

Set 1: invest, econom, economi, growth, grow, creat, unemploy, trickl

Set 2: congress, night, littl, control, program, industri, interest, run

Set 3: senior, medicar, prescript, drug, lower, current, compani, price

Set 4: sir, minut, pleas, respond, goe, sorri, ask, statement

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MODERATOR All right. This is the last question, and it goes to President Bush for a 2-minute answer. And it will be asked by Helen. Mr. President, why have you dropped so dramatically in the leadership polls, from the high 80s to the 40s? And you have said that you will do anything you have to do to get reelected. What can you do in 2 weeks to win reelection?

GEORGE H. W. BUSH Well, I think the answer to why the drop, I think, has been the economy in the doldrums. Why Ill win is I think I have the best plan of the 3 of us up here to do something about it. Mine does not grow the government, it does not invest, have government invest. It says we need to do better in terms of stimulating private business. We got a big philosophical difference here tonight between one who thinks the government can do all these things through tax and spend, and one who thinks it ought to go the other way. And so I believe the answer is, Im going to win it because Im getting into focus my agenda for Americas renewal, and also I think that Governor Clintons had pretty much of a free ride. On looking specifically at the Arkansas record — he keeps criticizing us, criticizing me, Im the incumbent, fine. But hes an incumbent, and weve got to look at all the facts. Theyre almost at the bottom on every single category. We cant do that to the American people. And then, Helen, I really believe where people are going to ask this question about trust, because I do think theres a pattern by Governor Clinton of saying one thing to please one group, and then trying to please another group. And I think that pattern is a dangerous thing to suggest would work for the Oval Office. It doesnt work that way when youre president. Truman is right. The buck stops there. And you have to make decisions even when its against your own interest. And Ive done that. Its against my political interest to say go ahead and go along with the tax increase, but I did what I thought was right at the time. So I think people are going to be looking for trust and experience. And then, I mentioned it the other night, I think if theres a crisis, people are going to say, well, George Bush has taken us through some tough crises, and we trust him to do that. And so Ill make the appeal on a wide array of issues. Also I got a philosophical difference. I got to watch the clock here. I dont think were a declining nation. The whole world has had economic problems. Were doing better than a lot of the countries in the world. And were going to lead the way out of this economic recession across this world and economic slowdown here at home.

MODERATOR Mr. Perot, you have —

GEORGE H. W. BUSH Thats why I think Ill win.

MODERATOR Mr. Perot — sorry, excuse me, sir. Mr. Perot, you have one minute.

ROSS PEROT Im the last one, right?

MODERATOR No, Governor Clinton has a minute after you. Then we have the closing statements.

ROSS PEROT One minute after you.

MODERATOR Right.

ROSS PEROT Im totally focussed on the fact that we may have bank failures and nobody answered it. Im totally focussed on the fact that we are still evading the issue of the Glaspie papers. Im totally focussed on the fact that we still could have enterprise zones, according to both parties, but we dont. So I am still focussed on gridlock, I guess. And I am also focussed on the fact that isnt it a paradox that we have the highest productivity in our workforce in the industrialized world and at the same time have the largest trade deficit, and at the same time rank behind 9 other nations in what we pay our most productive people in the world, and were losing whole industries overseas. Now, cant somebody agree with me that the government is breaking businesss legs with these trade agreements? Theyre breaking businesss legs in a number of different ways. We have an adversarial relationship thats destroying jobs and sending them overseas while we have the finest workers in the world. Keep in mind a factory worker has nothing to do with anything except putting it together on the factory floor. Its our obligation to make sure that we give him the finest products in the world to put together and we dont break his legs in the process.

MODERATOR Governor Clinton, one minute.