Factors Thought to Affect Presidential Success

I. Presidential Traits (to suit the times)
   1. Clarity in a Sense of Direction, Vision, and Principles (Skill)
   2. Character, Courage, Trustworthiness (Skill)
   3. Image of the Office of the Presidency (Skill)
   4. Intelligence, Cognitive Style, and Self-Confidence (Skill)
   5. Positive Enjoyment of Politics or Negative Duty Personality (Skill)
   6. Active, Energetic or Passive Personality (Skill)
   7. Competence, Effectiveness, Management Style and Ability (Skill)
   8. Pragmatism, Realism, Ability to Bargain and Compromise (Skill)
   9. Charisma, Communication Skills, Ability to Inspire (Skill)
  10. Ability to Persuade, Consensus-Building (Skill)

II. Political Context of the Presidency (Skill)
   1. Support for the Political System
   2. “Political Time” of the Presidency
   3. Public Approval of the President’s Job Performance
   4. Partisan Allegiance of the Base
   5. Congressional Support
   6. Professional Reputation, Respect of Elites
   7. The Challenge of the Most Important Policy Problems
   8. The Kind of Strengths needed for the Political Arrangements of the Time.

III. Dumb Luck