

Set 1: busi, small, rate, percent, credit, tax, high, lawyer

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

Set 3: invest, econom, economi, growth, grow, creat, unemploy, trickl

Set 4: east, israel, middl, leadership, region, friend, peac, cours

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BILL CLINTON The only thing I would say about that is, I think that on the economy, Mr. Bush said for a long time there was no recession, and then said it would be better to do nothing than to have a compromise effort with the Congress. He really didnt have a new economic program until over 1300 days into his presidency, and not all of his health care initiative has been presented to the Congress even now. I think its important to elect a president who is committed to getting this economy going again, and who realizes we have to abandon trickle- down economics and put the American people first again, and who will send programs to the Congress in the first hundred days to deal with the critical issues that America is crying out for leadership on — jobs, incomes, the health care crisis, the need to control the economy. Those things deserve to be dealt with from day one. I will deal with them from day 1. They will be my first priority, not my election year concern.

MODERATOR Mr. President?

GEORGE H. W. BUSH Well, I think youre overlooking that we have had major accomplishments in the first term. But if youre talking about protecting the taxpayer against his friends in the US Congress, go back to what it was like when you had a Democratic president and a Democratic Congress. You dont have to go back to Herbert Hoover. Go back to Jimmy Carter, and interest rates were 21%, inflation was 15%. The misery index — unemployment and inflation added together — it was invented by the Democrats — went right through the roof. Weve cut it in half. And all you hear about is how bad things are. You know, remember the question, are you better off? Well, is a homebuyer better off he can refinance the home, because interest rates are down? Is the senior citizen better off because inflation is not wiping out their familys savings? I think they are. Is the guy out of work better off? Of course hes not, but hes not gonna be better off if we grow the government, if we invest, as Governor Clinton says, invest in more government. Youve got to free up the private sector. Youve got to let small businesses have more incentives. For 3 months — quarters Ive been fighting, 3 quarters been fighting to get the Congress to pass some incentives for small business. Capital gains, investment tax allowance, credit for first- time homebuyers. And its blocked by the Congress. And then if a little of it comes my way, they load it up with Christmas trees and tax increases, and I have to stand up and favor the taxpayer.