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English 9

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Ronald Wilson Reagan was born on February 6th, 1911 in Tampico, Illinois. He lived a very simple life with his parents and older brother, Neil. He went to Dixon High School, where he enjoyed acting and sports. He was first employed as a lifeguard at the Rock River in Lowell Park. Reagan went to Eureka College, a Disciples-orientated liberal arts school, where he majored in Economics. He went through various jobs in the radio and film industry, the military, where he served during World War II and eventually landed himself in the Democratic party and became the governor of California.

All of Reagan's previous jobs helped him in his political career. His years in the television industry helped him relay information about potential communists to the FBI. His military services also aided Reagan getting his foot in the political door and becoming known. When 1976 came around, Reagan became a candidate for the Republican Party. He established himself as the candidate who was conservative in views but lost in his party to Gerald Ford, who later lost to President Jimmy Carter. One president term later, Reagan won his election and served as the 40th President of the United States from 1981 to 1989.

As in any presidency term, there were many scandals and crises, some more noticeable than others. The most profound scandal to have happened in Reagan's first term was the attempt to assassinate him. On March 30, 1981, only 69 days into the new administration, Reagan along with his crew, were struck by gunfire from John Hinckley

Jr., outside the Washington Hilton Hotel. Reagan was admitted to the George Washington University Hospital and underwent emergency surgery. He recovered and was released from the hospital on April 11, becoming the first serving U.S. President to survive being shot in an assassination attempt.

Although Ronald Reagan encountered many issues throughout his presidency from his first through his second term, he still was able to run the country efficiently. He was a great speaker and was able to communicate his thoughts and ideas to the people effectively. Throughout Reagan's presidency some of his accomplishments include establishing economic growth in the US, strengthening its national defense, modernizing the Republican Party, and ending the Cold War.