The American President Movie Guide

1. Name three Presidents of the United States who are present in sculpture or painting during the Introduction.

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2. What is the President’s Secret Service codename in the opening scene?

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3. What is President Shepard’s job approval rating in the beginning of the movie?

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4. What is President Shepard’s daughter’s name?

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5. What kind of bill is the President trying to get through Congress?

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6. Who do you think A.J. (Martin Sheen) is to the President?

______________________________________________________________________________________________

7. What does Lewis (Michael J. Fox) want to do regarding the polling numbers?

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8. What restrictions are being left out of the bill?

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9. What is the GDC?

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10. How long has President Shepard been in office?

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11. According to the film, what is happening in 72 days?

______________________________________________________________________________________________

12. Who is Sydney Ellen Wade?

______________________________________________________________________________________________

13. According to Robin, why would she call President Shepard a widower?

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14. Why would you think Lucy does not like Social Studies?

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15. What song does Lucy play for her father when he leaves the room?

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16. Where is the new military hardware being installed according to the cabinet meeting?

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17. Why does A.J. refuse to call President Shepard by his name even though they are best friends?

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18. What two states does Shepard need to “nail down” to get re-elected?

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19. What does the President’s bill ask for?

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20. What room do Shepard and Sydney go to that Shepard says is “less intimidating”?

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21. Why did the planners of DC design the city the way they did according to Shepard?

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22. What does Sydney want Shepard to do?

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23. Where is Shepard short of votes?

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24. What does Sydney threaten if Shepard does not uphold the deal on fossil fuels?

25. Describe the relationship between Shepard and A.J. during the billiards scene.

26. Which President does Shepard equate himself to regarding dating?

27. What is the concern of Shepard seeing Sydney socially?

28. What does A.J. think regarding the “business of the American people”?

29. What kind of setting is the first date for the President and Sydney?

30. How does Lucy know how to tie a tie?

31. Which foreign dignitaries are Sydney and Shepard having dinner with?

32. Why does Shepard want to send Dogwoods to Sydney?

33. Why can’t Shepard locate his credit cards (What happens to his money when he enters office)?

34. What is Leo’s concern regarding Sydney’s career and the President?

35. What does he send her instead of Dogwoods and why?

36. Who is Shepard really on the phone with?

37. What is CSTAD?

38. Why didn't Bob Rumson run the campaign with character attacks against Shepard three years ago?

39. What do you think Rumson will do now because of the media coverage of Sydney?

40. Why does the evening get cut short?

41. Where is President Shepard when discussing military matters (room)?

42. Which country is the US planning to attack?

43. Why is Shepard able to do this without Congress?

44. Explain the focus of the media during the following press conference. What is their focus?
45. Why do you feel Shepard refused to answer questions during the press conference?

46. Where did Shepard go to college?

47. Why does Sydney ask Shepard not to pursue her?

48. What is Rumson’s platform?

49. Why does Lewis suggest Sydney should have taken a cab in reference to the press?

50. Which Amendment allows the press to behave this way?

51. What is the White House statement regarding Sydney and why do you think that is (fossil fuels, crime bill?)?

52. Describe the media attention of the press on Sydney?

53. What is happening to Shepard’s approval rating?

54. What would the American perception be of the picture presented to Rumson of Sydney?

55. Why is Shepard going to St. Louis?

56. Where are Sydney and Shepard going for a getaway?

57. What does Rumson call Sydney on the talk show?

58. Who do the “Motown Three” represent and what do they tell her in the meeting?

59. What does A.J. suggest to Shepard regarding Sydney’s meeting?

60. What happens to Shepard’s support regarding Congressional votes?

61. What do Lewis and Leon want to do regarding public opinion?

62. What are the President’s numbers at when Robin asks Leon?

63. How can Shepard pass his crime bill?

64. Explain Lewis’ position on questioning the President - which Amendment and right?

65. How does Shepard characterize the American people regarding leadership?

66. Why is Sydney upset / fired?

67. What does Shepard say is his top priority?
68. Do you think Shepard won because his wife died three years ago - support your answer?

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______________________________________________________________________________________________

69. According to Shepard, what is the purpose of the ACLU? __________________________________________

70. What does Shepard call “America”? ________________________________________________________________