Arpanet
(p. 920)
- The internet allowed people to communicate and receive information from a network of computers across the world
 - The federal **Advanced Research Projects**

